

# Time of emergence of anthropogenic deoxygenation and warming in the thermocline

## Is deoxygenation detectable before warming?

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Thomas Frölicher <sup>1</sup>  
Fortunat Joos <sup>1</sup>

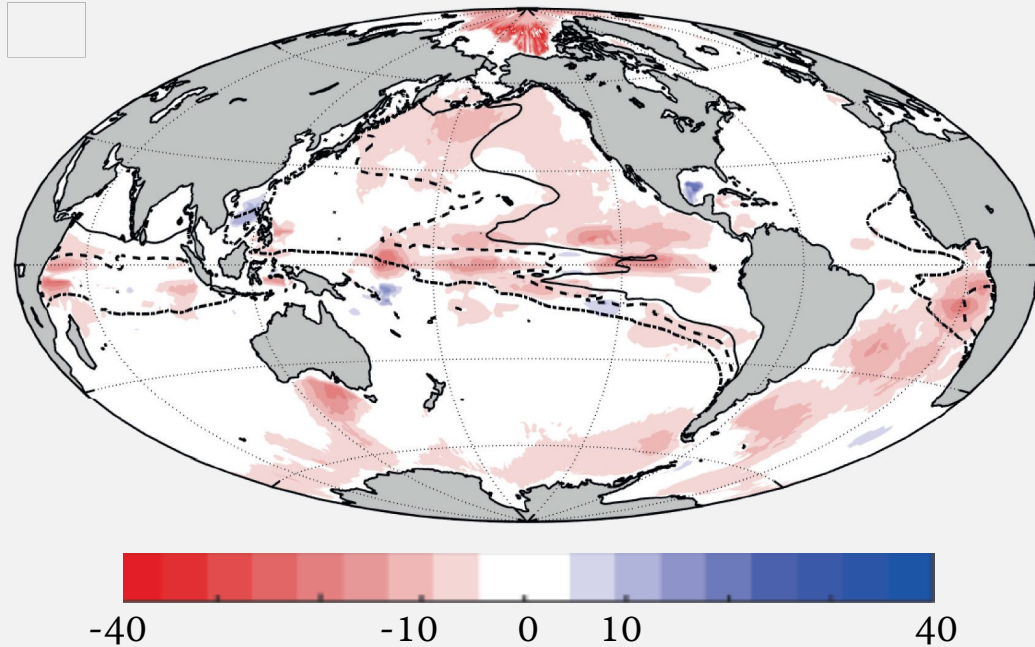
<sup>1</sup> Climate and Environmental Physics, Physics Institute, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland  
and Oeschger Centre for Climate Change Research

<sup>2</sup> LOCEAN Laboratory, Sorbonne Universités, Paris, France

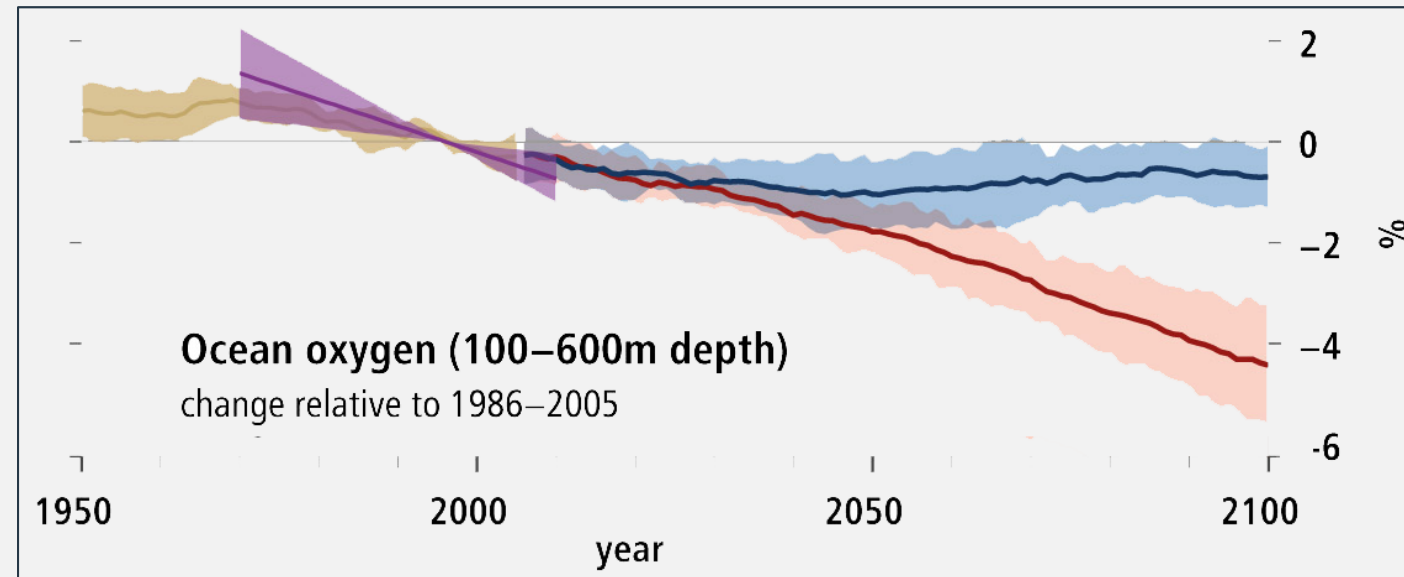
# Observed deoxygenation

## Trend of O<sub>2</sub> (since 1960)

[mmol m<sup>-3</sup> per decade]



Schmidtko et al., 2017



IPCC, 2019

# Time of Emergence - concept

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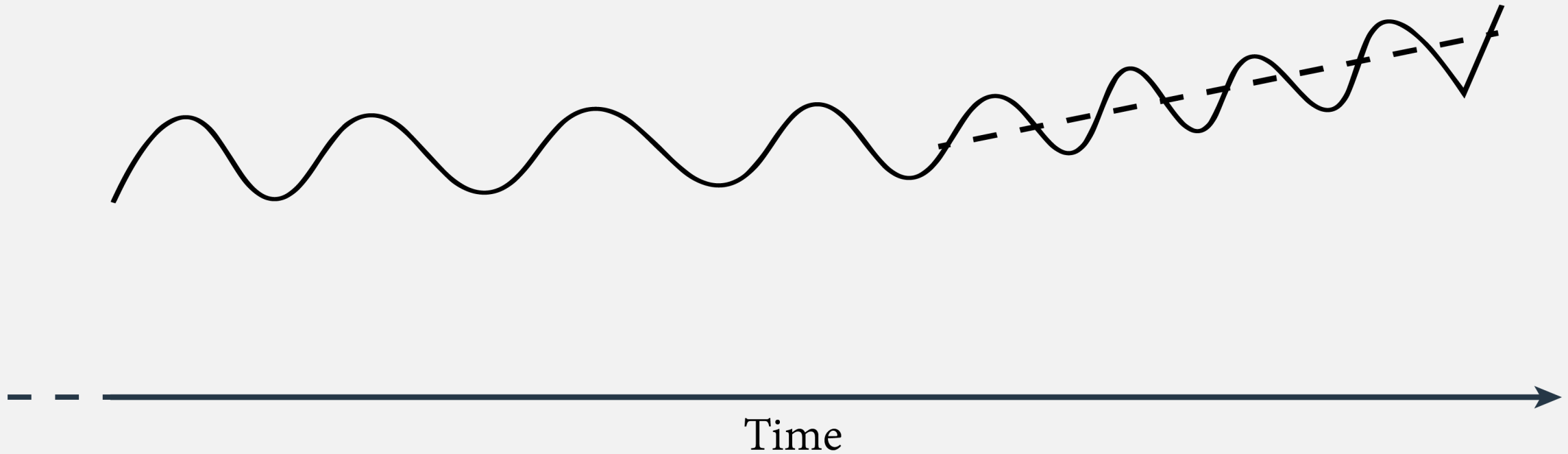
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$$\textit{signal} \geq \alpha * \textit{noise}$$

# Time of Emergence - concept

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$$\textit{signal} \geq \alpha * \textit{noise}$$

