
Newly Compiled and Gridded Seasonal Sea Surface T and S
for the Atlantic Ocean at the Last Glacial Maximum
Christian Schäfer-Neth and André Paul

DFG Research Center Ocean Margins, University of Bremen, Germany

Purpose:

Compile a *new* global, seasonal, and consistent SST and SSS data set
for the last glacial, 23–18 ky BP

Data base:

Numerous SST reconstructions and oxygen isotope measurements
from deep-sea sediment cores

Methods:

Variogram analysis and kriging, paleo-T-S- $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ Relations

Application:

Forcing and assessing numerical ocean and atmosphere models



Motivation

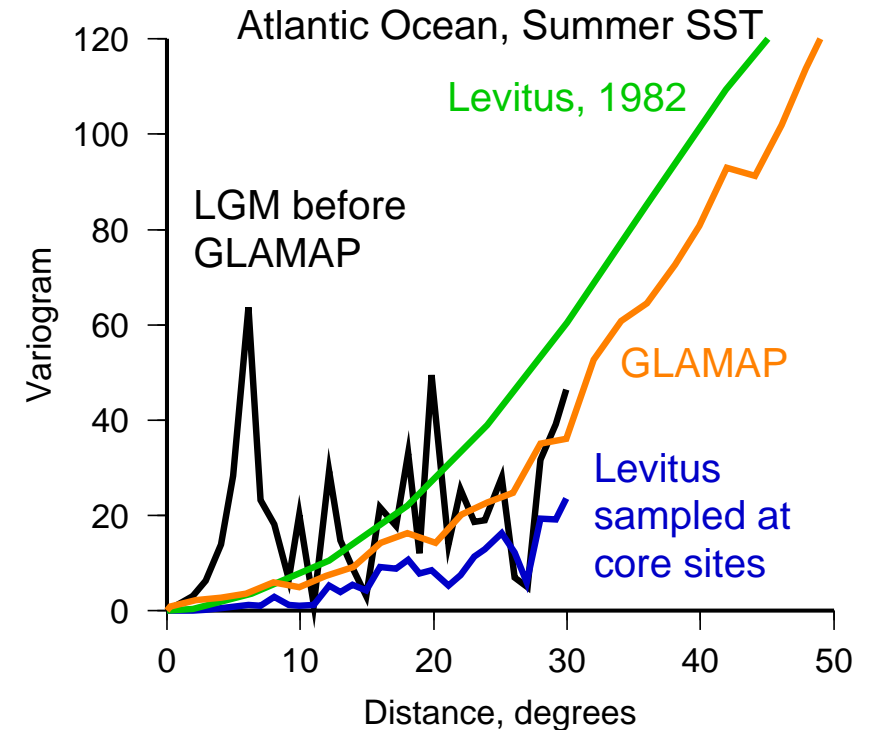
Understand glacial climate — on its own and as a prerequisite for deglaciation

20 years after CLIMAP, the new GLAMAP (Glacial Atlantic Mapping and Prediction) effort provides considerably improved data sets:

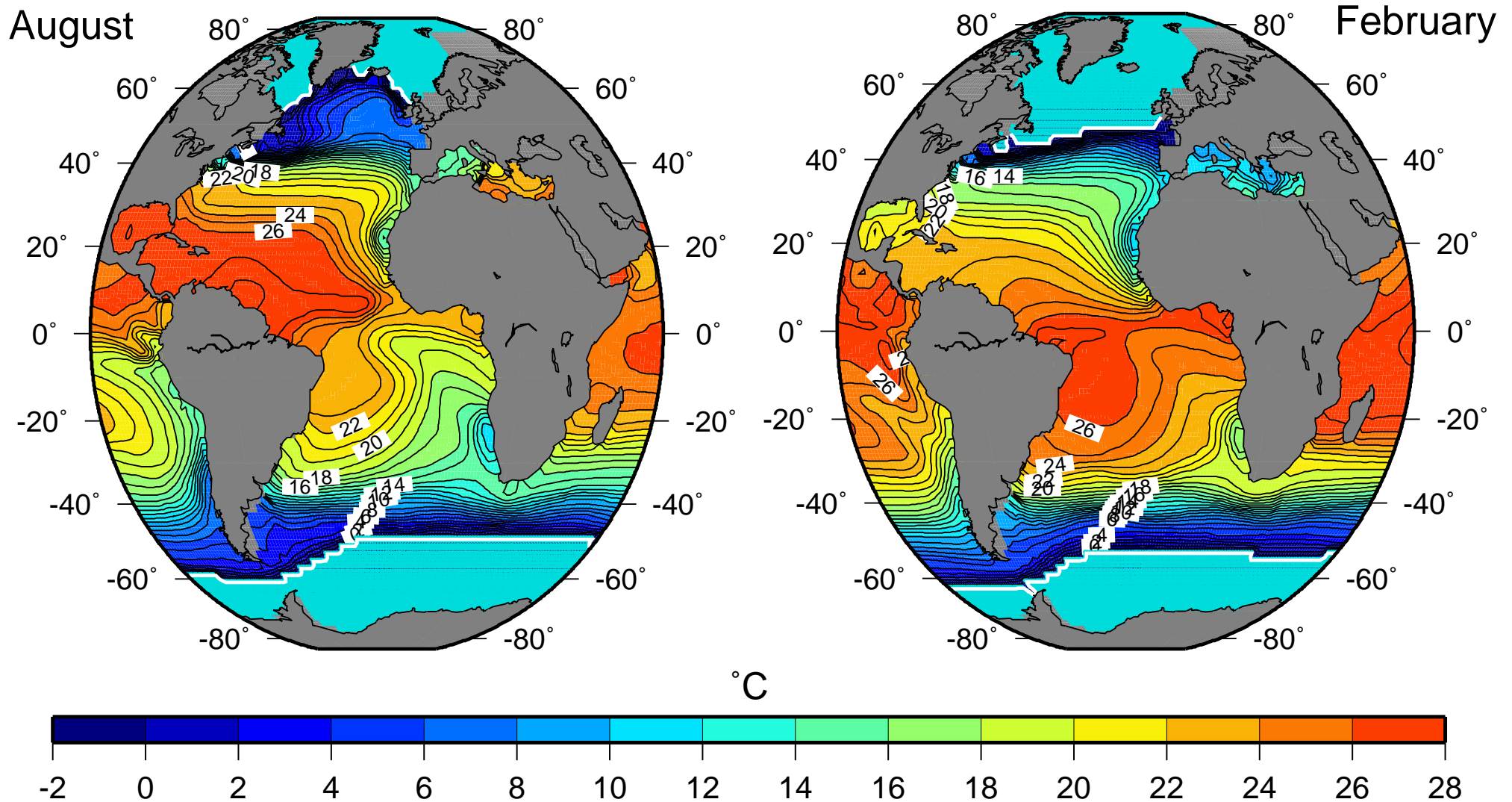
- unique time slice definition employed by contributing institutes
- new or refined seasonal SST estimates for the entire Atlantic Ocean
- increased sampling density
- supplemental information on seasonal ice covers in both hemispheres

