

Agenda of the 3rd Argo Regional Center Meeting

Tuesday 29th September 2009

Schedule: Meeting will start at 9:00 and finish around 15:15

Chairs: Claudia Schmid and Ann Gronell Thresher

Objectives of the meeting

- Review the status of the various ARCs, focus on:
 - essential roles:
 - regional analysis of all Argo data to assess its internal & external consistency
 - feedback to PIs about the results of the regional analysis and possible outliers
 - contribute to Reference Data Base for delayed mode quality control
 - Prepare and distribute Argo data products
 - optional roles:
 - Coordinate Argo deployment for the region
 - Develop new Q/C tests for region
 - Provide delayed-mode Q/C for regions without such capabilities
 - Compare Argo data to models and assimilated fields
 - Provide documentation of the procedures done at the ARC
- Review action items (added below) from last year – e.g., see what's done.
- Challenges, what are they and how can they be overcome
- Identify ways for ARCs to help each other (e.g. software exchange)

9:00 – 9:05	Welcome by the chairs
9:05 - 10:30	Regional consistency quality control, post DM-QC (Claudia Schmid & TBA)
10:30 - 10:45	Break
10:45 - 11:15	Deployment planning (TBA)
11:15 – 12:00	Education and outreach (TBA)
12:00 - 13:00	Lunch
13:00 - 14:00	Products: graphics and gridded data sets (TBA)
14:00 - 14:30	Communication and web interface (TBA)
14:30 - 14:45	Break
14:45 - 15:15	Wrap-up (chairs)

Action items from the 2nd ARC meeting in 2008

Issues:

1. The utility of ARCs was discussed, and there was general agreement that ARCs are worthwhile.
2. The "essential" and "optional" tasks of regional centers were reviewed, and it was agreed that these are still appropriate. Perhaps one recommendation would be for each ARC to **specify a) who is responsible for each item, b) what resources are required, perhaps c) a timeline and/or plan for these**
3. Communication with PIs (or lack thereof) remains a concern
4. Resources continue to be a hurdle, both in terms of personnel and funding.
5. Steve Diggs discussed the CCHDO CTD program and stressed the need for communication between those organizing cruises and his program that will archive CTD data. Perhaps the ARCs can be the brokers for this?
6. Lot's of discussion on Argo products and product development. Do we want to include at some level, s/w support (e.g., providing input on things like ferret, JOA, etc.)?
7. There was a bit of discussion on co-ordination/dialog between ARCs, product developers and DMQC operators. It was agreed that this would be a very useful thing.
8. Deployment planning

Action Items 1 - web interface:

1. add links to AIC on regional center pages
2. share scripts that display data/products (netcdf/kml/gis translations)

Action Items 2 – products:

1. need to define precisely what we mean by Argo data products
2. need to come up with a useful, complete listing of product descriptors/qualifiers; this will be used to refine products table (table headings)
3. complete table; perhaps provide mechanism for update mechanisms; who to host this (maybe Megan can add its' information, see item 5.)?
4. how to coordinate product development; issues include referencing originator, regional/global, documentation, etc.
5. work with Megan on gridded products web catalog
6. Provide uniform language for gridded data sets, e.g., "optimal interpolation" vs. "objective analysis"

Action Items 3 – communication:

1. different ARCs seem to be doing this to varying degrees; individual ARCs may need to re-visit how work is communicated within each ARC
2. ARCs should try to provide points of contact to Steve Diggs and CCHDO for planned/performed cruises
3. problems found when qc'ing data (either through product development or otherwise) needs to get back to PI's. It was recommended that this be done via the AIC (i.e., send this back to Mathieu)
4. the next meeting will involve DMQC operators, perhaps devoting the majority of the meeting to developing a collaboration between these two groups (reference data sets, procedures, experiences, etc.)

Action Items 4 – education/outreach:

1. continue education, outreach activities (e.g. deployment and data acquisition training for African Nations)
2. need to promote Argo, demonstrate value of the program to regional communities/countries; do this through ARCs
3. Continue improvement of Argo Marine Atlas; perhaps use ARCs as method for distribution/user feedback
4. AST to display list of data viewers

Action Items – deployment planning:

1. Provide maps of float location, age, data quality (float quality)
2. Work on logistics (e.g., how to share information on potential deployment opportunities (AIC, BODC, JAMSTEC, AOML, Coriolis))