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Introduction

Method

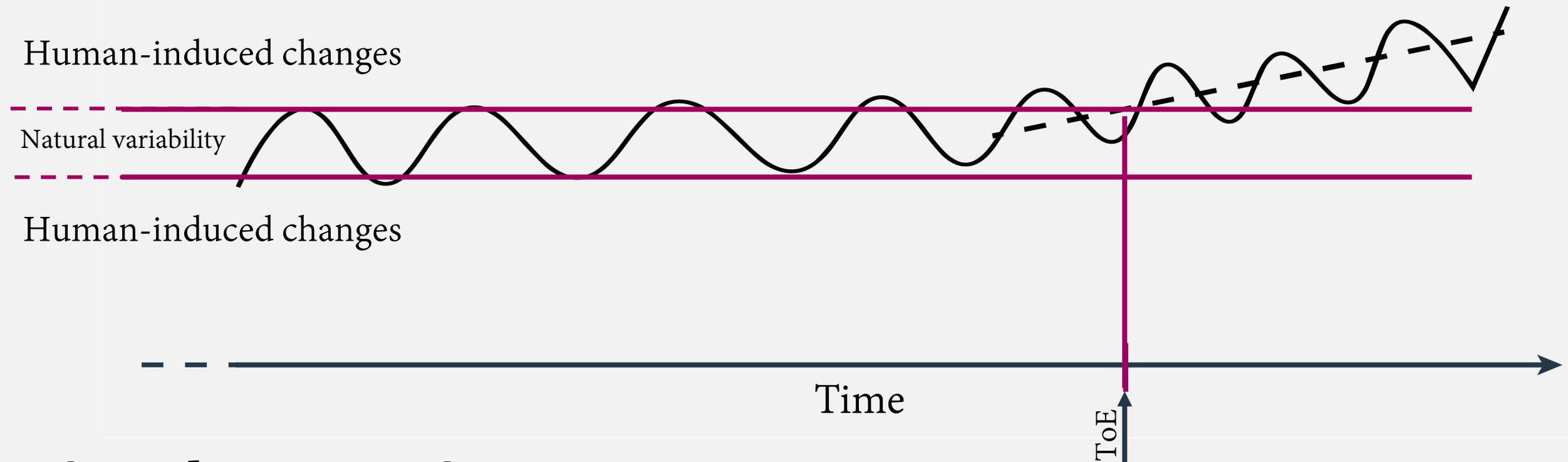
Results

Conclusion





# Time of Emergence - concept



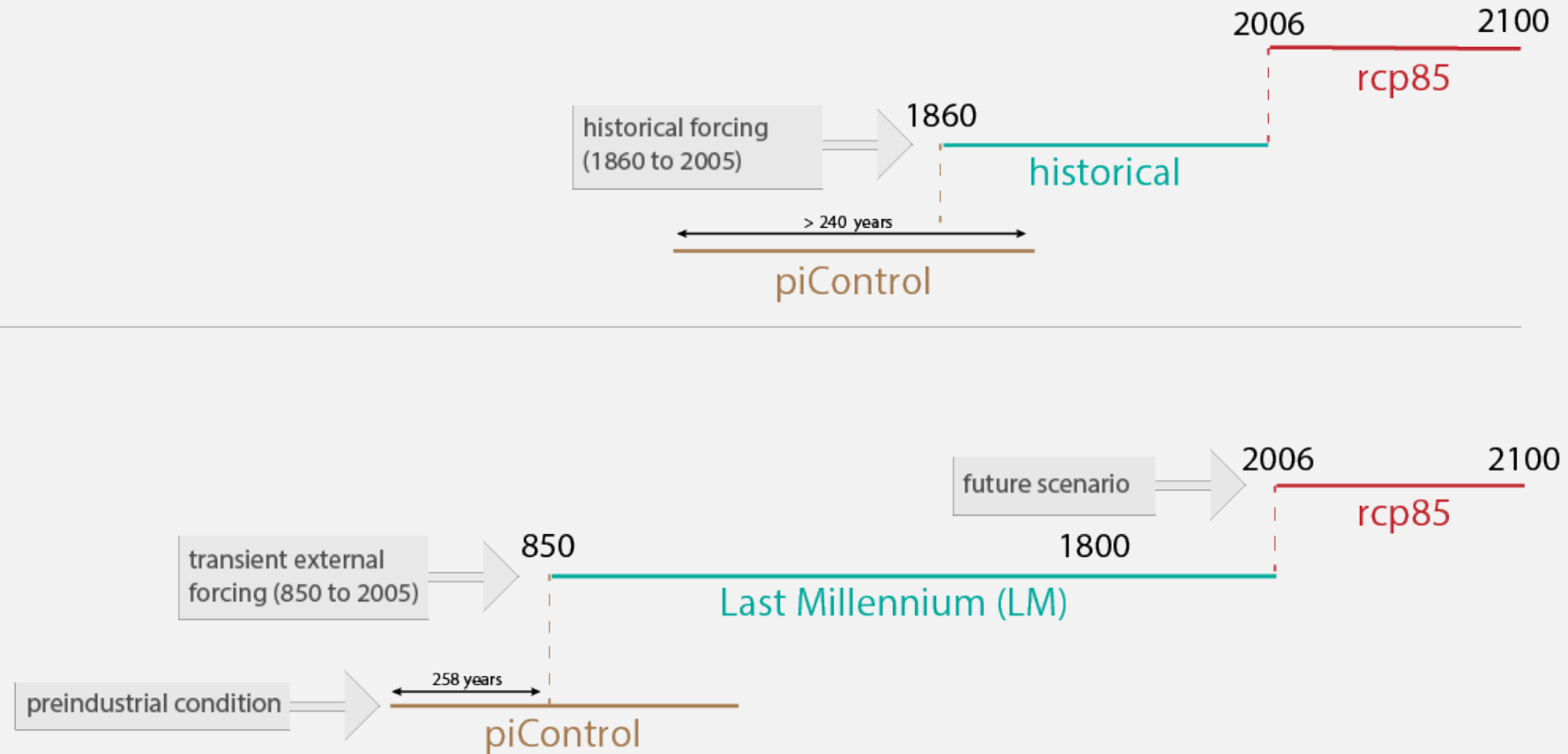
$$\text{signal} \geq \alpha * \text{noise}$$