New opportunity to construct consistent monthly SST and SSS maps for:

- driving ocean and atmosphere circulation models
- validating coupled models

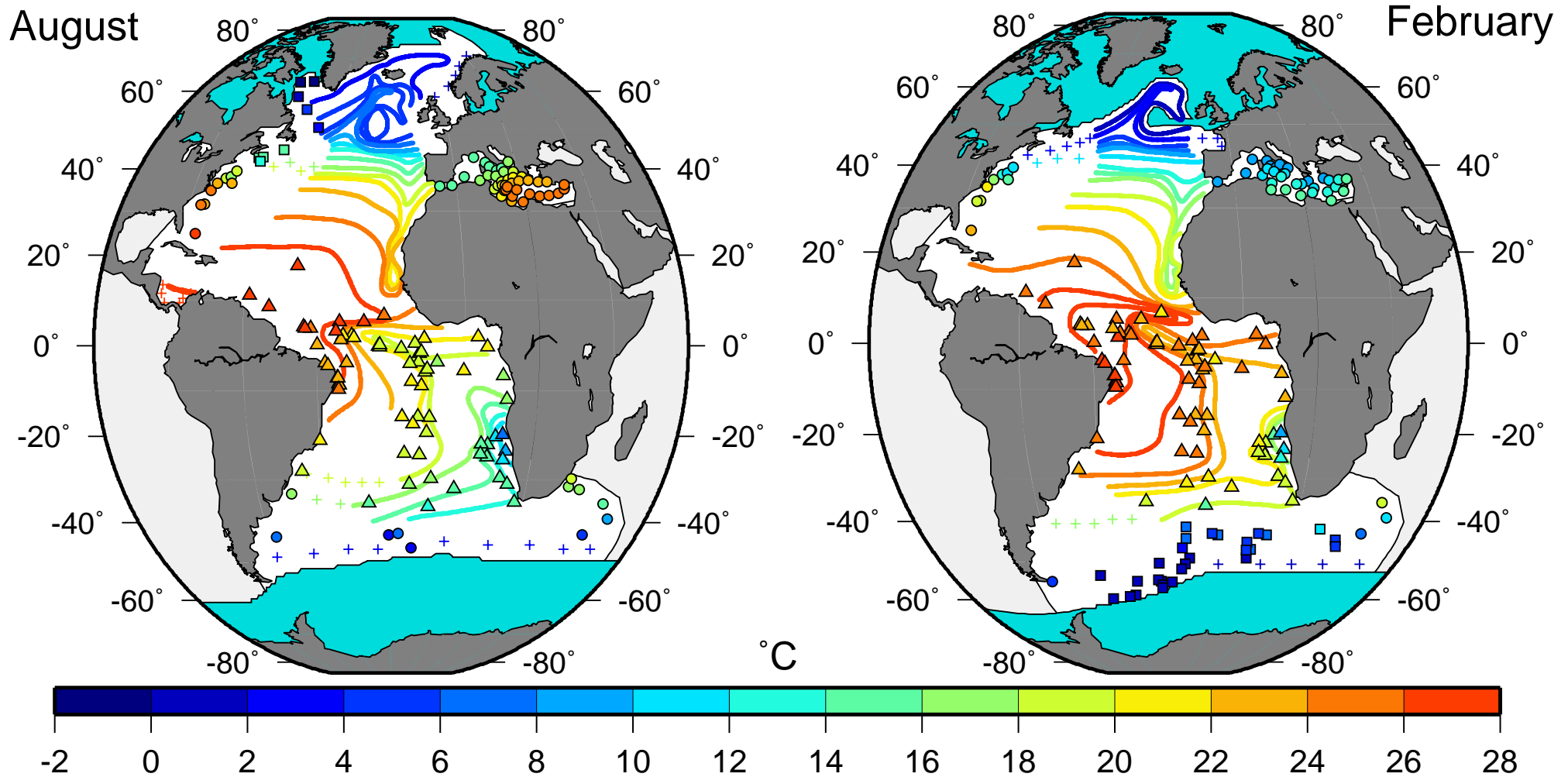


Temperature: CLIMAP 1981



CLIMAP temperature source: NOAA Paleoclimatology Program / World Data Center

Temperature: Data Sources for 23–19 ky BP

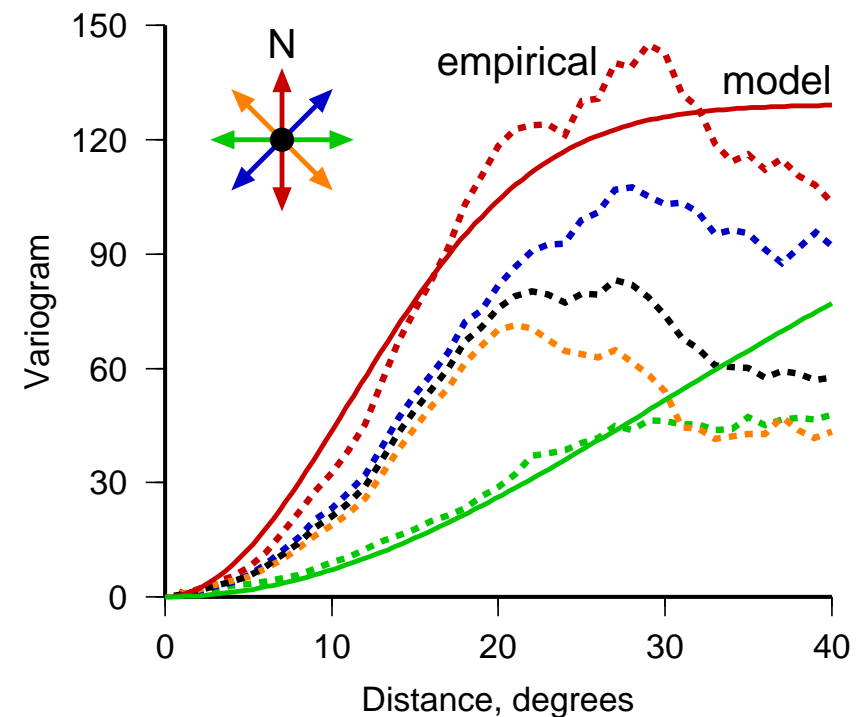
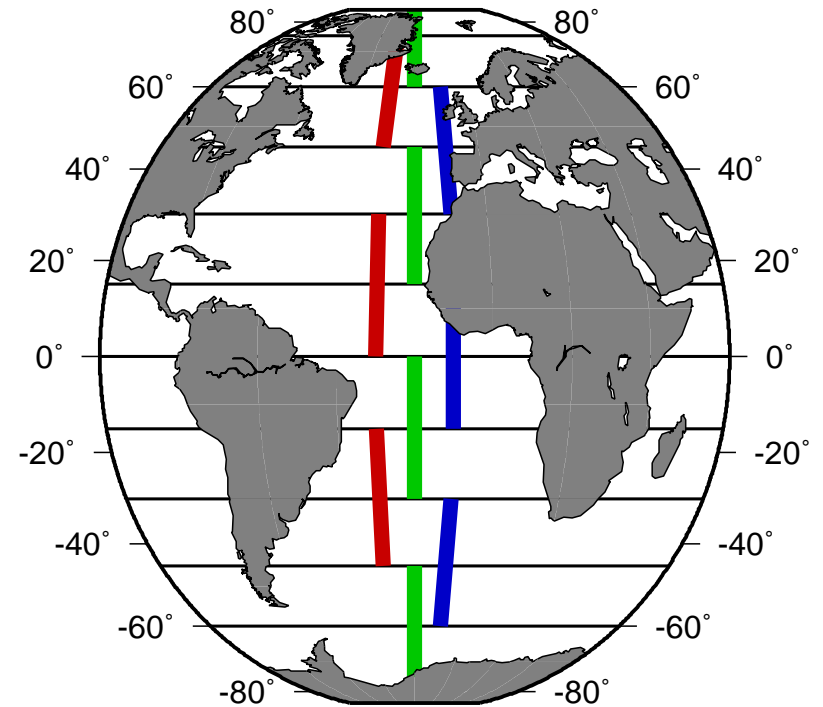


Isolines: Pflaumann et al. 2002. **△:** Niebler et al. 2002. **□:** De Vernal et al. 2000 (August), Gersonde et al. 2002 (February). **○:** Prell 1985 (Atlantic), Bigg 1994 (Mediterranean). **Ice cover:** Pflaumann et al. 2002; De Vernal et al. 2000; Gersonde and Zielinski 2000. Grey shade: SST data taken from CLIMAP (1981). **+**: artificial tie points.

