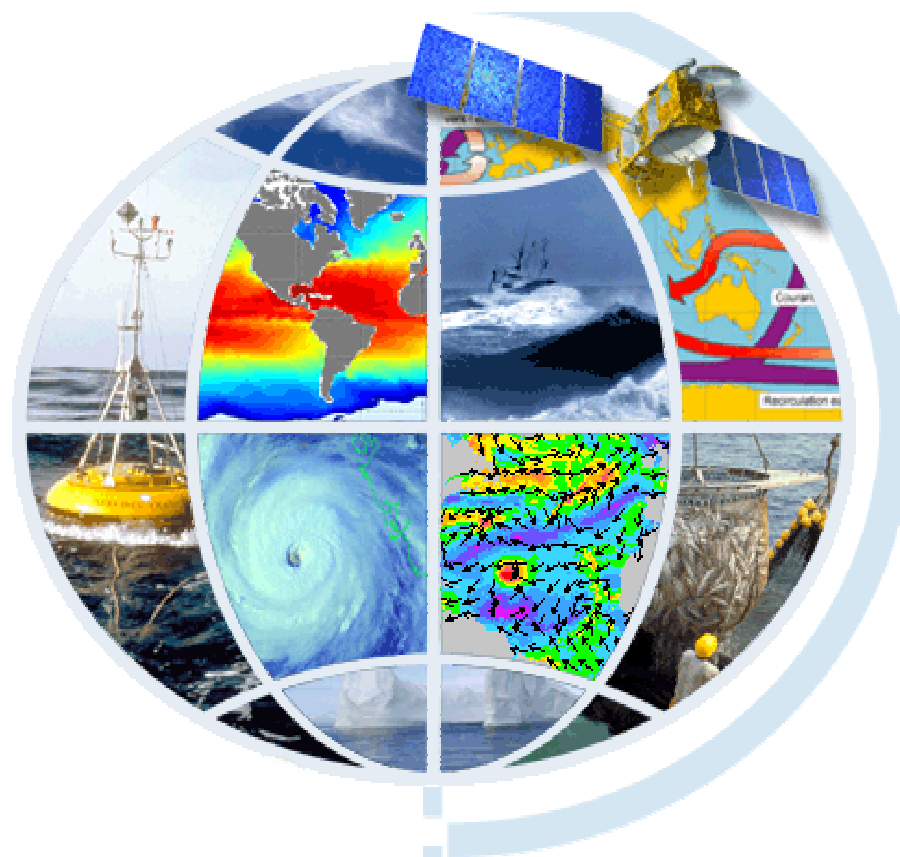




Development of a European system for operational monitoring and forecasting of the ocean physics, biogeochemistry, and ecosystems, on global and regional scales



MERSEA Integrated Project

R&D project funded under 6th FP of the European Commission

- Thematic priority : SPACE - GMES (Global Monitoring for Environment and Security)
- Ocean and Marine Applications

Four-year project (2004 –2008)

38 contractors, 16 countries (or Int. Org.)

Coordination : IFREMER (Institut Français de Recherche pour l'Exploitation de la Mer), France



<http://www.mersea.eu.org>

HALO Workshop, Reading,, Nov 16-17, 2004



MERSEA Participants

Canada : DFO

Cyprus : FDMR

Denmark : DMI

E.U. : JRC

Finland : U-HEL

France : ASP
BOOST
CLS
CNRS
IFREMER
MERCATOR
Météo France

Germany : AWI
GeoB
IFM/Univ. Kiel
IFM/Univ. Hamburg

Greece : HCMR

International : ECMWF

Ireland : Techworks

Italy : CNR-ISAC
CNR-ISSIA
CoNISMA
ENEA
INGV
OGS

Netherlands : MARIS
Univ. Utrecht

Norway : met no
NERSC

Spain : CSIC
IEO

Turkey : IMS

UK : NERC-SOC
Ocean Numerics
PML
NERSC-POL
The Met Office
Univ. Reading
Univ. Southampton



