

Session BG4.2 : EGU22-4664

Spatial and temporal distribution of physical and CO₂ properties in the English Channel based on voluntary observing ships between 2006 and 2021.

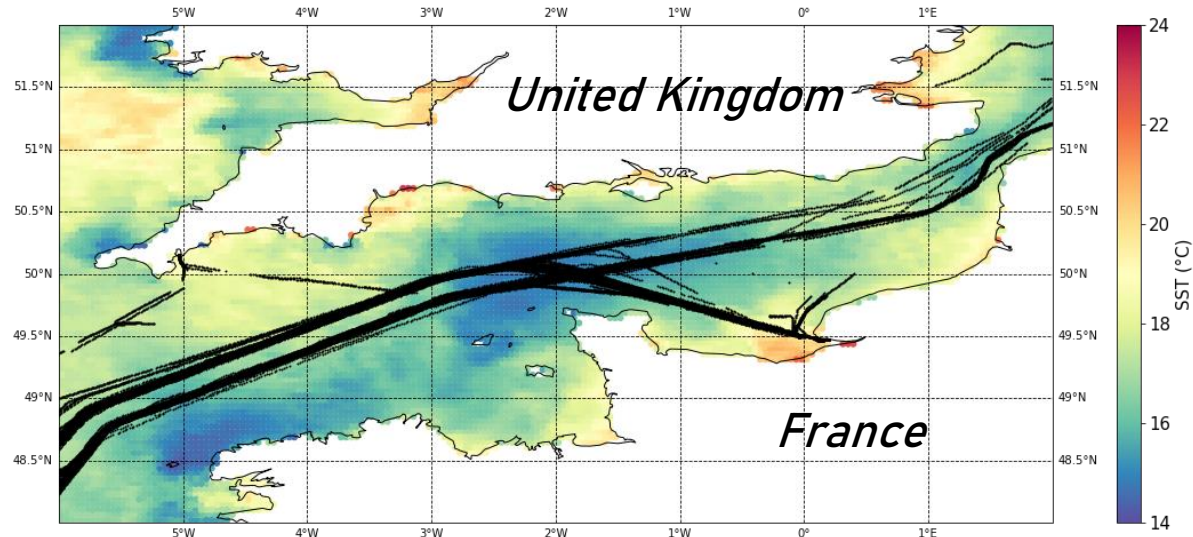
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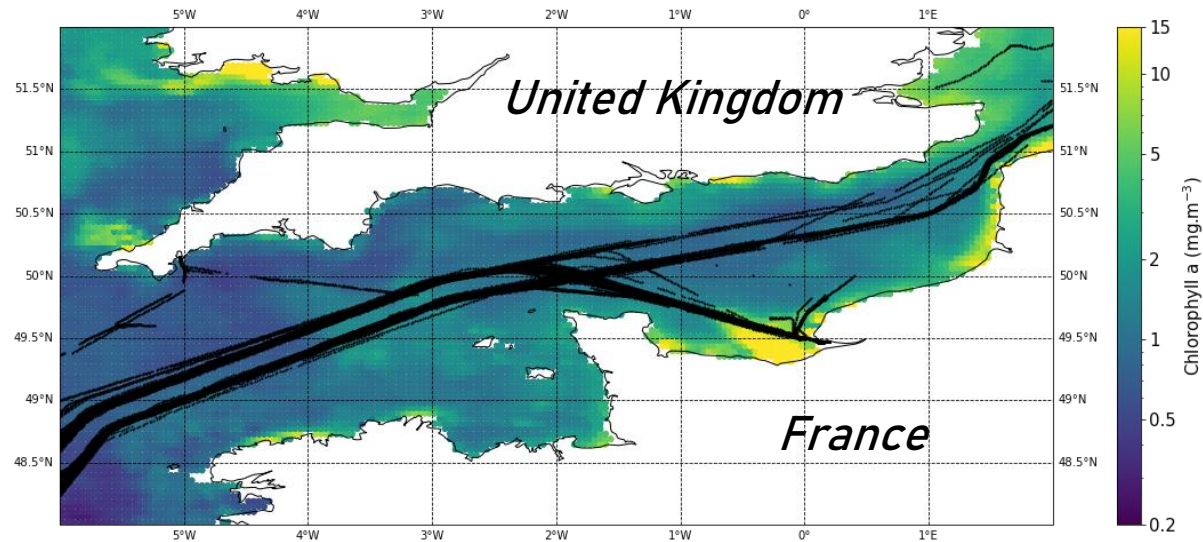
²IRD, centre de Bretagne, Plouzané, France