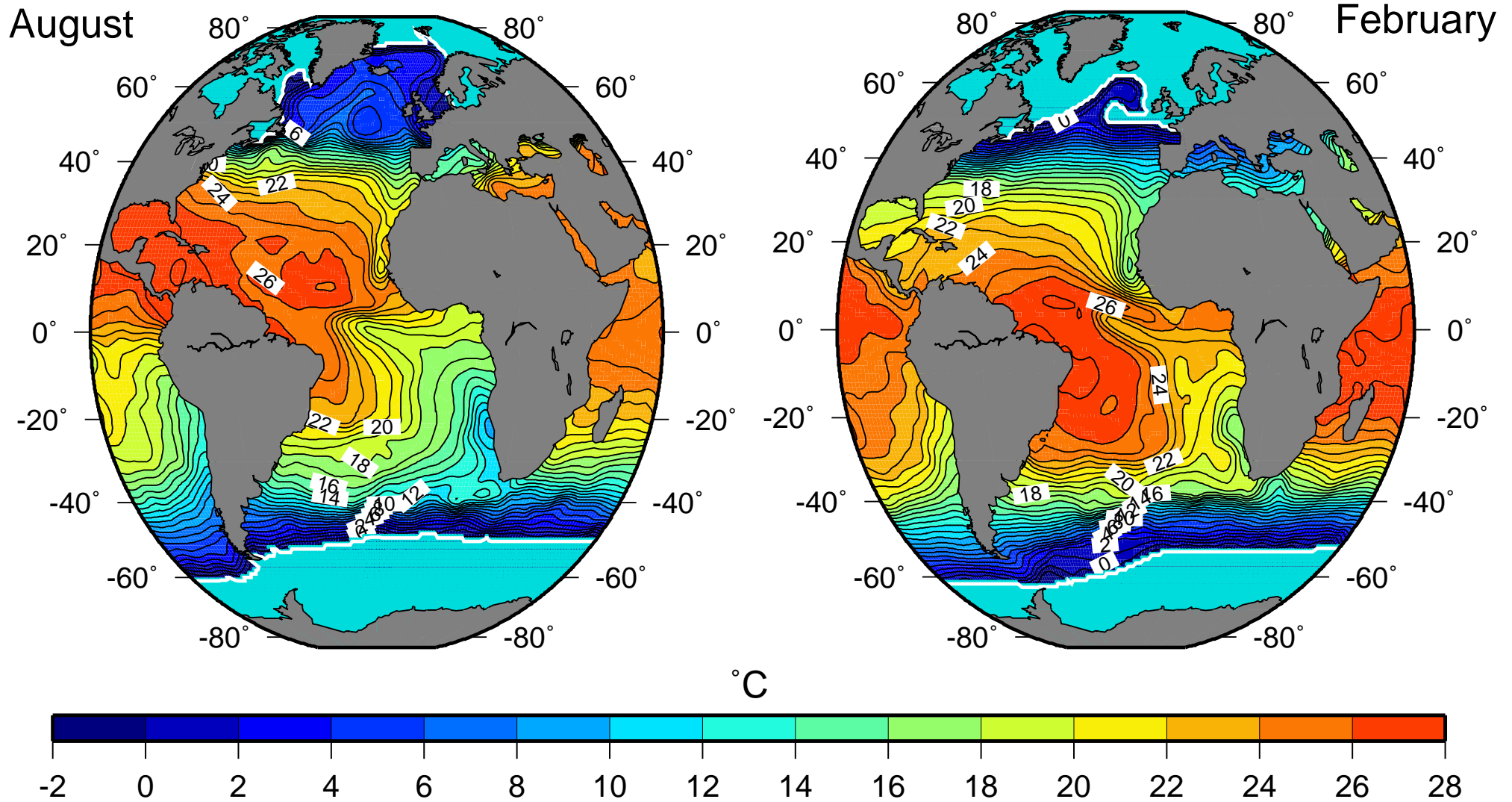
Temperature: Gridding Procedure

For each season...

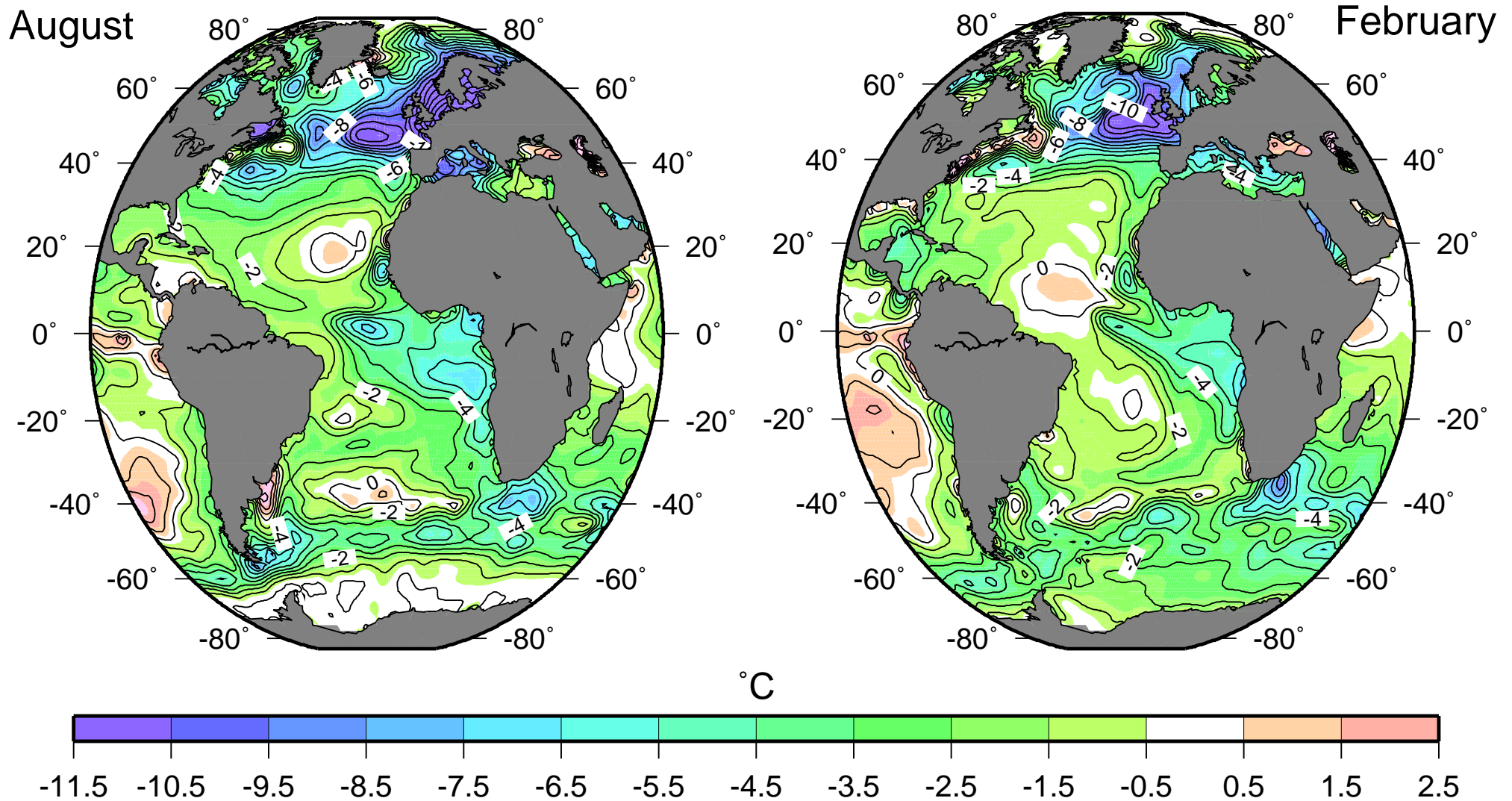
- digitize isolines
- split complete set of core and isoline data into overlapping zonal belts 30° wide
- for each belt...
 - compute empirical directional variograms in spherical coordinates
 - fit variogram models
 - interpolate core and isoline data to a regular 1° × 1° grid by kriging in spherical coordinates
- join belts to a new Atlantic-wide grid
- smoothly incorporate Atlantic data into the global CLIMAP SST fields