GMES : ocean applications

- MERSEA objective :
develop the global ocean component of GMES :
 - Climate change, CO², seasonal forecasting
 - Ecosystems, fisheries,
 - Marine safety, traffic, pollution (crisis management)
 - Offshore activities
 - Coast guards and Navy applications
 - From global to coastal ocean (coastal management)
 - Scientific research

MERSEA IP objectives

- Development of a European system for operational monitoring and forecasting of the ocean physics, biogeochemistry and ecosystems
 - A global system
 - Support for shelf sea systems
 - Connection to coastal systems
- It will build the Ocean component of GMES (2008)
- Mersea federates European contribution to GODAE

} Nowcasts,
forecasts, hindcasts

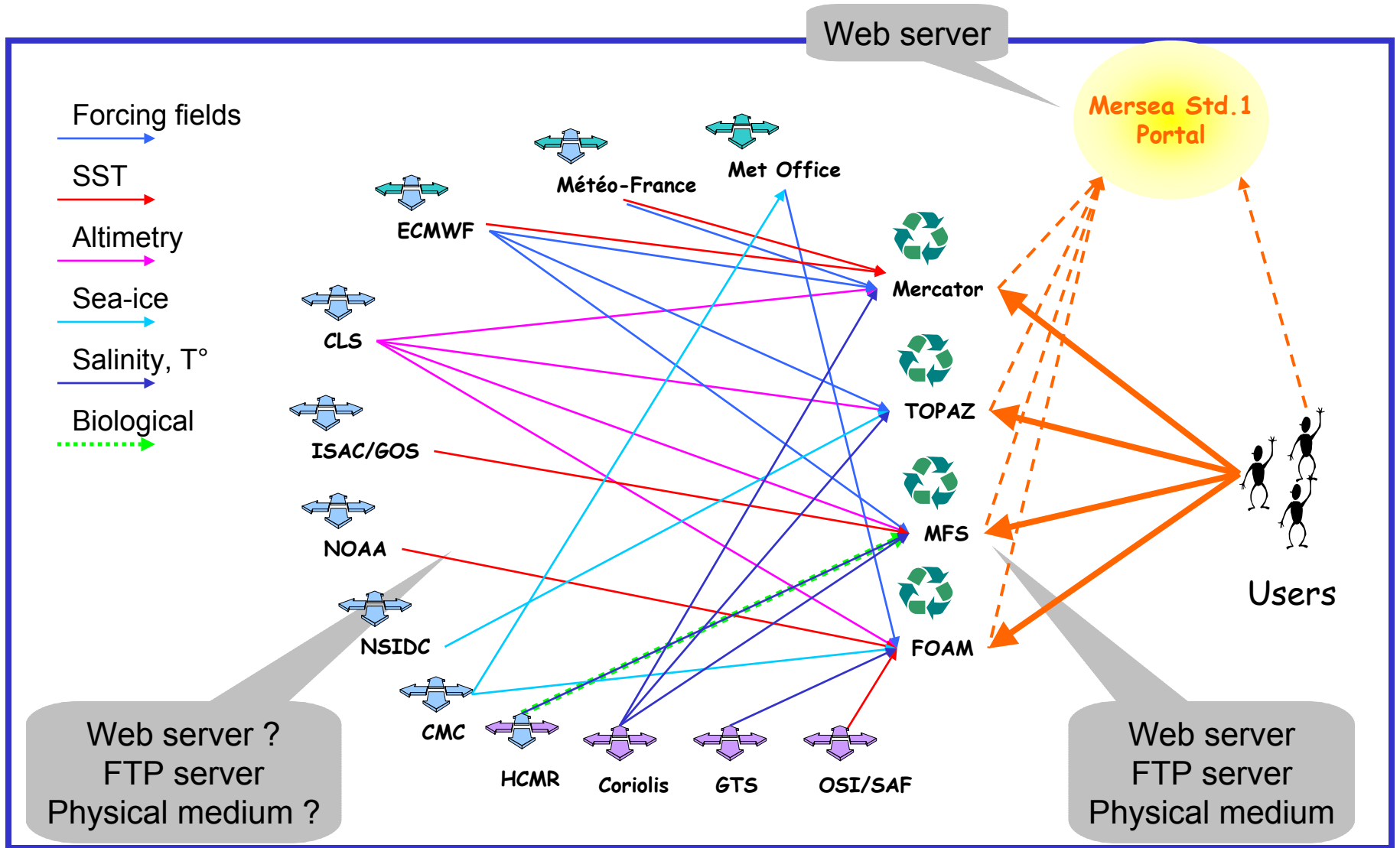
Basic components

- Input
 - Remote sensed data : sea surface height, SST, ocean colour, sea ice
 - Forcing fields : from NWF, and scatterometre winds
 - In situ : profiles (ARGO, XBT, ..), surface (ships, drifters), moorings (time series)
- High resolution models with data assimilation
 - Analysis, forecasting
 - Downscaling to regional or to coastal
- Product development, information delivery