The English Channel



July 2021 mean SST and Chl-a from MODIS-Aqua

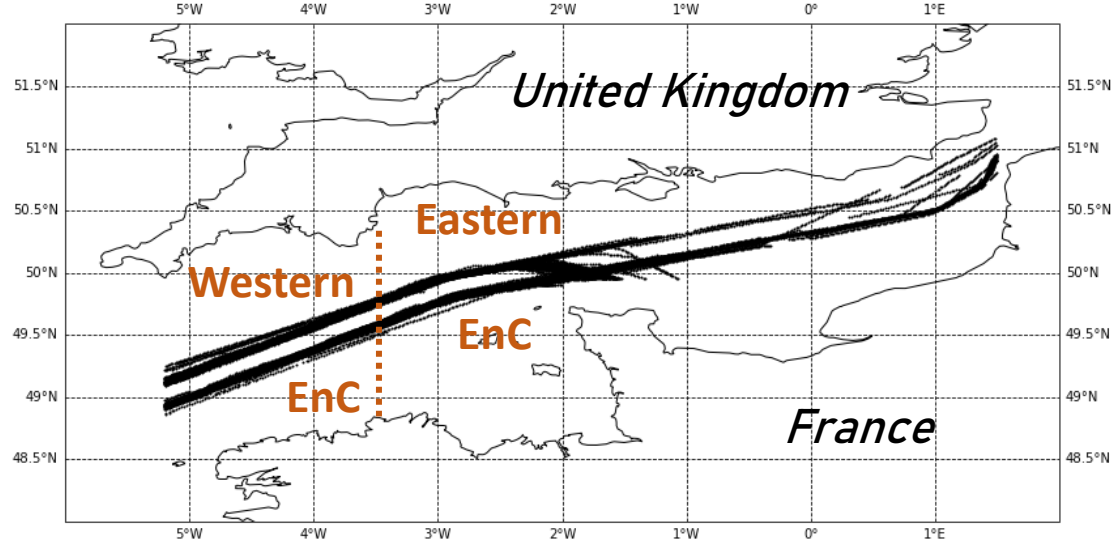


Important role of the continental shelves on the balance of air-sea CO₂ exchanges

The English Channel

- Strong variability in physical and biological parameters
- Spatial and seasonal variation in CO₂ source/sink
- Few studies on longitudinal variability and long-term evolution of physical and CO₂ parameters

Study area and methodology



In-situ data

Voluntary Observing Ships

- From 2006 to 2021
- Lines France-Brésil (ICOS) and France-Guyane
- 111 transects
- SST
- SSS
- $f\text{CO}_2$