Temperature: Gridded Fields



Temperature: GLAMAP-Modern Anomaly

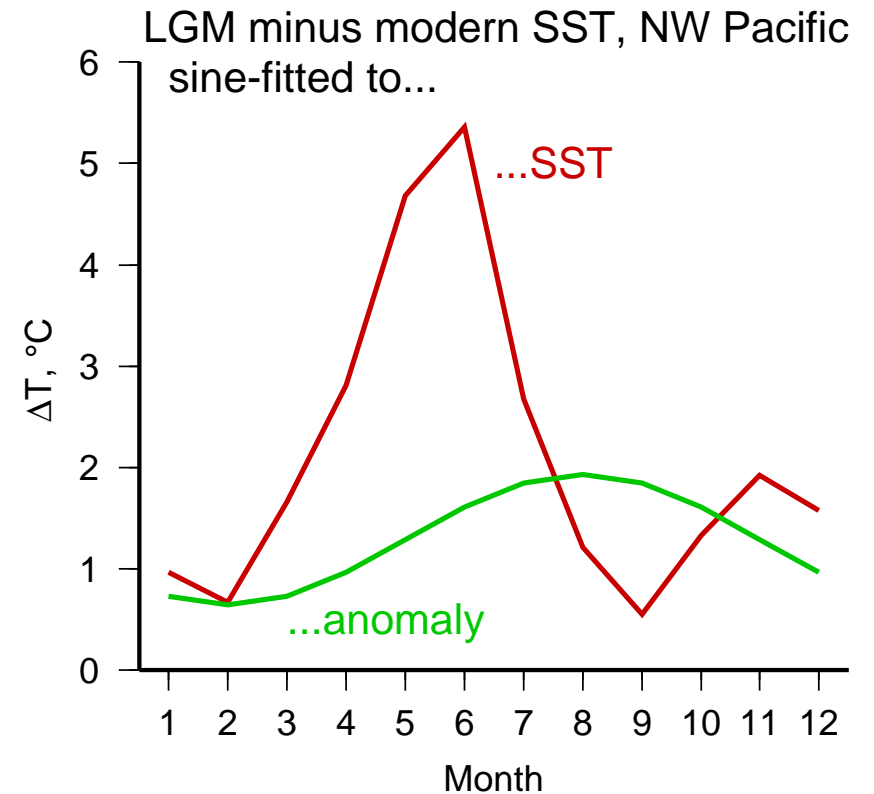
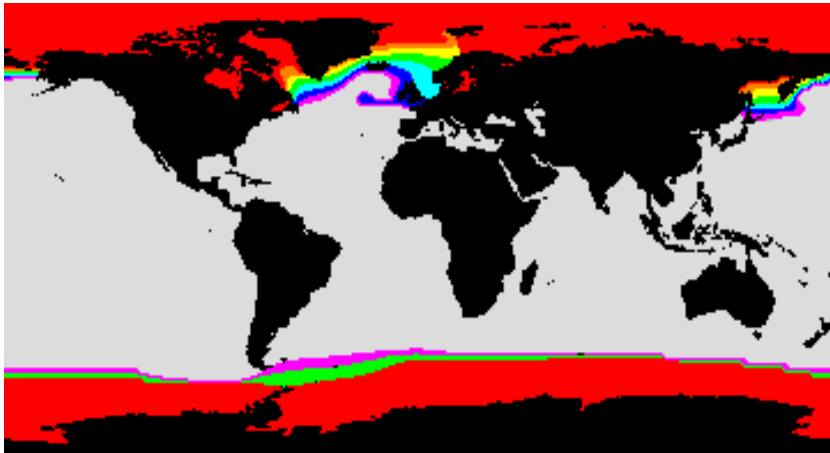


Modern temperature source: World Ocean Atlas 1998, 10 m depth.

Temperature: Seasonal Cycle

Directly sine-interpolating between the reconstructed February and August fields leads to local overshots. Therefore, use the PMIP approach...

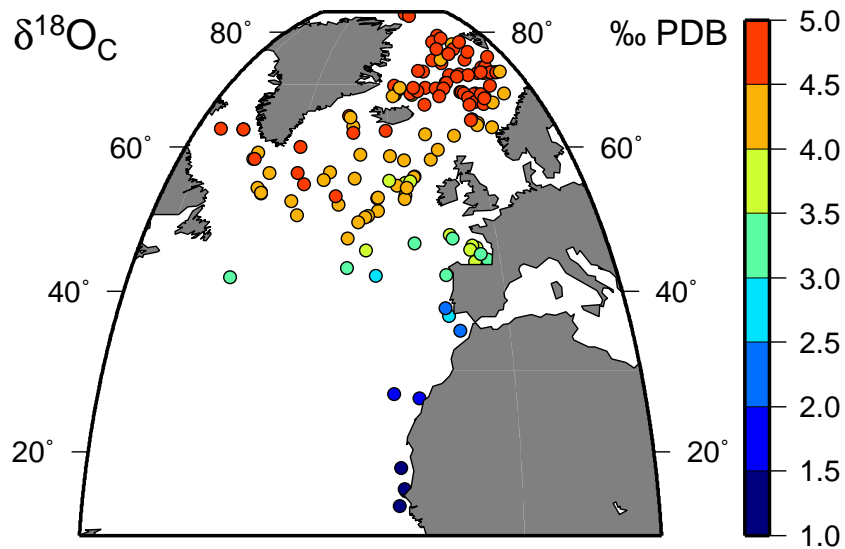
- compute August and January LGM minus modern anomalies
- construct monthly anomalies by sine-interpolation
- add monthly modern SSTs to obtain monthly glacial SSTs



To complete...