# Multi-model analysis

8 model  
configurations  
from the CMIP5  
dataset

+

“in-house”  
CESM1.0  
simulation

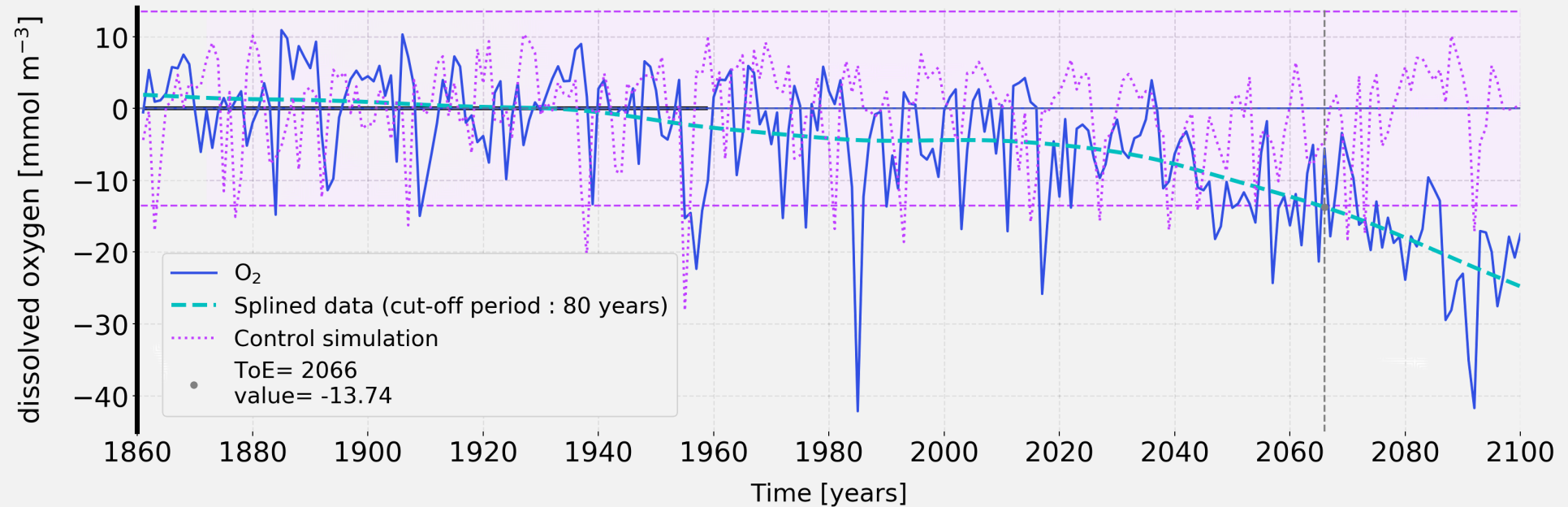


# ToE – definition for this study

Noise: internal variability

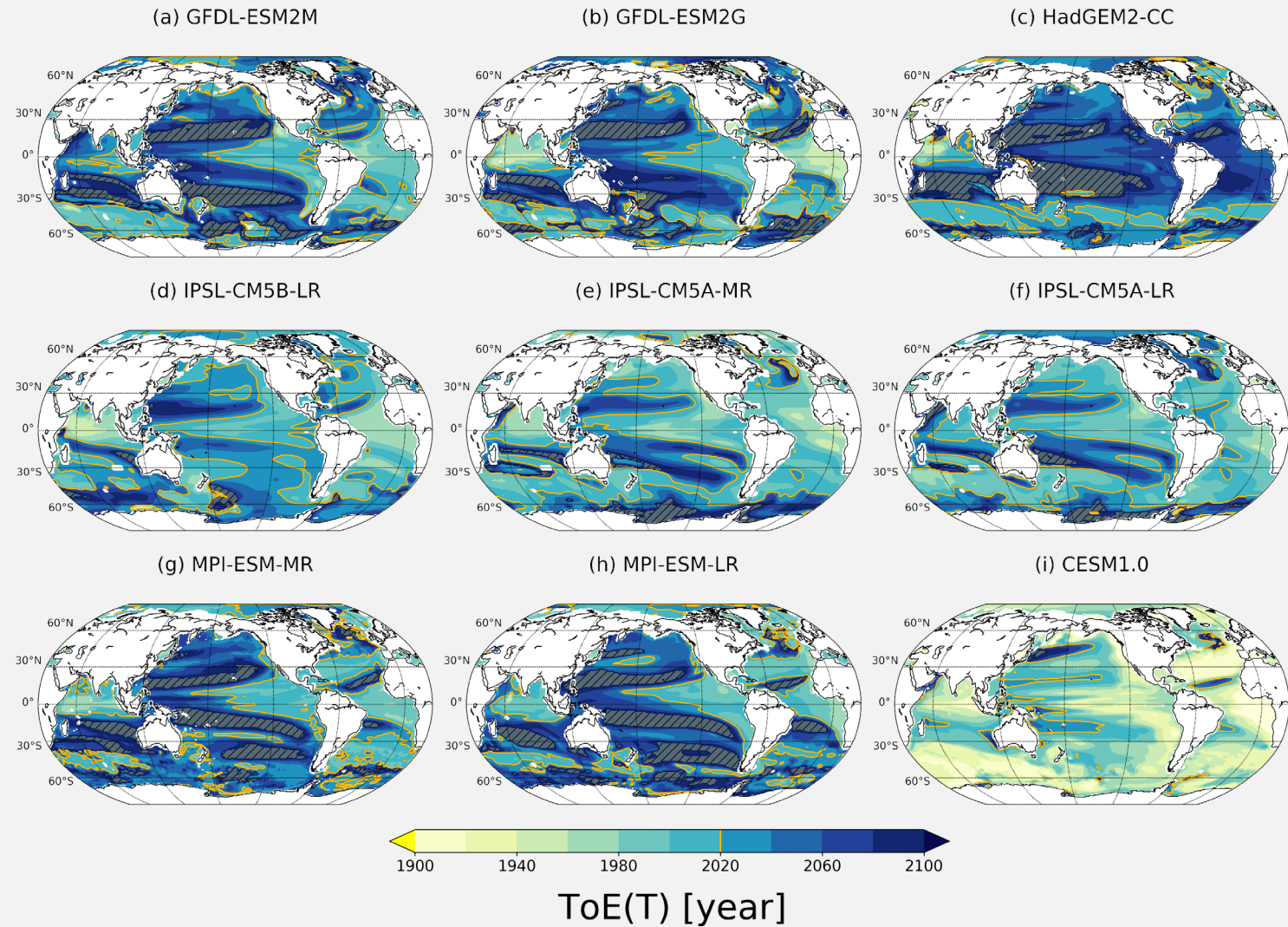
$\alpha = 2$

Signal : low-frequency filter

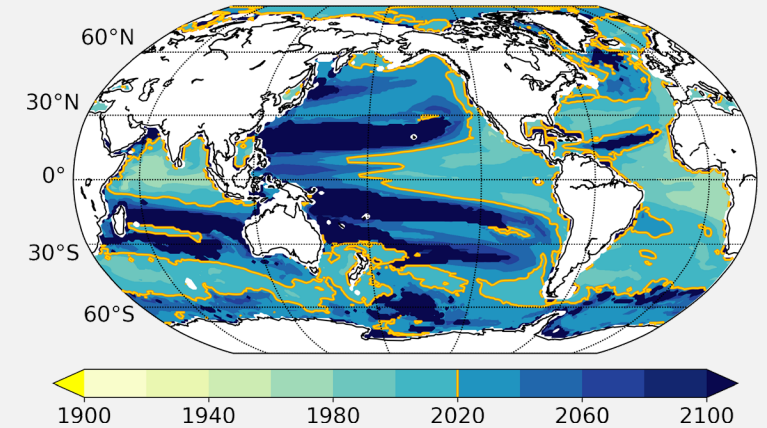


(Hameau et al., 2020)

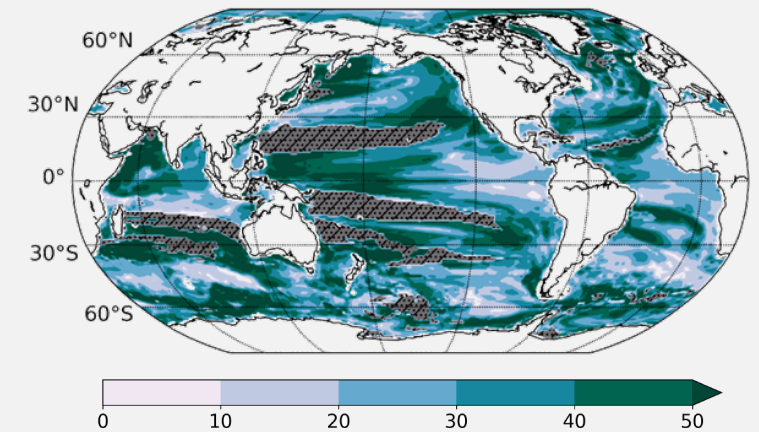
# ToE(T)



Multi-model median of ToE [years]



