



## **Labrador Sea eddy field from float trajectories**

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The mesoscale eddy activity in the Labrador Sea (LS) is known to play a significant role in the restratification of the interior LS after the convective season. West Greenland Current eddies shedding southward carry warm and salty Irminger Sea water into the LS and define a northern boundary for the convective region. The eddy kinetic energy field in the LS between March 2004 and summer 2005 is exemplarily analysed using the trajectories of 7 acoustically tracked isobaric floats at 800 or 900m depth. A temporal resolution of 8 hours allows to resolve eddies with observed revolution periods as small as two days. Four of the floats were surfacing each 7 days giving thus good estimates of sound wave travel times that significantly improve the tracking quality. Float trajectories are analysed in comparison with altimetric and moored observations and an eddy resolving model simulation. From five floats deployed in the central LS, after 18 months still four floats stayed in this region. These float trajectories support analysed model simulations, that suggest a slow export of convectively formed LSW from the central LS into the adjacent basins.