



## **Mersea inter-comparison: The Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea seen by the existing ocean forecast systems.**

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The MERSEA (Marine Environment and Security for the European Area) and GODAE (Global Ocean Data Assimilation Experiment) projects are conducting an inter-comparison of the existing forecast systems for the North Atlantic and the Mediterranean Sea. Mersea has built a common methodology for real time inter-comparison: systematic diagnostics, common to all forecast systems, aim at testing each system's consistency, quality and performance. The first part of this talk will focus on the Caribbean area where the HYCOM(USA), FOAM(UK), MERCATOR(FR) and TOPAZ(NO) systems will be compared to available observations(Canek velocity section, Cable STACS volume transport data, tide gauge measurements). The second part will focus on the Mediterranean basin where the FOAM, MERCATOR and MFS(IT) systems will be compared to observations (XBT sections). Defaults and skills of each systems will be highlighted.