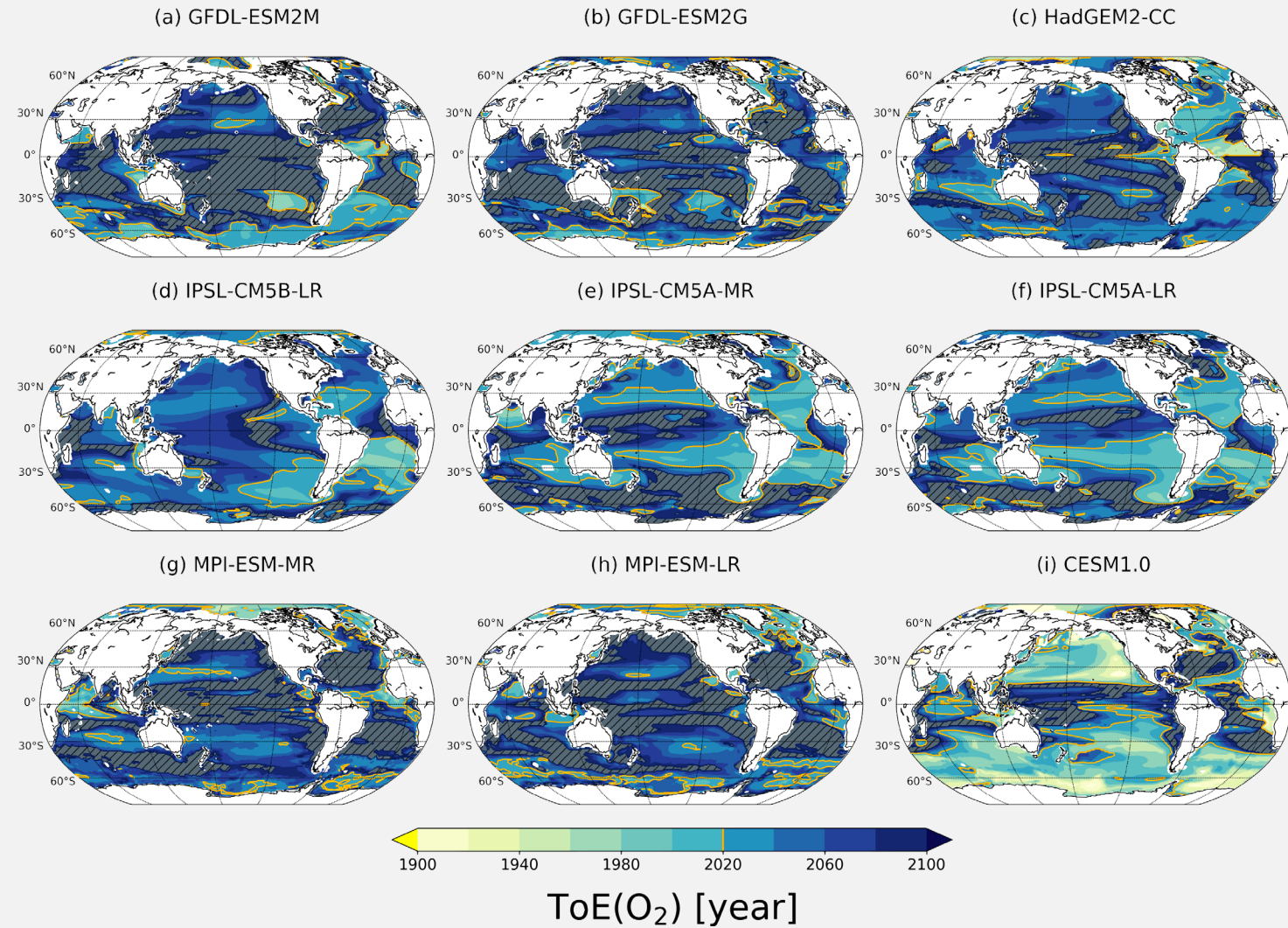
Multi-model spread of ToE [years]



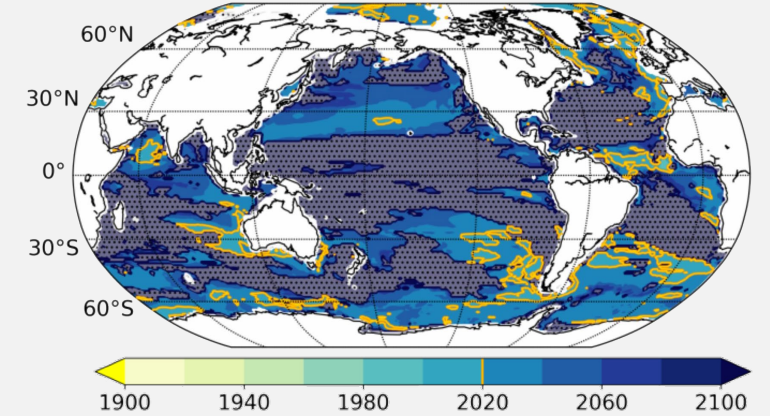
(Hameau et al., 2020)



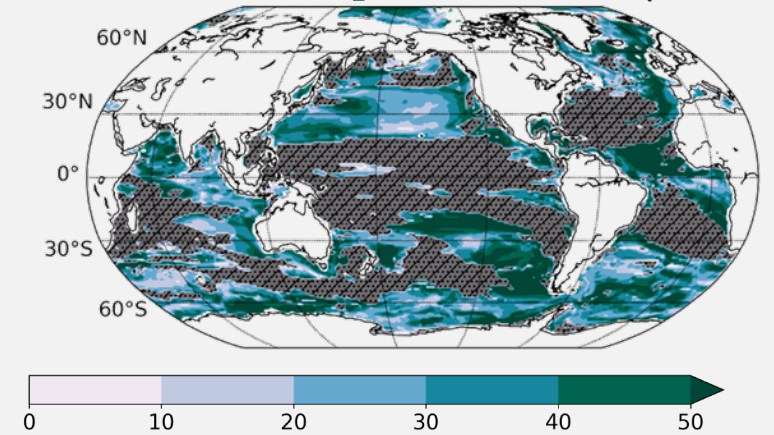
# ToE(O<sub>2</sub>)



Multi-model median of ToE [year]

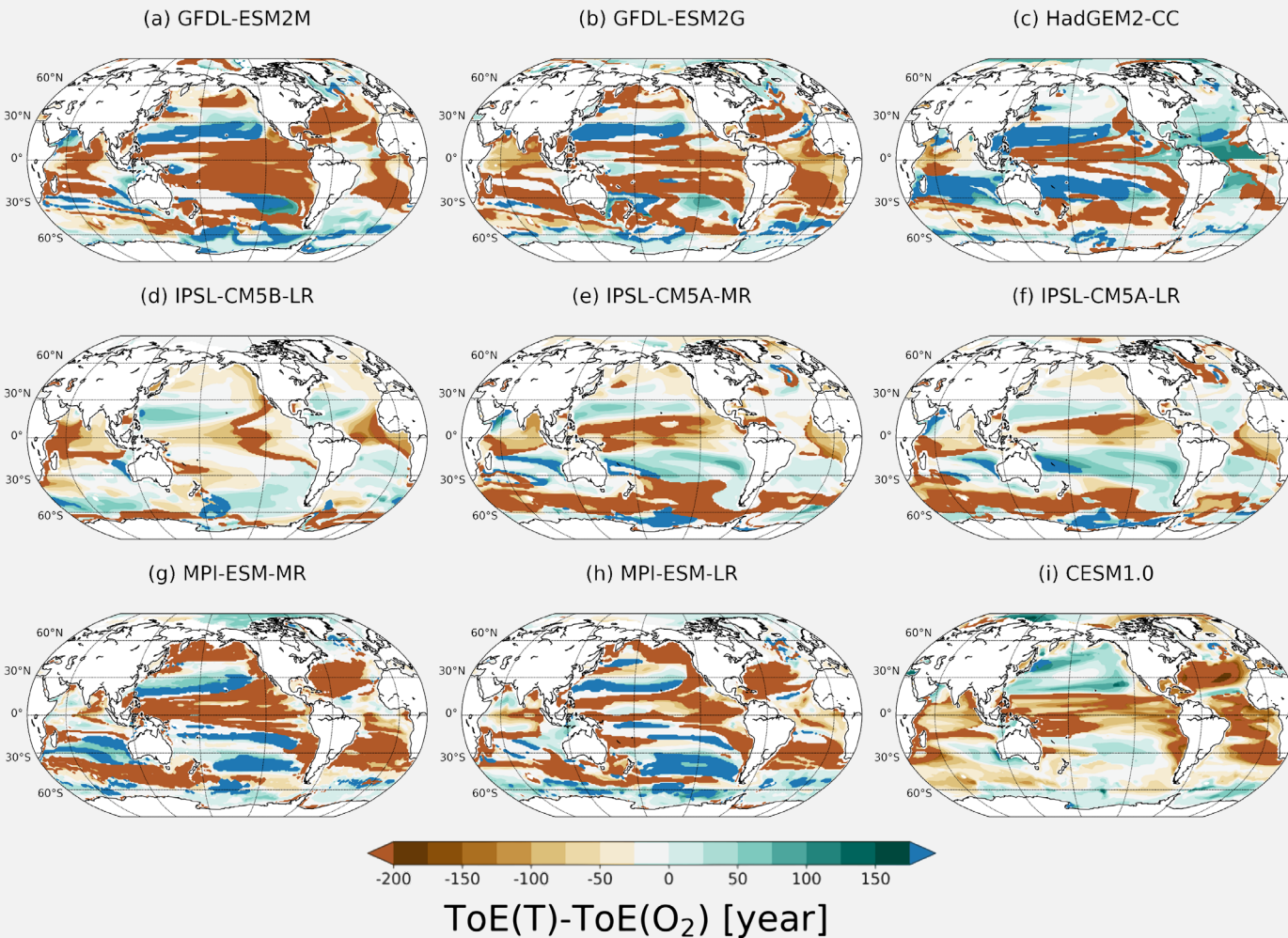


Multi-model spread of ToE [years]