- draw monthly ice edges from the reconstructed extremes
- set monthly SSTs to freezing point in the ice-covered regions

Salinity: $\delta^{18}\text{O}_C$, Planktic Foraminiferal Oxygen Isotope Data Base



$\delta^{18}\text{O}_C$ Sources:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Bard et al. 1987 | Lackschewitz 1991 |
| Duplessy et al. 1991, 1992 | Morris 1988 |
| Jansen and Erlenkeuser 1985 | Ruddiman and McIntyre 1981 |
| Jansen and Veum 1990 | Sarnthein et al. 1995 |
| Jones and Keigwin 1989 | Veum et al. 1992 |
| Jünger 1993 | Vogelsang 1990 |
| Keigwin and Boyle 1989 | Weinelt 1993 |
| Kellogg et al. 1978 | Weinelt et al. 1996 |
| Köhler 1991 | Zahn et al. 1985 |

Compute $\delta^{18}\text{O}_W$, the water oxygen isotope ratio, from $\delta^{18}\text{O}_C$ and the sampled August SST using

- the Epstein et al. (1953) paleotemperature equation:

$$\delta^{18}\text{O}_W = \delta^{18}\text{O}_C - 21.63 + \sqrt{310.61 + 10T_C}$$

- species-dependent temperature corrections:

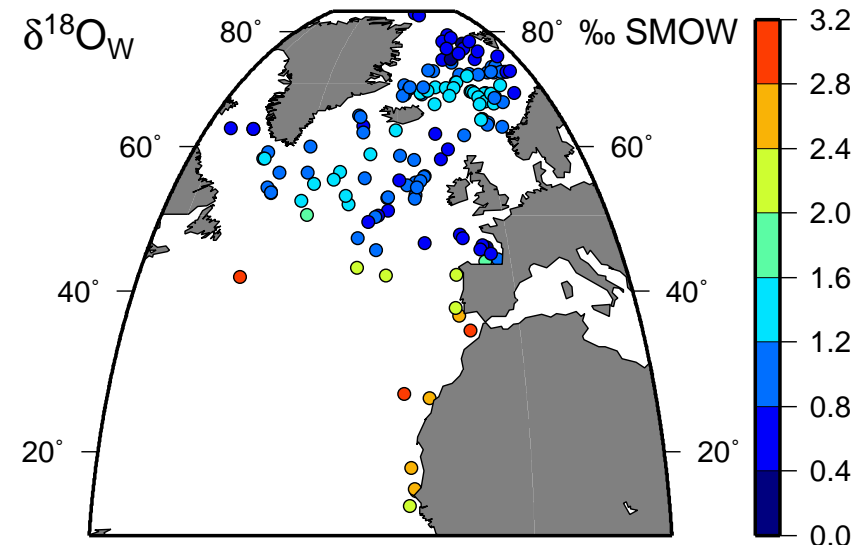
N. pachyderma sin. (Weinelt 1993)

$$T_C = \text{SST} - 2.5 \quad \text{if } \text{SST} < 4.5^\circ\text{C}$$

$$T_C = 0.42 \text{ SST} + 0.39 \quad \text{if } \text{SST} > 4.5^\circ\text{C}$$

G. bulloides (Duplessy et al. 1991)

$$T_C = \text{SST} - 1$$



Salinity: LGM–Modern Anomaly

To estimate sea surface salinity...

- assume the modern S - $\delta^{18}\text{O}_w$ relation:

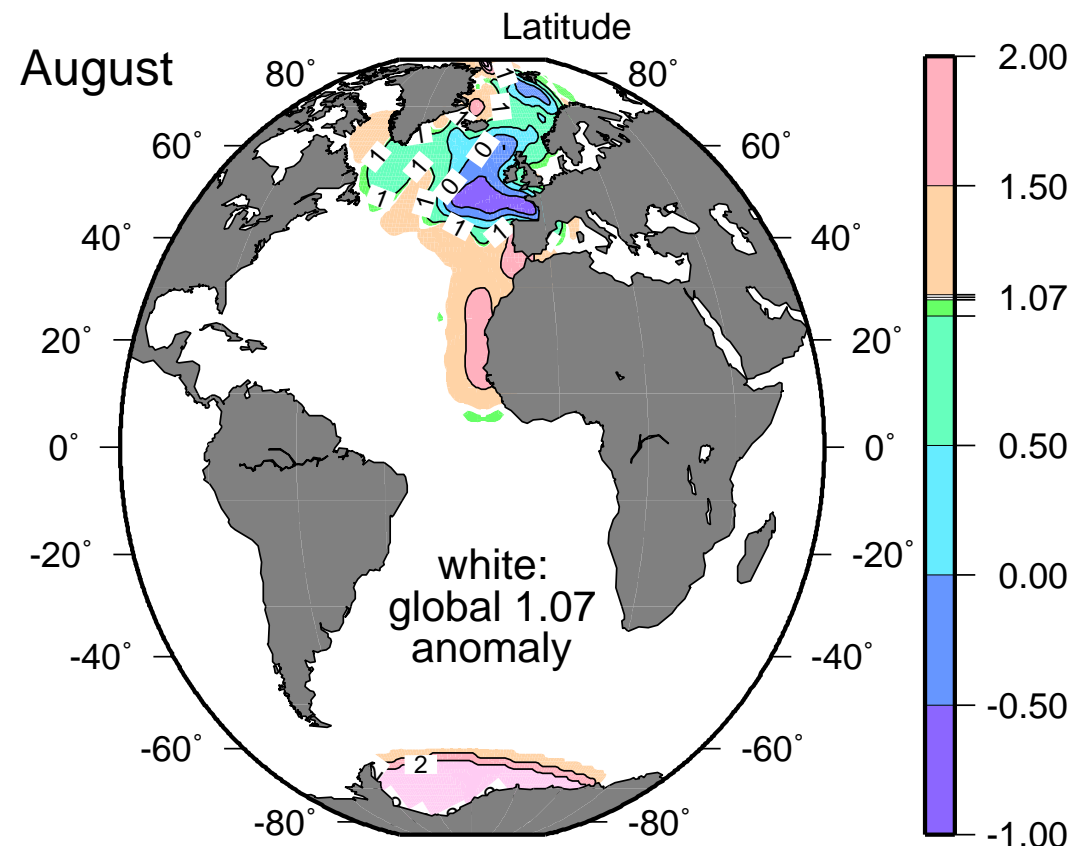
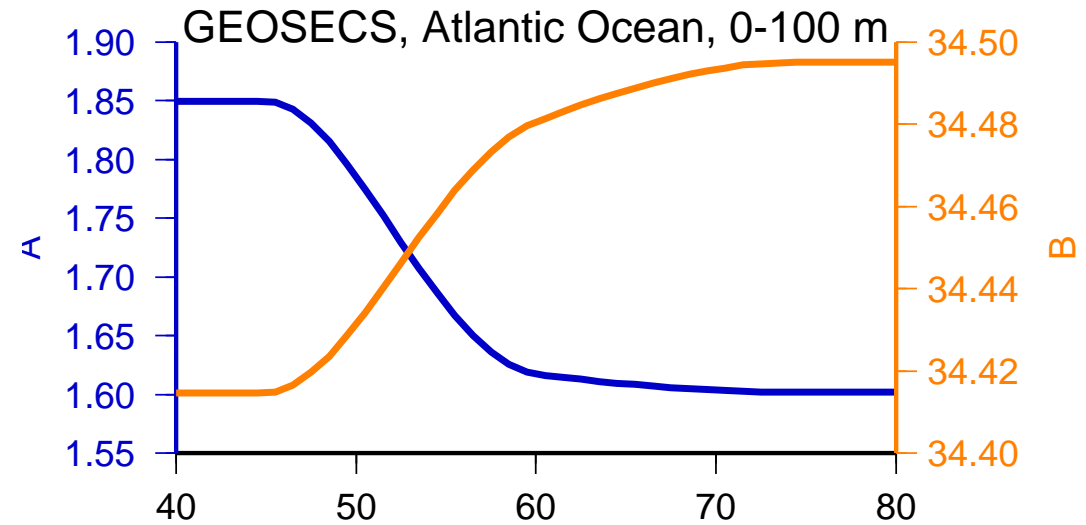
$$S = A \cdot \delta^{18}\text{O}_w + B$$

- compute August salinity at the core locations from the glacial relation:

$$\text{SSS} = A \cdot (\delta^{18}\text{O}_w - \Delta_{\text{ice}}) + B + \Delta S_{\Delta h}$$

