

# Provor : a range of profiling floats for Operational Oceanography

G. Loaec - S. Le Reste - F. Marchese - A. Billant (IFREMER) E. Le Marchand - T. Swinamer (MARTEC - METOCEAN)

## **Provor : the Marvor heritage**

Based on experience <sup>55</sup> gained in developing & operating <sup>55</sup> multi-cycles MARVOR floats <sup>107</sup>

→ A 7 year at sea experience
→ ~200 MARVOR floats deployed
→ reliable, long life



Nearly 100 Marvor floats have been launched during the SAMBA experiment in the Brazil Basin between 1994 and 1997 for a 5 year mission



# Provor - main features

- FSI or SeaBird CTD packages
  Self-ballasted, with active buoyancy control (hydraulic pump)
- •Max profiling depth : 2000 m
- •100 to 150 cycles
- •Possibility of data acquisition on downprofile to parking depth
- •Great versatility in vertical sampling strategy (upper and deep layers with different resolution)
- •ARGOS data transmission



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Provor T Seascan

### Provor CT-F2 FSI Excell

Provor-CT-S Seabird 41 CP

### Metocean Provor CT-S

- SBE sensor
- ready to deploy (removable magnet)
- 150 cycles (36 lithium D-cells)



# Provor mission programme



## **Buoyancy control**

- Transfer of oil between an internal reservoir and an external ballast
- No ballasting operation before launching
- +/- 30 dbars at depth
- About 2.3 liters of usable oil:
  - emergence at the surface : >1 liter
  - from surface to depth : 350 cm3 (function of difference of density)
  - quality of machining : 500 cm3

# **Data Acquisition**

	Р	Т	C/S	Reduction
Provor-T	1 dbar	0.01 °C	-	Chords
Provor-CT-F2	1 dbar	0.01 °C	0.01mS/cm	Slices
Provor-CT-S	1 dbar	0.002 °C	0.005 PSU	Slices

- One sample every 10 seconds (1 sample per meter). No power switching to avoid electrical noise
- From 2000 points to 100 to reduce the time at the surface (using Argos data transmission system)
- 2 data reduction methods : chords or slices

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Segments between real points Maximum allowed error or number of oints



### Data reduction : Slices Method

- 2 layers (upper and lower)
- each layer is divided into slices which height is user-defined
- all measurements which are gathered inside every slice are averaged (1 sample /meter)

Q6900045 - 03/09/01 - 43.082°N , 16.96°W



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# **Provor deployments**

- On going experiments (North Atlantic)
  - 1999-2000: technology experiment *Pommier*
  - 2000-2001: scientific experiment *Pomme* Provor CT-F2)

(5 profilers)(16 profilers including 6

- *GyroScope (funded by EU)* (40 profilers PROVOR-CT-F2) – deployments in 2001 and 2002
- *Coriolis* (50 profilers PROVOR-CT-F2)
  - deployments in 2002
- Jamstec floats : 70 METOCEAN PROVOR-CT-S
  - deployments in 2001 and 2002

Provor float deployment from a ship of the French Navy near the Azores