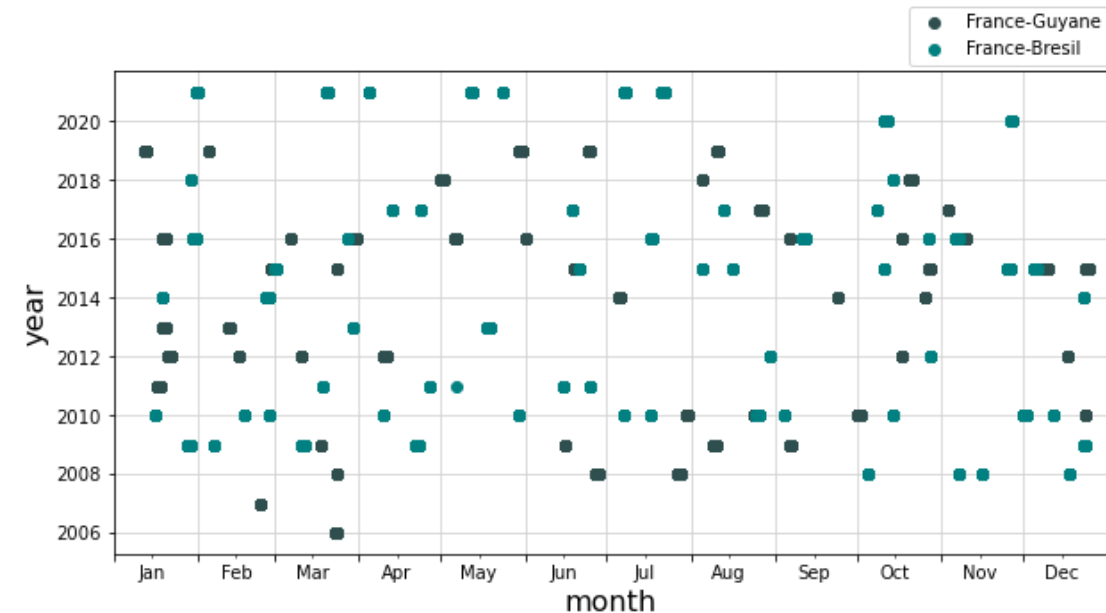
Satellite data

MODIS-Aqua

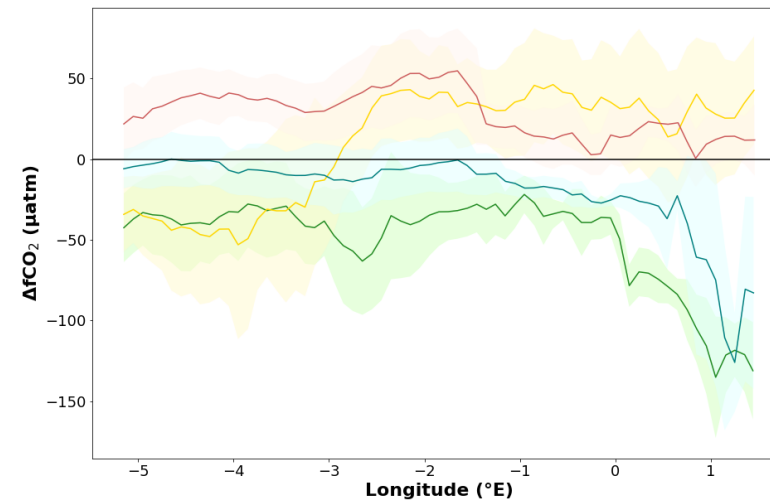
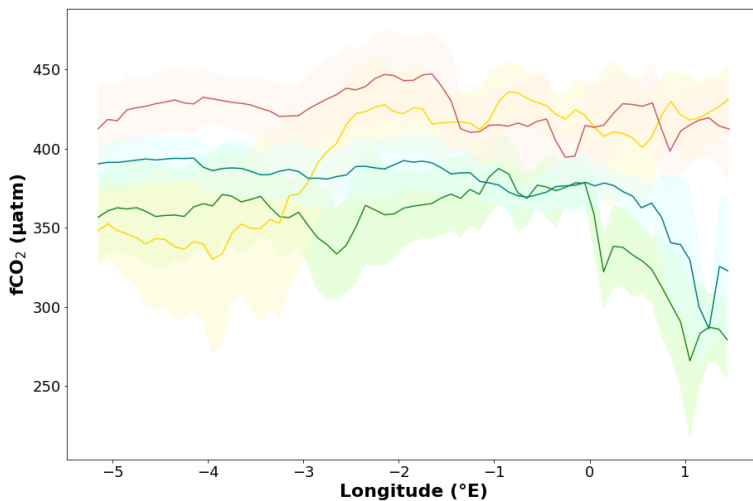
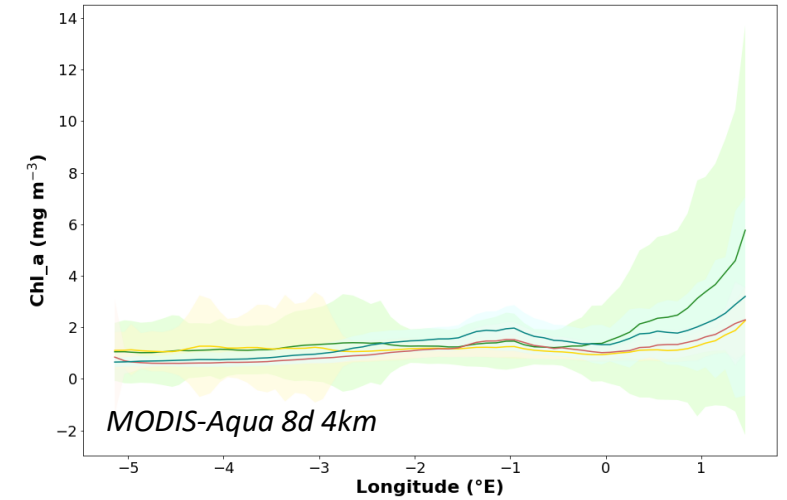