with $\Delta_{\text{ice}} = 1.2\text{‰}$ and $\Delta S_{\Delta h} = 1.07$

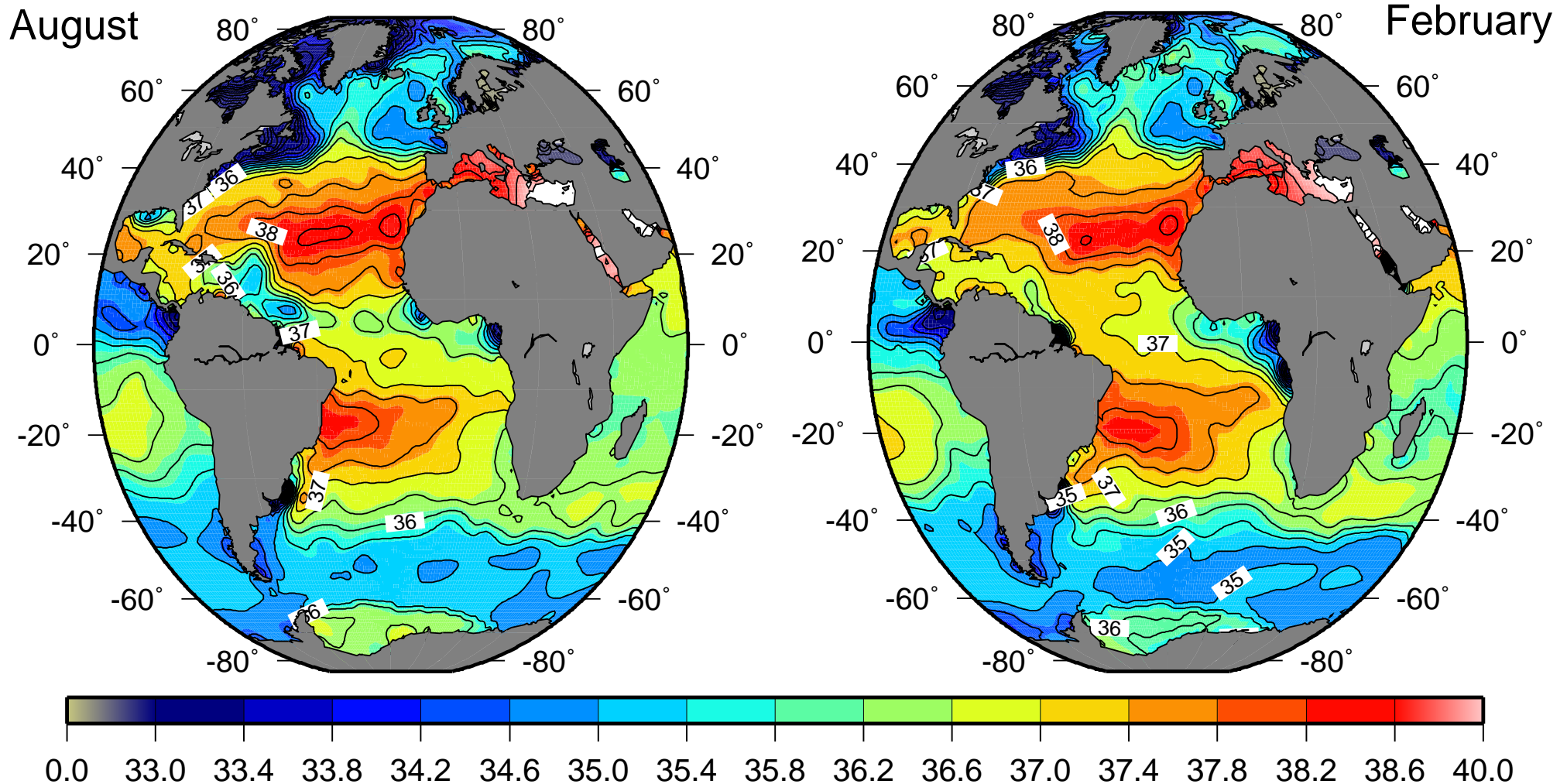
- from the World Ocean Atlas 1998 10 m salinity, compute the glacial minus modern anomaly, set to 1.07 over unsampled regions
- grid
- include the 0.5-1.0 Weddell Sea anomaly (Duplessy et al. 1996; Melles 1991)