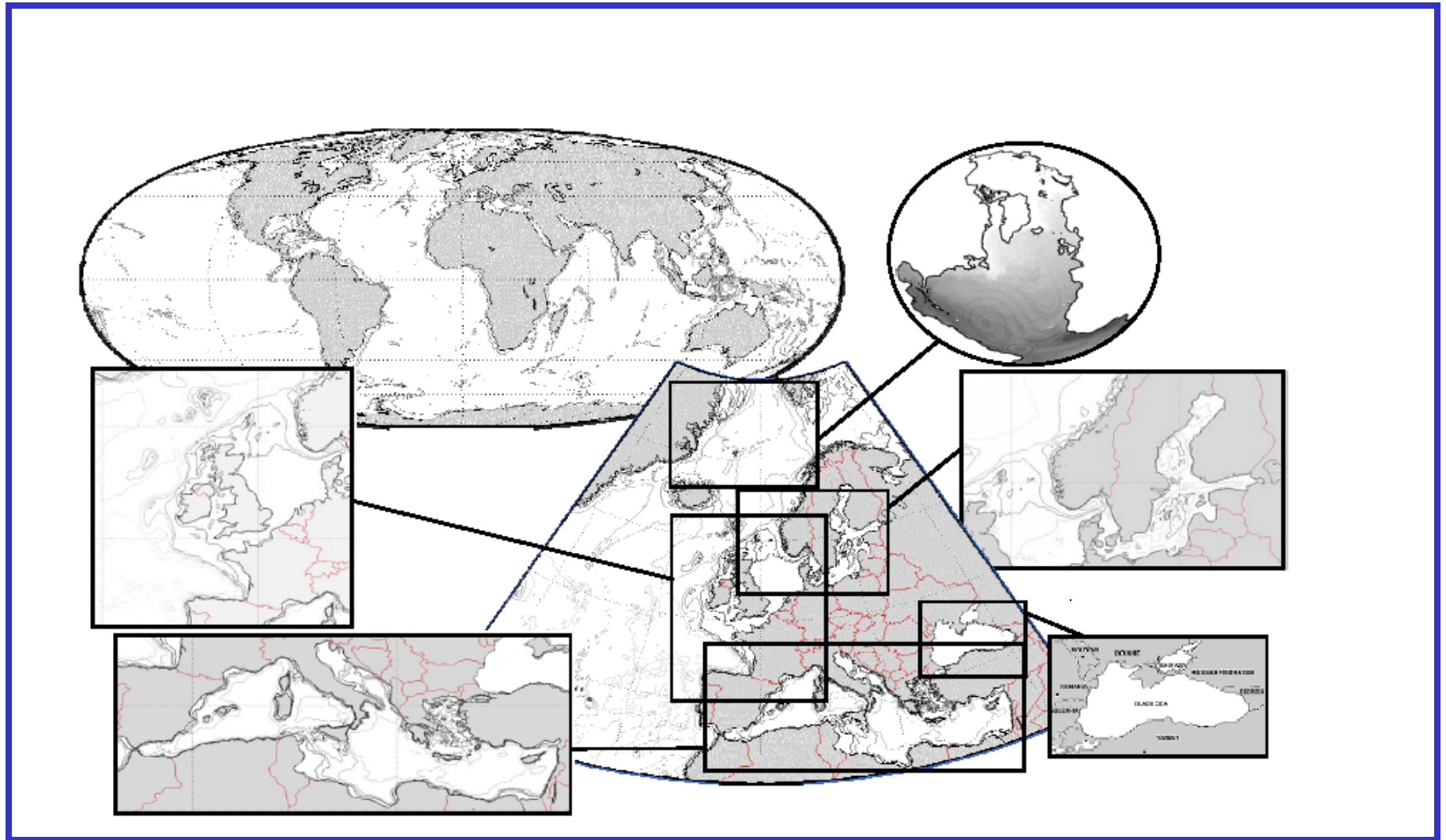
Initial situation

- Four Global systems, with different characteristics
 - MERCATOR (France)
 - TOPAZ (NERSC, Norvège)
 - FOAM (Met Office, UK)
 - MFS (Med. Forecasting System, INGV, Italie)
- Great diversity of regional / coastal systems
 - Arctic, North and Baltic seas
 - NW European shelves (UK)
 - Bay of Biscay
 - Mediterranean + Cataluña, Ligurian, Adriatic, Aegean
 - Etc ...
- Services, applications, formats, practices are very diverse

Current Architecture