(Hameau et al., 2020)

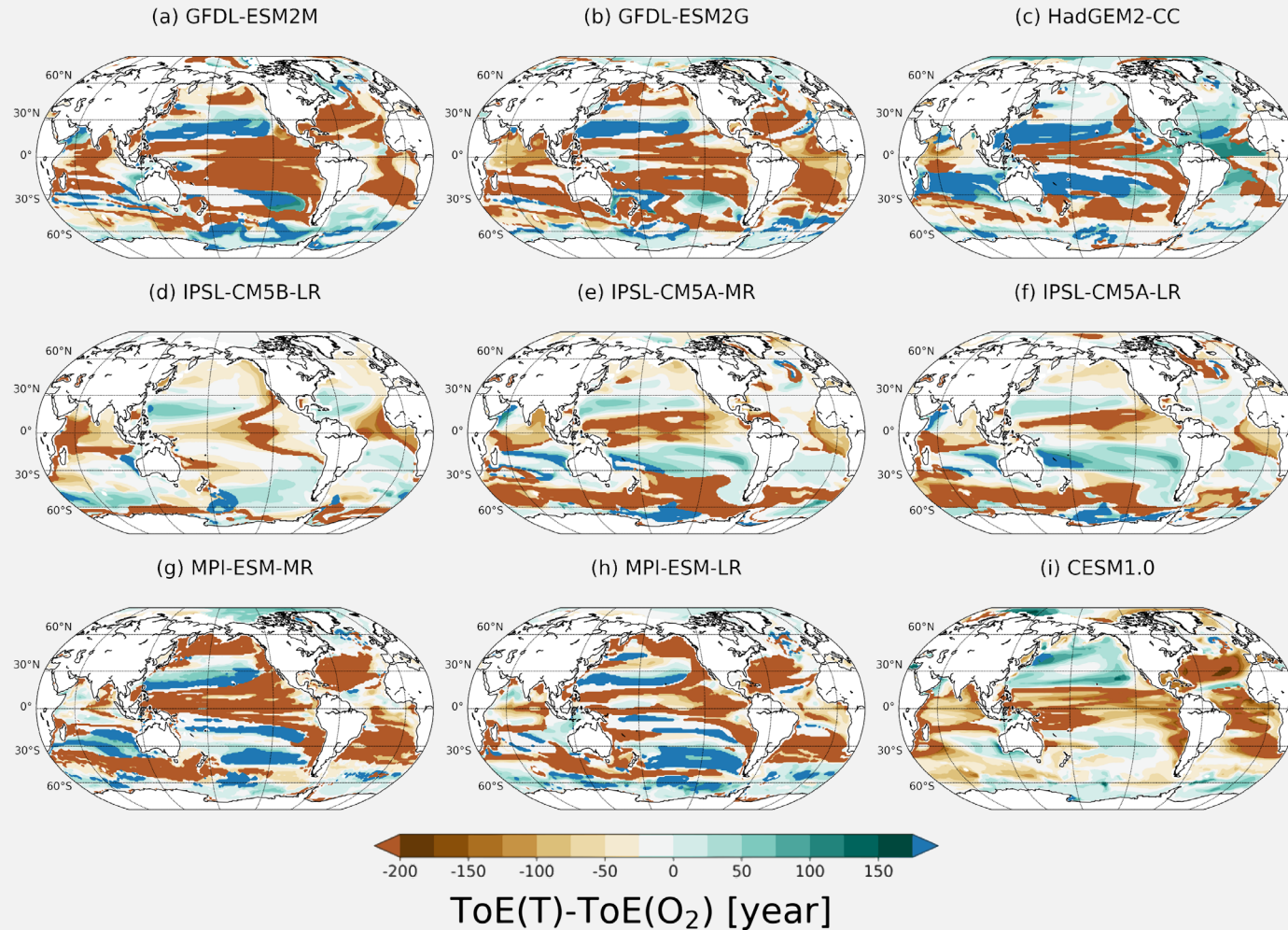
$$\Delta\text{ToE} = \text{ToE}(\text{T}) - \text{ToE}(\text{O}_2)$$



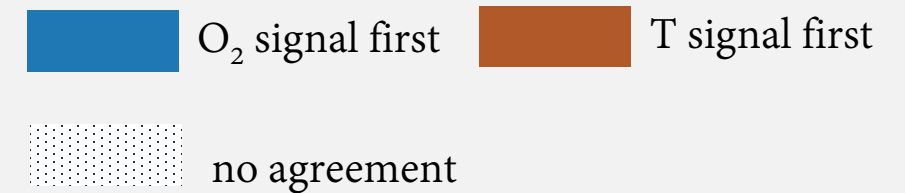
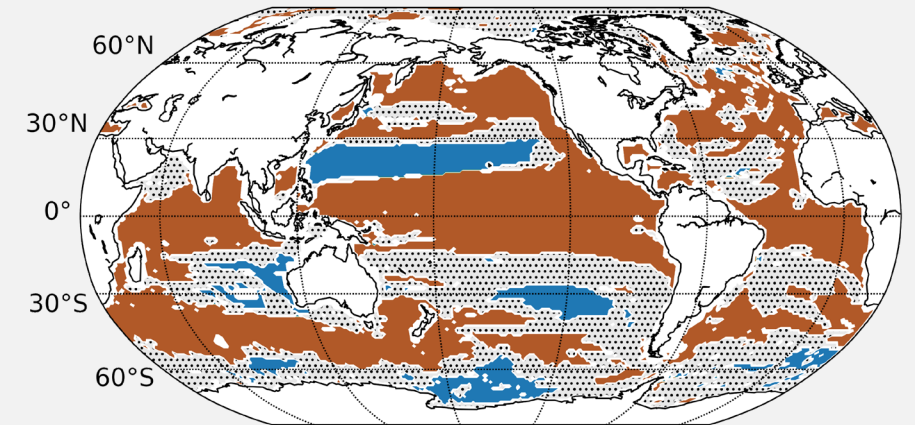
(Hameau et al., 2020)