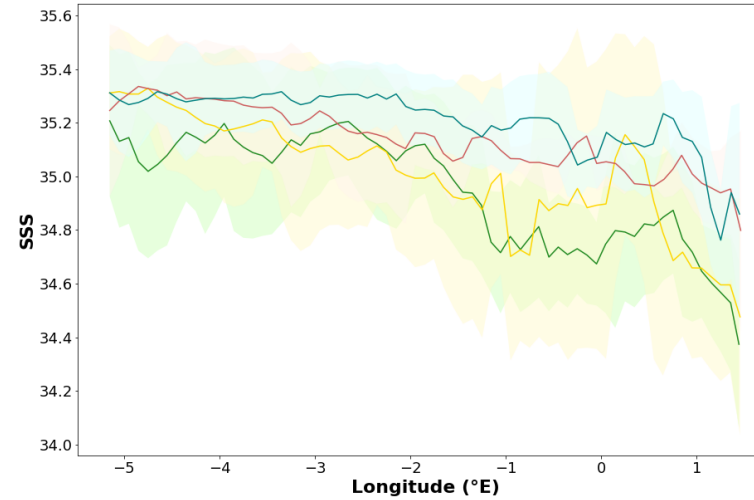
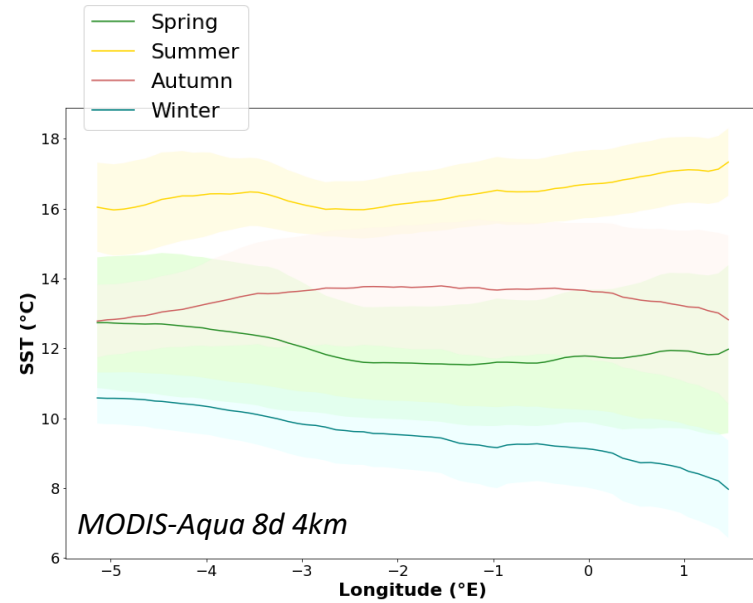
- Chlorophyll a
- SST

Two regions

- Western English Channel (5.2°W – 3.5°W)
- Eastern English Channel (3.5°W – 1.5°E)