MERSEA Global to Regional coverage

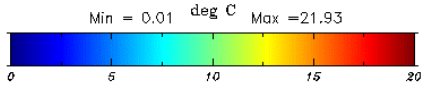
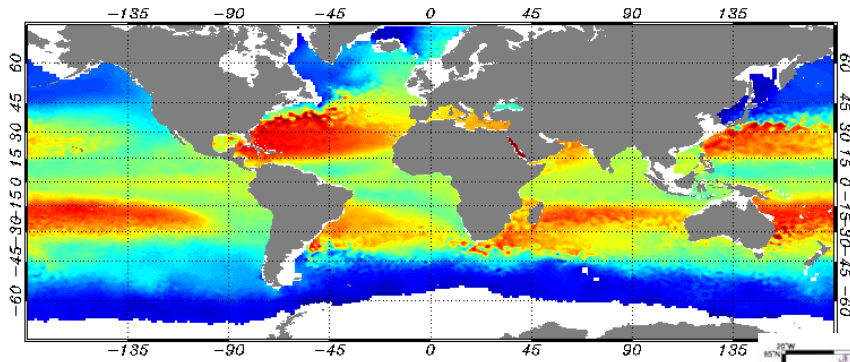


Global to regional, downscaling

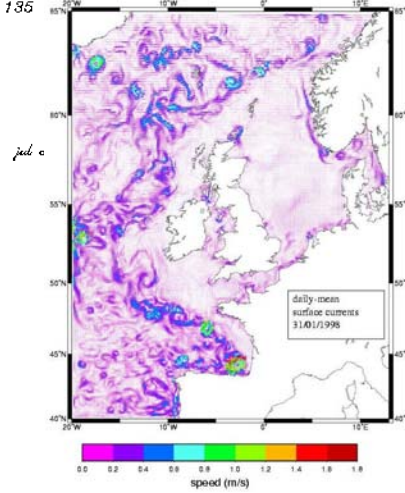
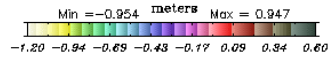
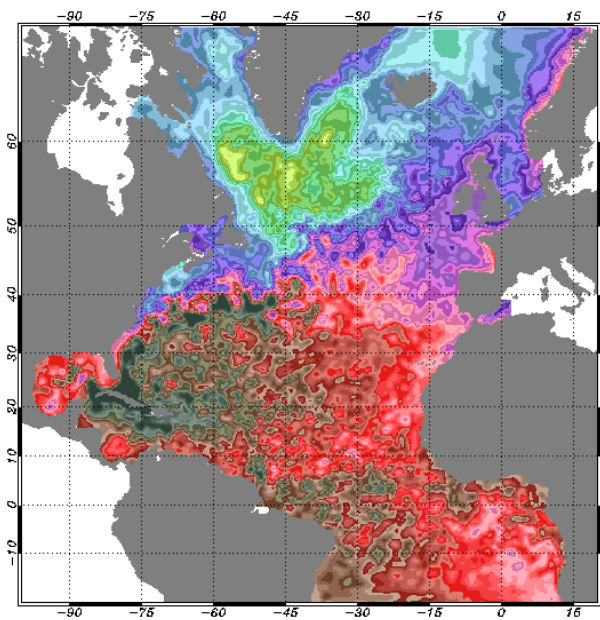
- From Global (resolution $1/12^\circ = 8 \text{ km}$) to :
 - Arctic
 - NE Atlantic shelf
 - Mediterranean
- From NE Atlantic shelf to
 - North and Baltic Sea
- From North Atlantic and Arctic to
 - Greenland and Newfoundland shelf