$$\Delta\text{ToE} = \text{ToE}(\text{T}) - \text{ToE}(\text{O}_2)$$

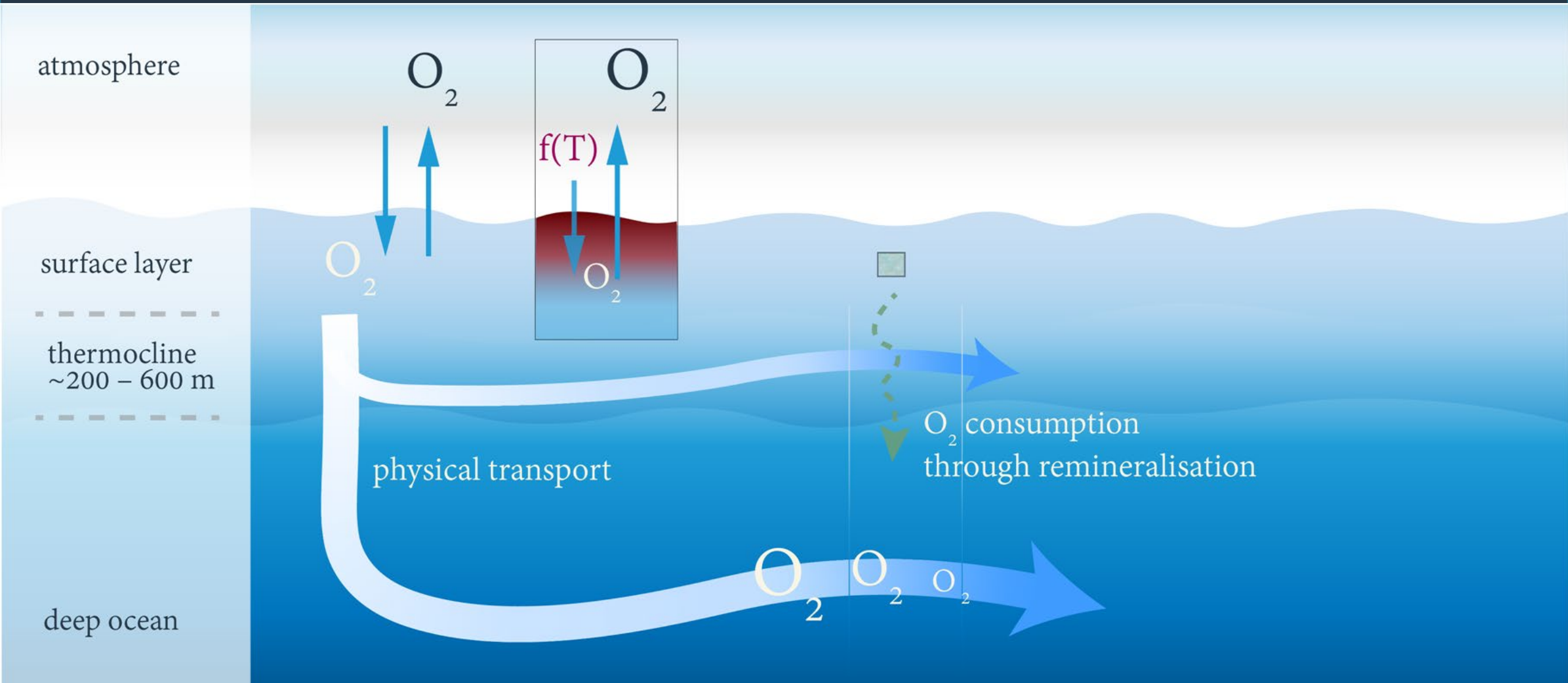


Summary map showing the regions where  $\Delta\text{O}_2$  emerge before  $\Delta\text{T}$  (blue) for at least 7 out of 9 models



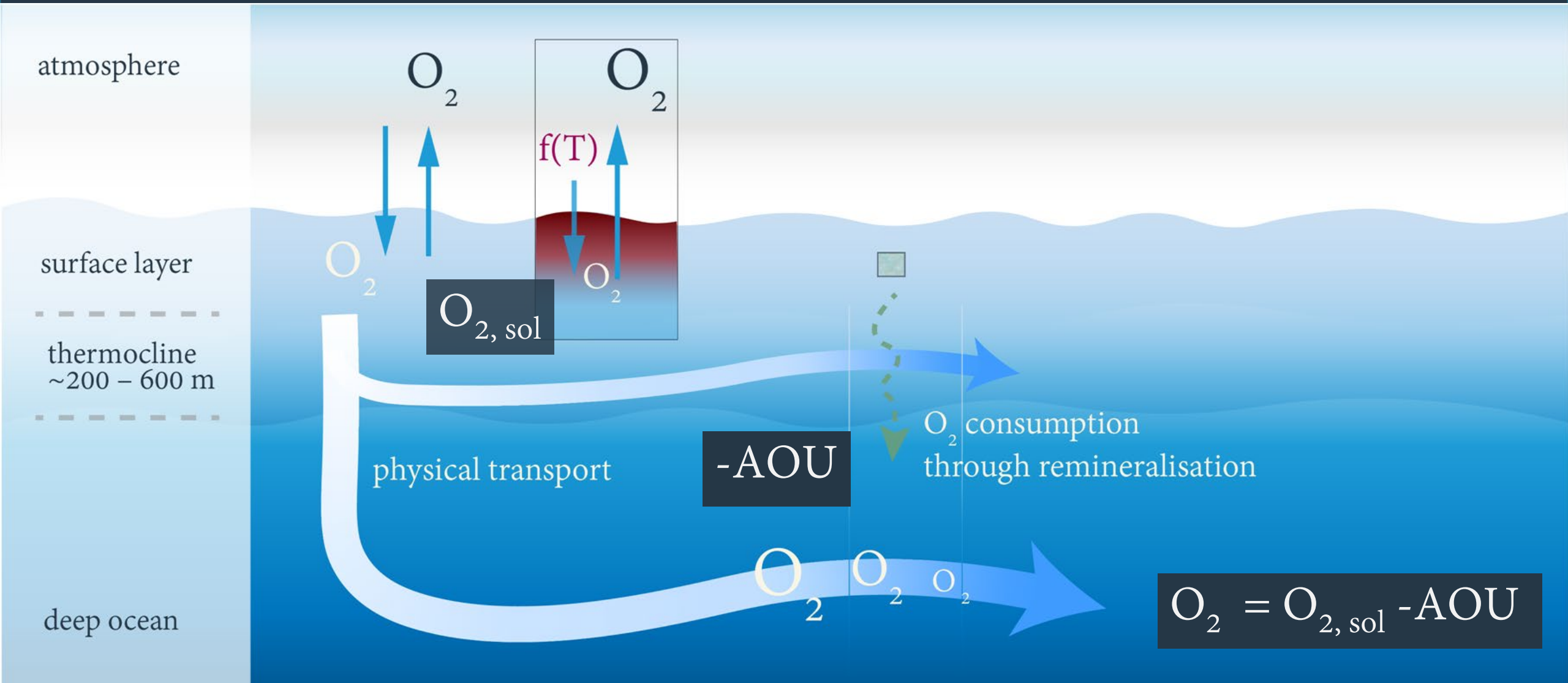
(Hameau et al., 2020)

