



Variability (with time) of sound speed in the Mediterranean Sea

A.G.P Shaw, C. Koroploulis, and M.N. Tsimplis

Ocean Observing and Climate, National Oceanography Centre, Southampton, Southampton, United Kingdom
(agps@noc.soton.ac.uk, +44 23 80596400)

We explore the spatial and temporal variability of sound speed within the Mediterranean basin for the period between 1945-2002. The analysis is based on hydrographic measurements from the MEDAR/MEDATLAS 2002 historical dataset, where the dataset consists of gridded yearly temperature and salinity fields with a spatial resolution of 0.2 degrees and 25 levels in depth from 0 to 4000 metres. Sound speed computation is based on the MacKenzie algorithm (1981).