

Observing System Evaluation Process(es)

- We have proposed an initial evaluation strategy based on estimating the uncertainty of ocean climate indices
- This path is new. We'll have to give it a try and see how things go. **Crucial to this approach is agreement on a set of indices**
- How much do from data alone and how much from ocean products/analyses?

Observing System Evaluation

- An alternative is to do as we have with SST...to agree on space/time accuracy desired and to try to estimate the local uncertainty of analyses.
- This would be the 'conventional' approach to evaluation. Is difficult to carry forward because so much of the ocean is so poorly sampled that we do not have the statistical information needed.
- Lots could be done from the OI perspective, with assumed correlation functions and amplitudes.
- Can we interest Clivar in getting better observational covariance information?
- Can we agree on the desired accuracies?

Observing System Evaluation

- Another evaluation activity is estimation of the uncertainty in existing ocean climatologies.
- There are several global climatologies and probably a number of different regional climatologies.
- If comparisons have not been made and documented, should we encourage that they be done? Is a workshop appropriate?
- Could we present these results in a way

Observing System Evaluation

- Another activity of interest is trying to understand the contribution of different elements of the observing system in different regions.
- The tropical upper Pacific, with TAO/Triton, XBT lines, Argo floats, VOS, repeat hydro sections, altimeter, vector wind sat., microwave SST, is often pointed to as meriting such a study.
- The S/I forecasting community is in a good position to carry this out, but it would be an unfunded mandate for them. Also possible that different systems will give different outcomes

Observing System Evaluation

- How to deal with the fact that different applications have different needs?
- Are there other approaches we should identify?
- How do we go forward - by trying to interest others in doing some of these things, or arranging a workshop, or ???