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Warming of Western Med. Deep Water in the context of halted deep convection

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► To cite this version:

Anthony Bosse, Julien Lenne, Pierre Testor, Dominique Lefèvre, Xavier Durrieu de Madron. Warming of Western Med. Deep Water in the context of halted deep convection. CIESM 2024, Oct 2024, Palerme, Italy. hal-04798803

HAL Id: hal-04798803

<https://cnrs.hal.science/hal-04798803v1>

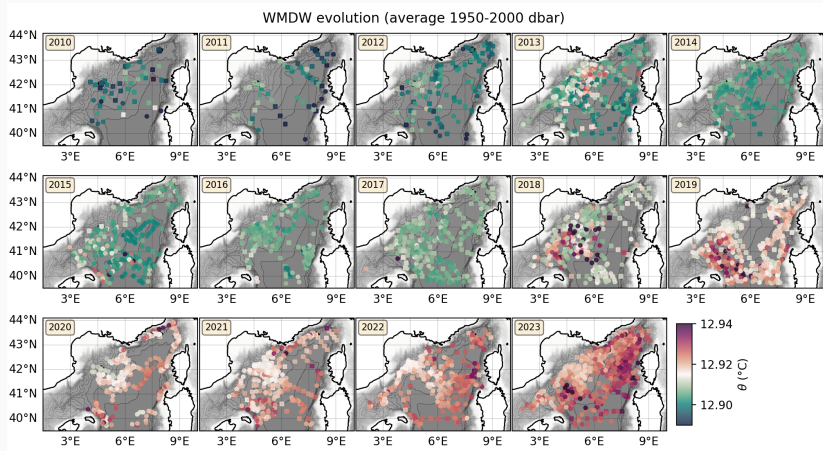
Submitted on 22 Nov 2024

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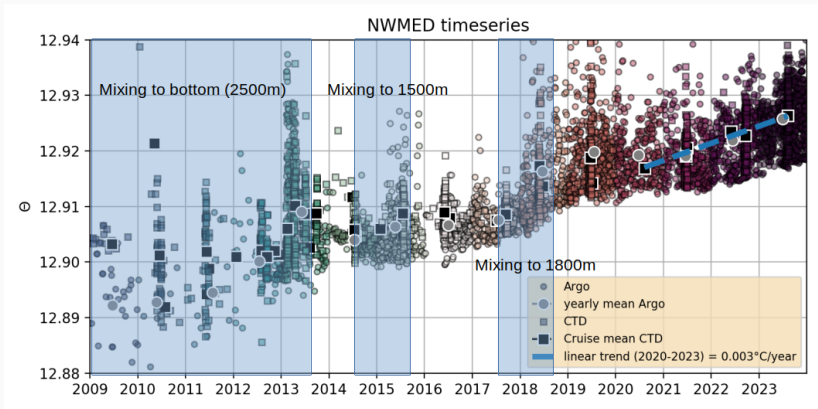
Warming of Western Med. Deep Water in the context of halted deep convection

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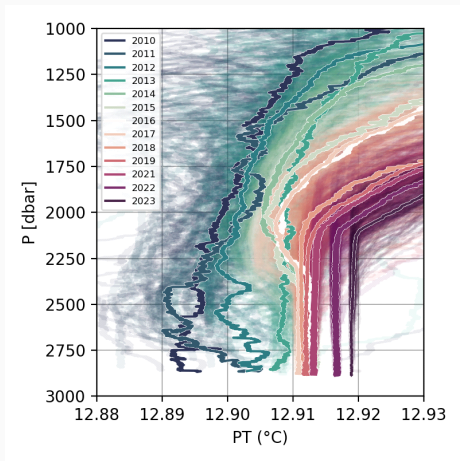
Data : MOOSE-GE yearly and monthly cruises + EMSO Ligurian Sea moorings (LION, ALBATROSS, DYFAMED) + Argo floats

Temperature@2000m (NW Med. Sea)



- **variable** during intense convection period (2009–2013)
- **stable** between 2014 and 2018 (minor convection)
- **warming** after 2018 event (and especially **after 2021**: $+0.003^{\circ}\text{C yr}^{-1}$)

Vertical structure of WMDW



MOOSE-GE cruises, full-depth CTD profiles

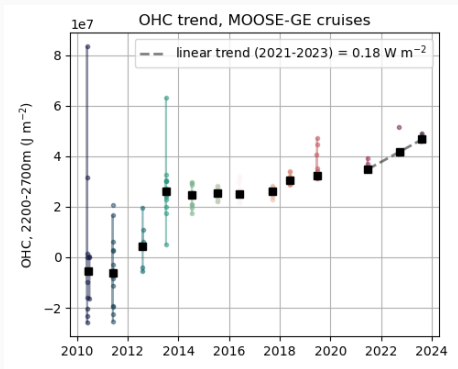
After 2018:

- **T gradient changes sign** above WMDW
- **WMDW homogeneous** below 2000m
- **Thickness of WMDW decreases** (-20 m yr^{-1})

After 2021:

- **warming of EIW** above WMDW ($+0.05^\circ\text{C yr}^{-1}$)
- ⇒ **More heat able to diffuse to vertically**

Heat budget of WMDW



After 2021:

→ WMDW (average thickness of 500m) **warm at a rate of 180 mW m^{-2}**

Sources of heat :

- **Turbulent vertical heat flux : $O(100) \text{ mW m}^{-2}$ ($k_z = 10^{-4} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-2}$)**
- **Geothermal heating : $50\text{--}100 \text{ mW m}^{-2}$**
- **Horizontal advection?**