# Oxygen distribution is driven by physical and biogeochemical processes

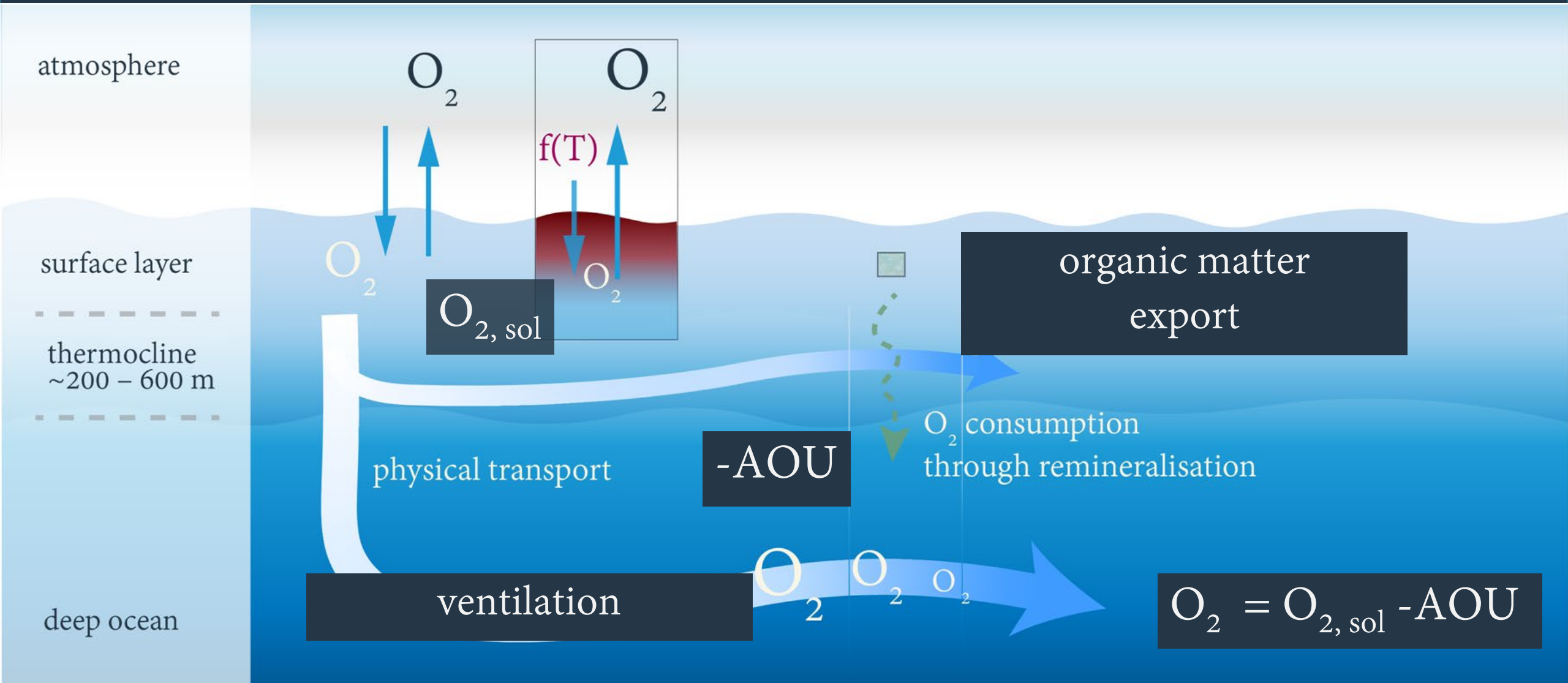




# Oxygen distribution is driven by physical and biogeochemical processes



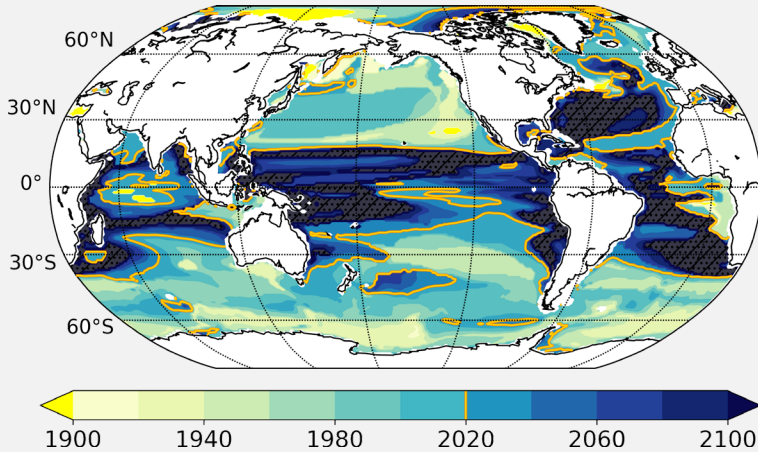
# Oxygen distribution is driven by physical and biogeochemical processes



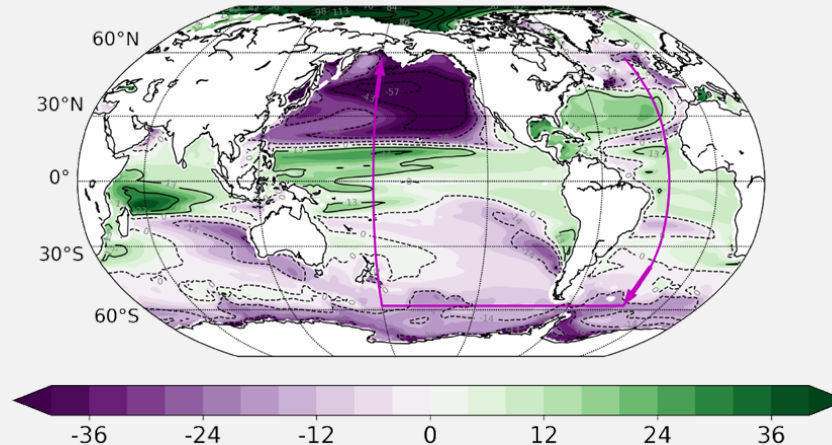
# Ventilation as main driver of early emergence of $\Delta O_2$ $u^b$

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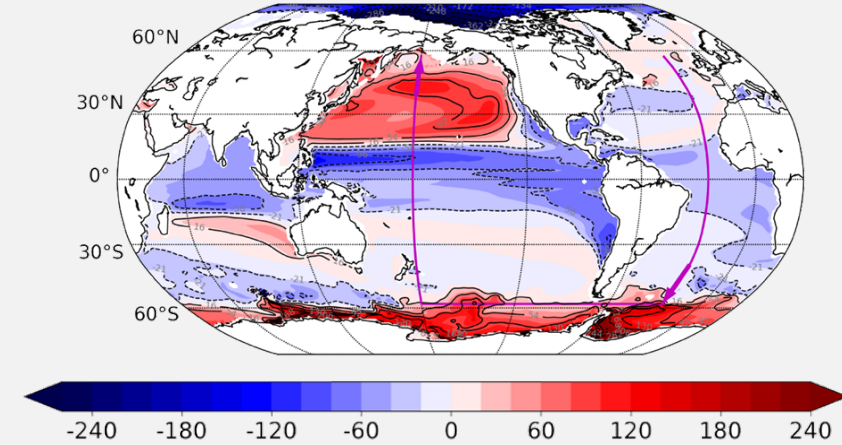
ToE(O<sub>2</sub>) [year]



$\Delta(-\text{AOU})$  [mmol m<sup>-3</sup>]



$\Delta$  ideal age [year]

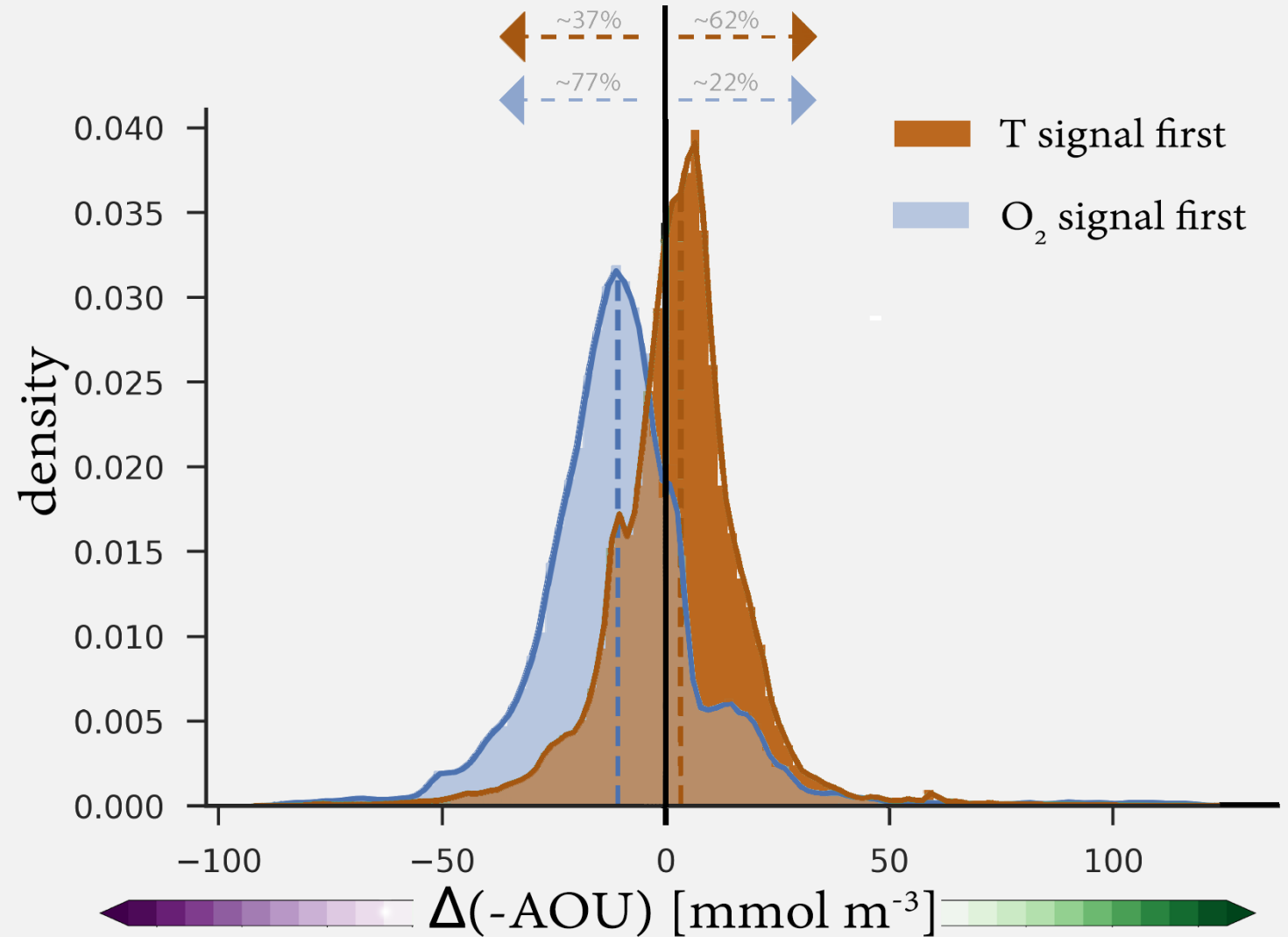
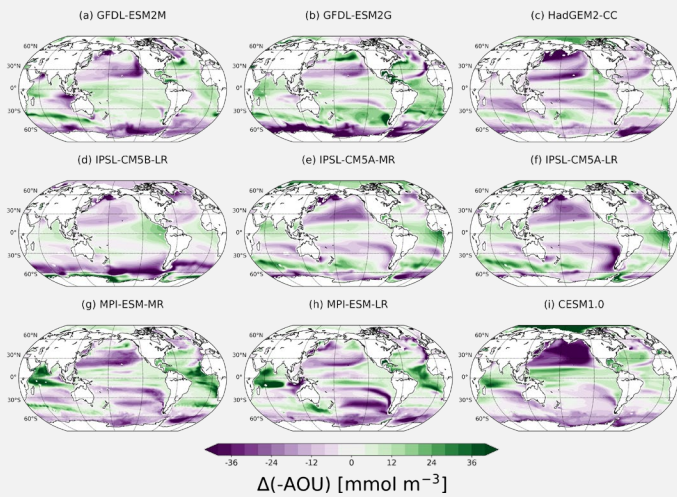
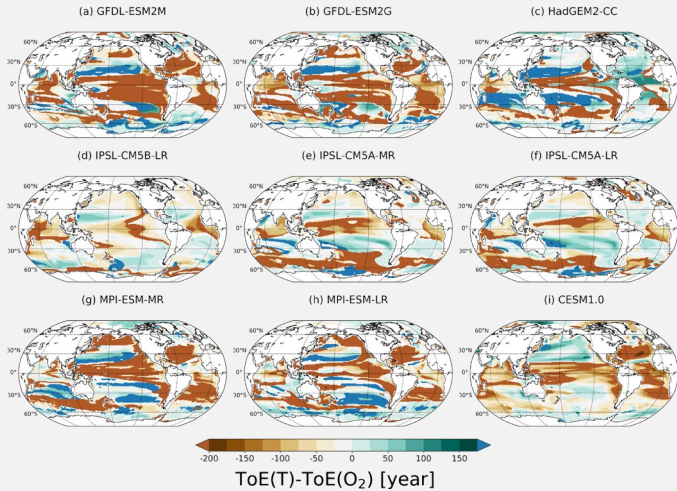