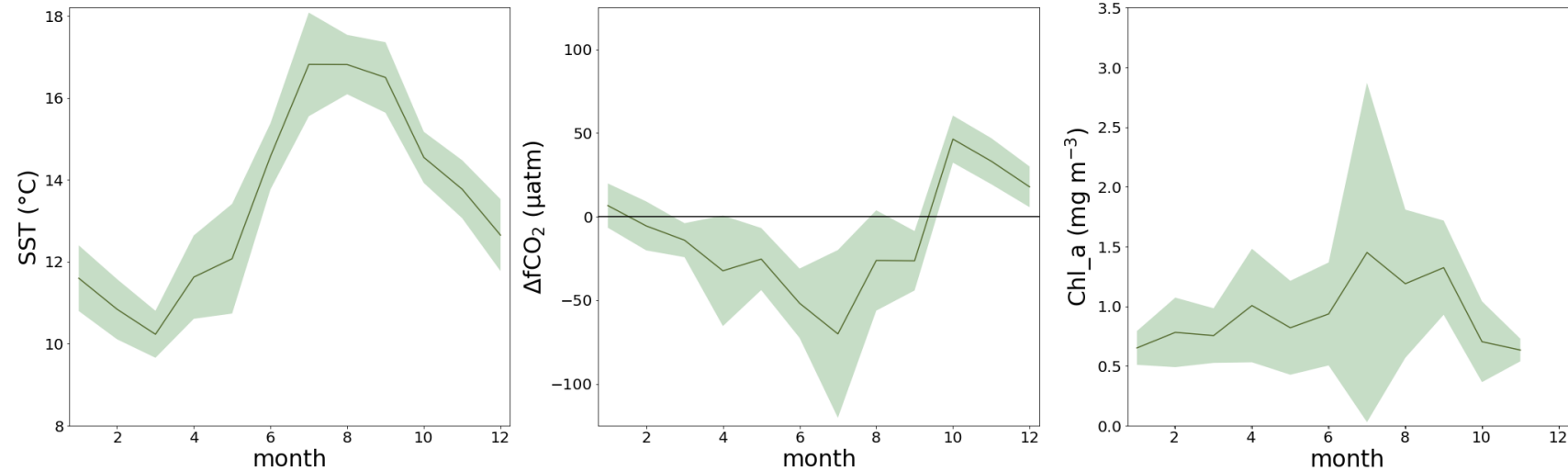
Longitudinal distribution of SST, CO₂ and Chlorophyll a



- Strong SST seasonality
- Spatial variability of CO₂ sources and sinks as well as Chl-a
- East/West difference in the parameters variability

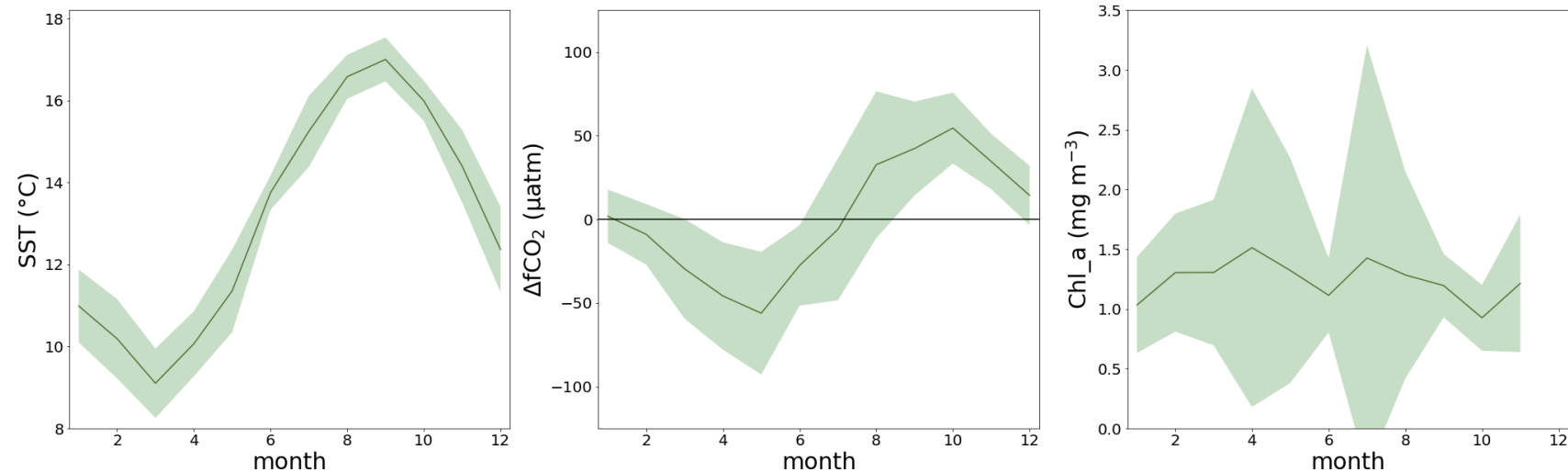
East/West difference in the seasonal variability of CO₂ and Chl-a