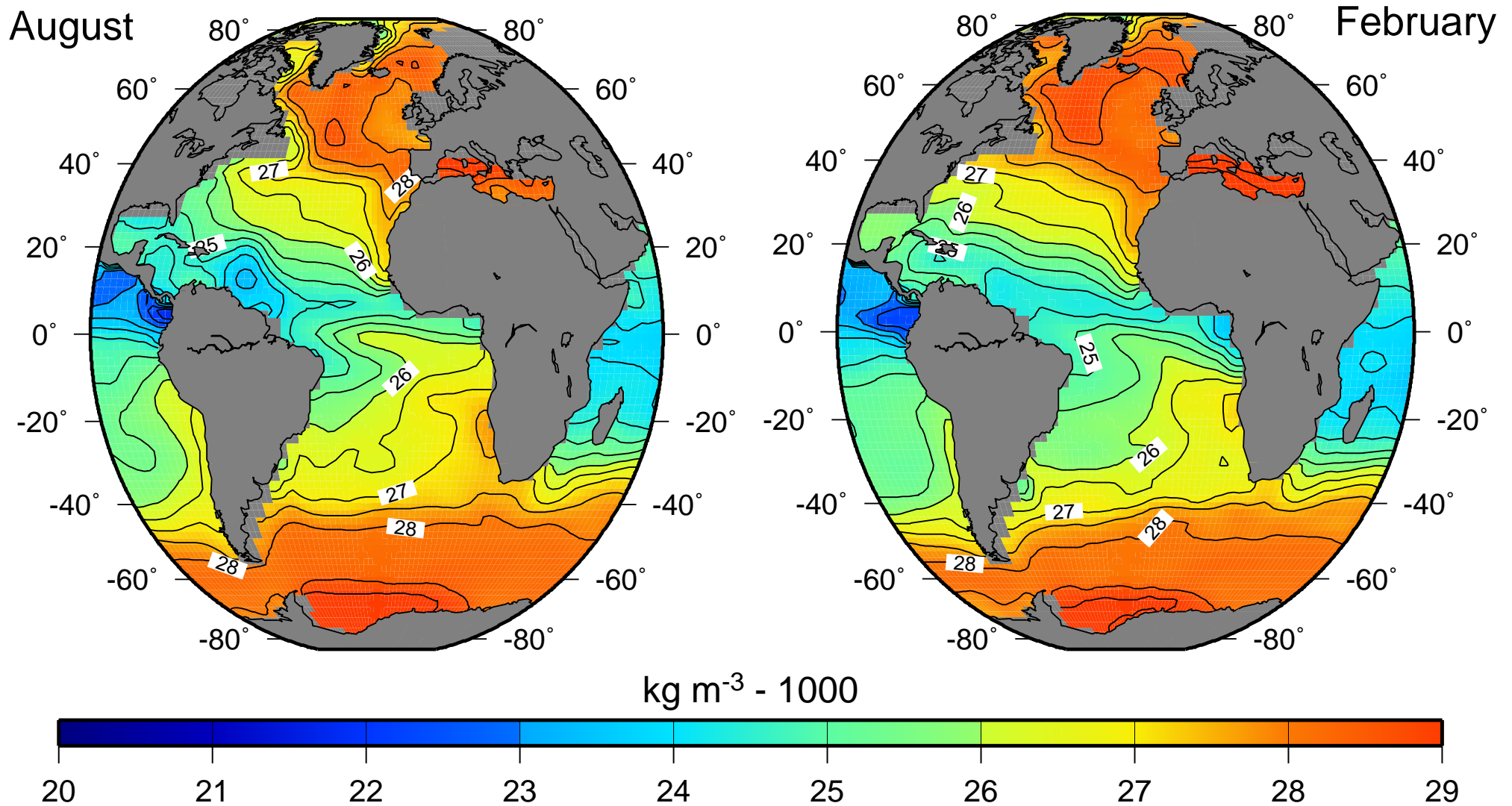
Salinity: Gridded Fields and Seasonal Cycle

To compute monthly glacial salinity...

- interpret the August salinity anomaly as representative for the entire year
- add the gridded anomaly to the modern 10 m salinity fields (World Ocean Atlas 1998)



Density: What Drives the Model



Diagnosed from an OGCM run under T/S restoring

And Finally...

- The new GLAMAP data are much more consistent than any older reconstruction
- Spatial coverage of the Atlantic Ocean has been greatly improved
- This enables a compilation of inherently consistent seasonal glacial sea surface T and S maps suitable for driving and validating numerical models
- The newly gridded SST and SSS fields will be made available online at www.pangaea.de
- First model application: glacial-to-modern contrasts of
 - north-south density gradients and meridional overturning
 - deep and bottom water mass formation and characteristics
 - southwest African upwelling
- Stay tuned for the more detailed information provided in the following talk...