- Slower ventilation intensifies Apparent Oxygen Utilisation leading to strong O<sub>2</sub> depletion

(Hameau et al., 2020)

# $\Delta\text{ToE}$ vs $\Delta(-\text{AOU})$

$u^b$



(Hameau et al., 2020)

# Conclusions

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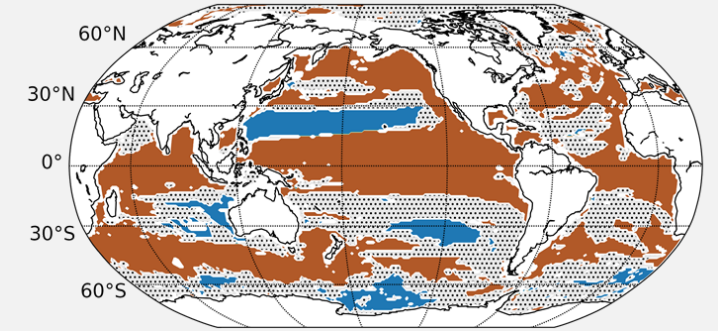




# Conclusions

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- 17% of the global thermocline show anthropogenic deoxygenation detectable prior to warming

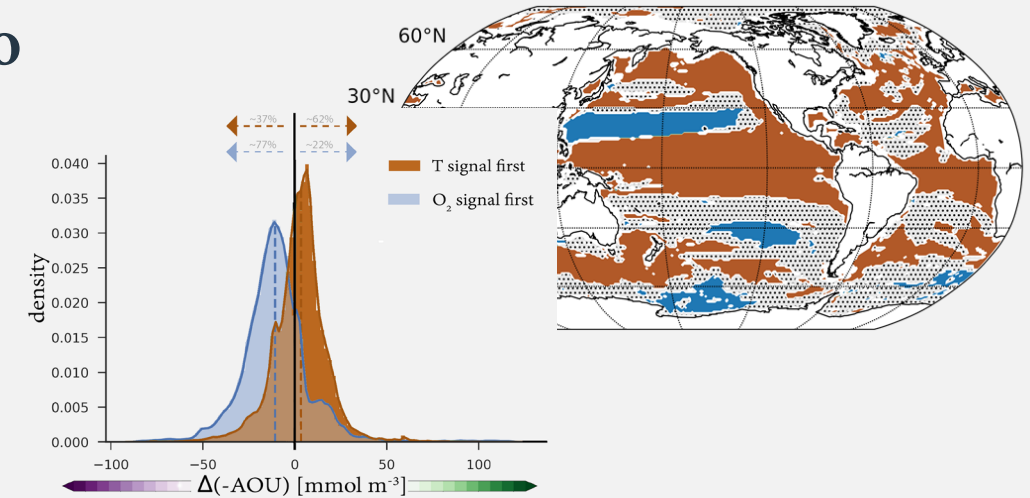


(Hameau et al., 2020)

# Conclusions

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- 17% of the global thermocline show anthropogenic deoxygenation detectable prior to warming
- The earlier  $O_2$  changes are primarily driven by intensified  $O_2$  consumptions which are mostly induced by a reduced ventilation

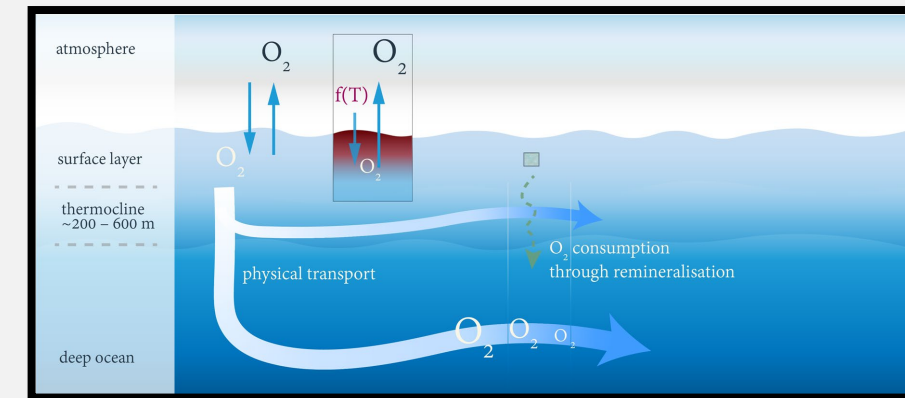
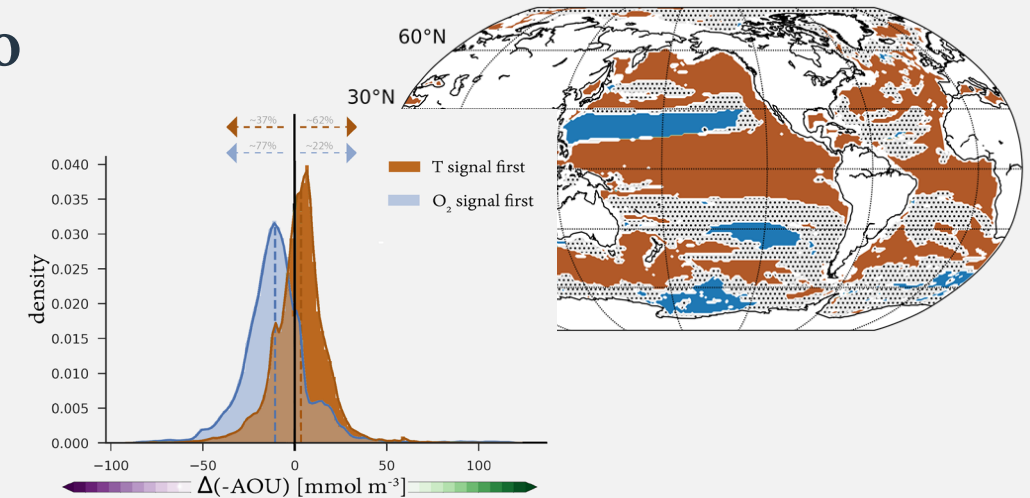


(Hameau et al., 2020)

# Conclusions

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- 17% of the global thermocline show anthropogenic deoxygenation detectable prior to warming
- The earlier  $O_2$  changes are primarily driven by intensified  $O_2$  consumptions which are mostly induced by a reduced ventilation
- Slower ventilation leads to a **reduction of  $O_2$  supply** from rich surface waters to the thermocline and **delays the propagation of the warming signal**



(Hameau et al., 2020)