Western English Channel



- Minimum ΔfCO₂ in July coinciding with peak Chl-a
- Mean annual ΔfCO₂ = -12,30 μatm

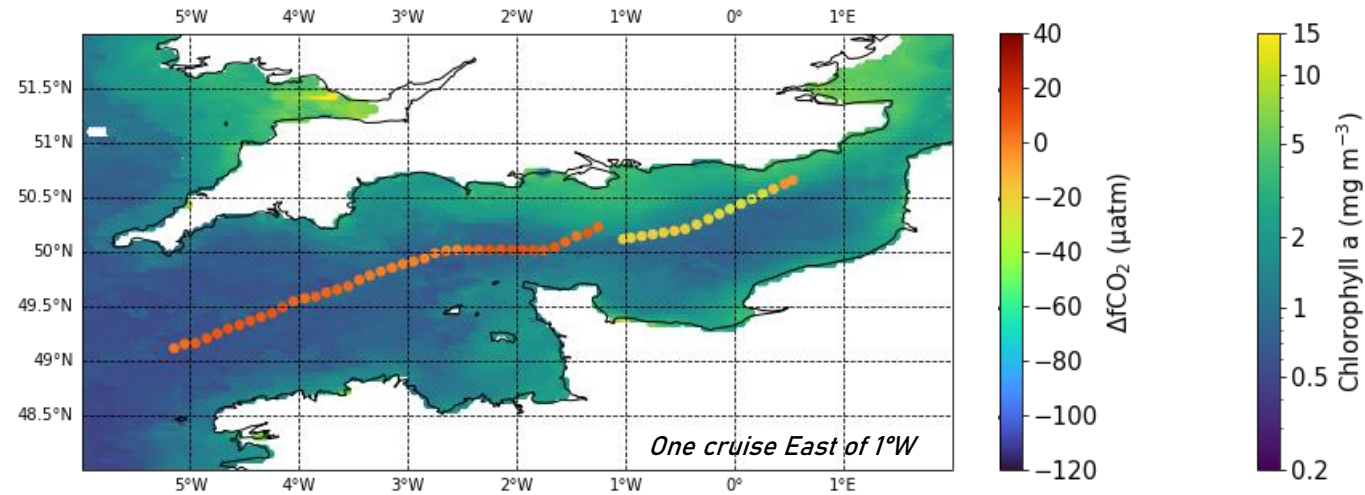
Eastern English Channel



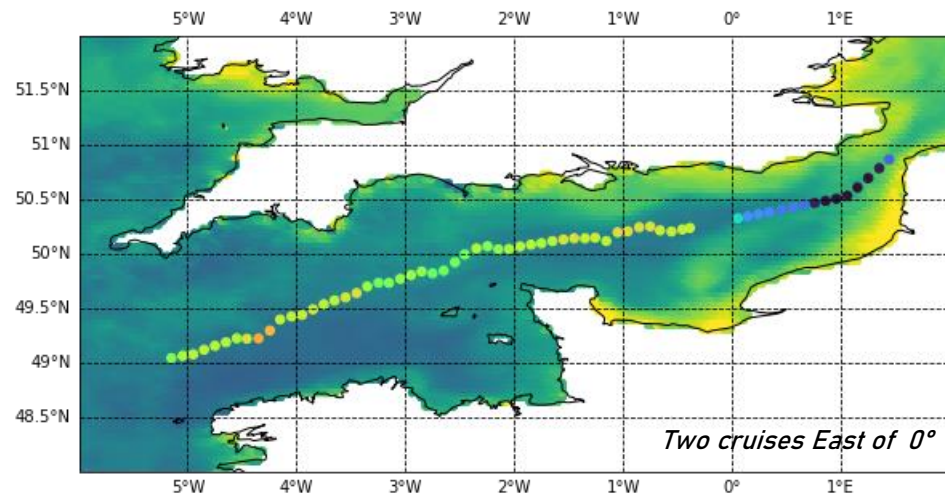
- Minimum ΔfCO₂ in May
- High Chl-a seasonal variability
- Mean annual ΔfCO₂ = 0,54 μatm

Seasonal variation in $\Delta f\text{CO}_2$ between 2006 and 2021

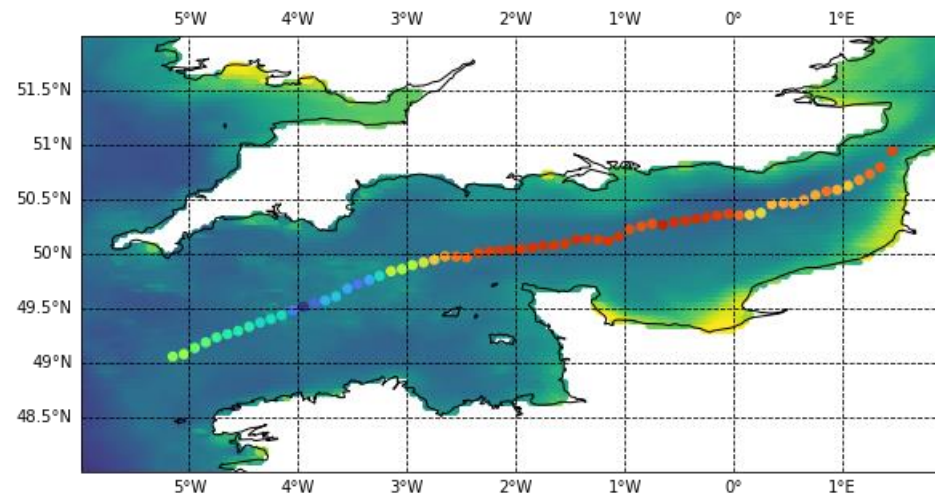
January



May



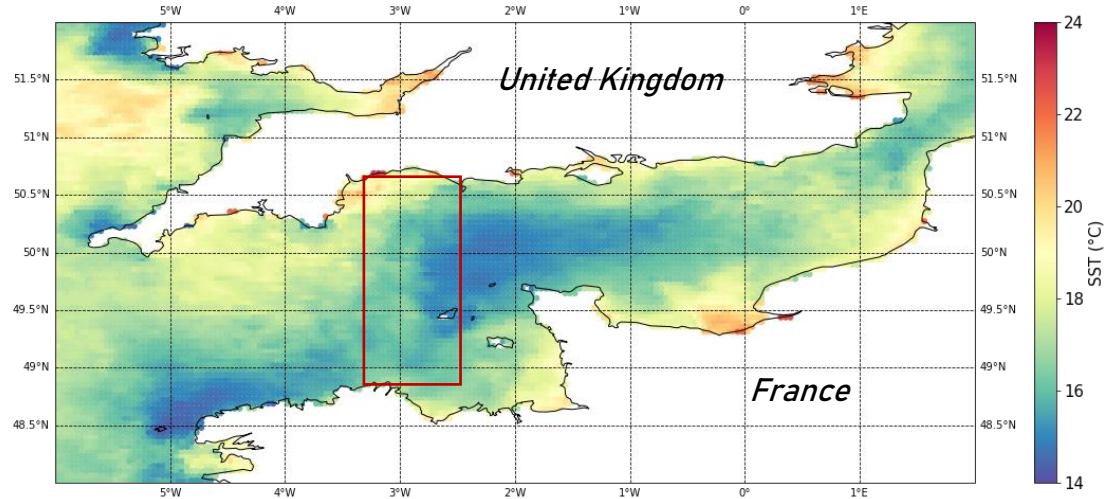
July



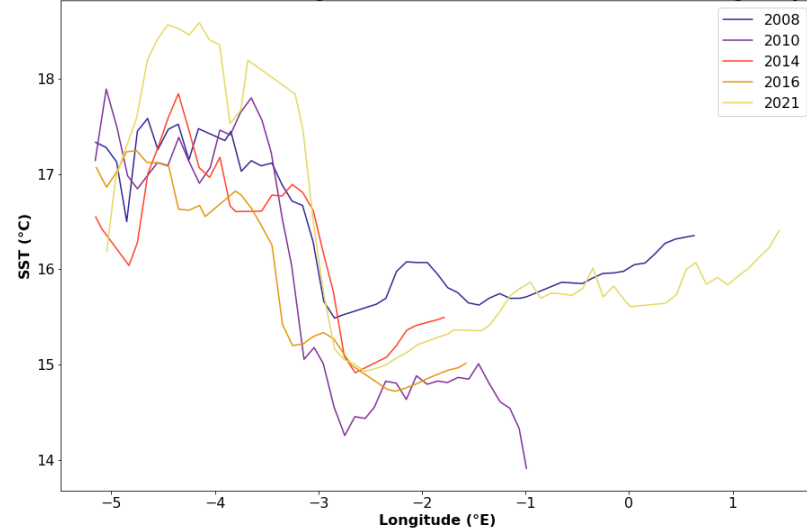
Study of relation between parameters and smaller-scale effects

Strong SST gradient during July at 3°W

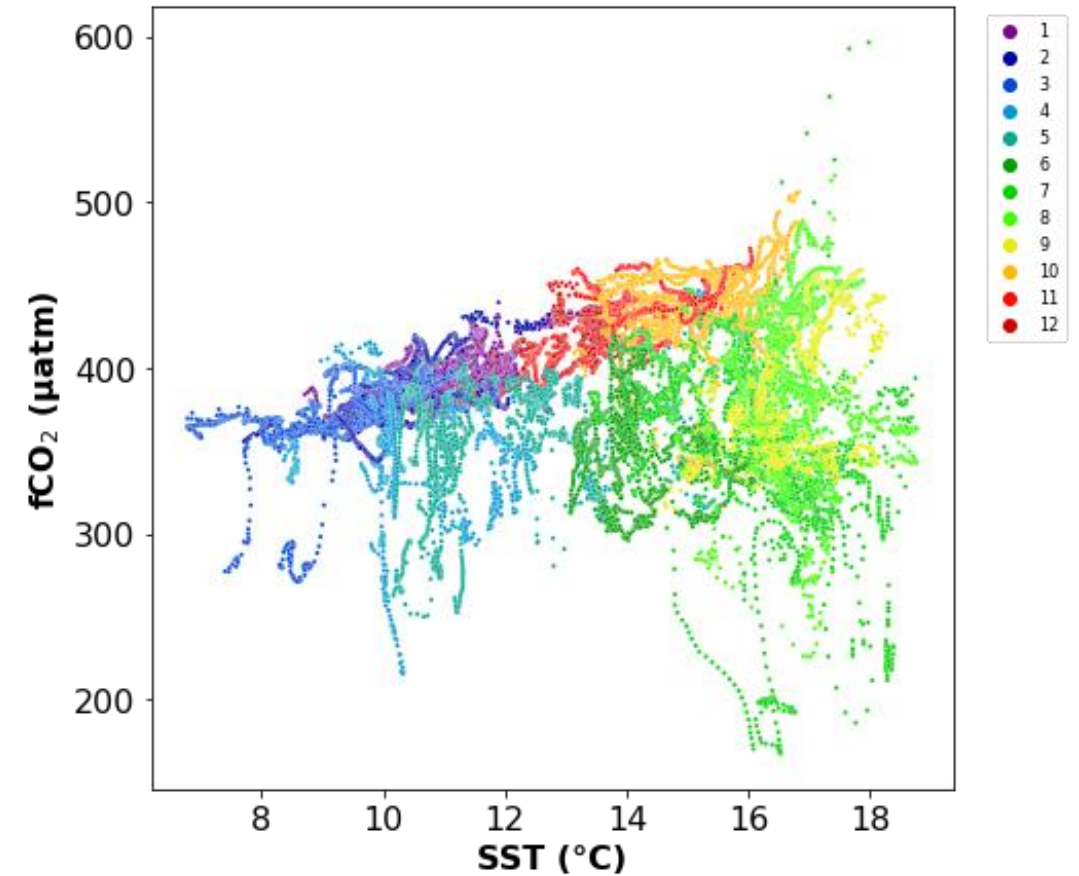
July 2021 mean SST from MODIS-Aqua



Longitudinal distribution of SST during July



Relationship between parameters



Conclusion and perspectives

Longitudinal variability
of physical and CO₂
parameters as well as
biological activity

East/West difference
in seasonal CO₂
variability and annual
air-sea CO₂
exchanges

More local or punctual
signal to explore to
better understand the
relations between
parameters

Assessment of the long-term evolution of physical and CO₂ parameters as well as acidification

Working with SOCAT dataset to increase spatial and temporal resolution