The target Mersea system

- A global system, high resolution model,
 - with biogeochemistry and sea ice
 - Pooling of resources for development and expertise
- A co-ordinated network of regional systems over european seas
 - Common modelling framework
 - Support for coastal systems
- Improve and facilitate access to data, products, and services
- Full validation, inter-operability, developement of standards and best practices.
- Develop user-oriented applications



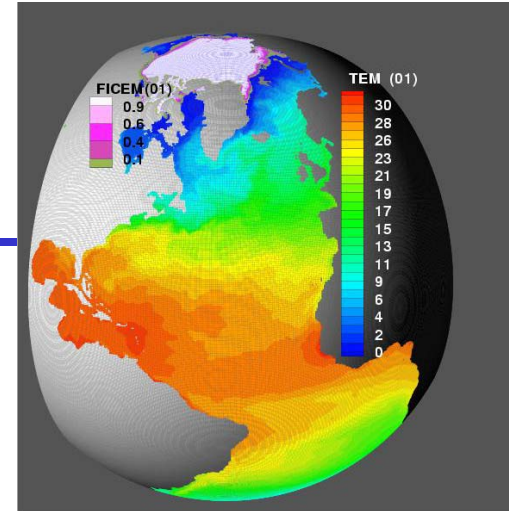
initialised sea surface height : SSH on 13-10-2004



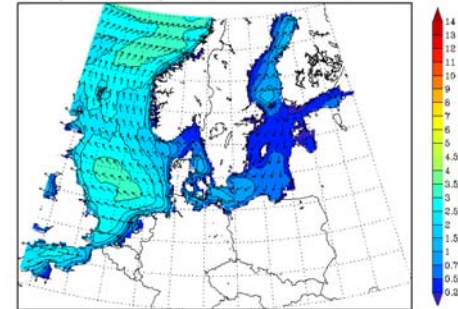
Met Office

MFS

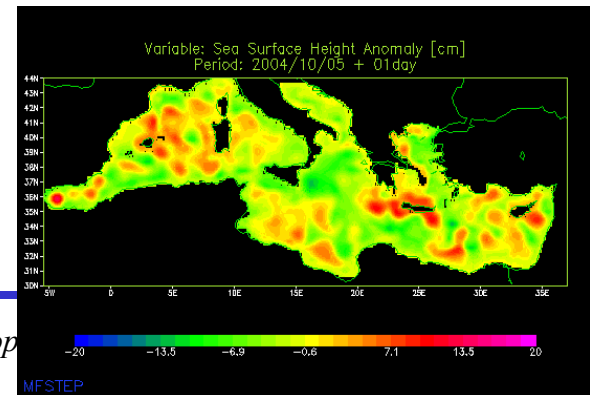
Topaz



Sign. wave height (m): 2004 OCT 12 at 01z



DMI



MFSTEP



<http://www.mersea.eu.org>

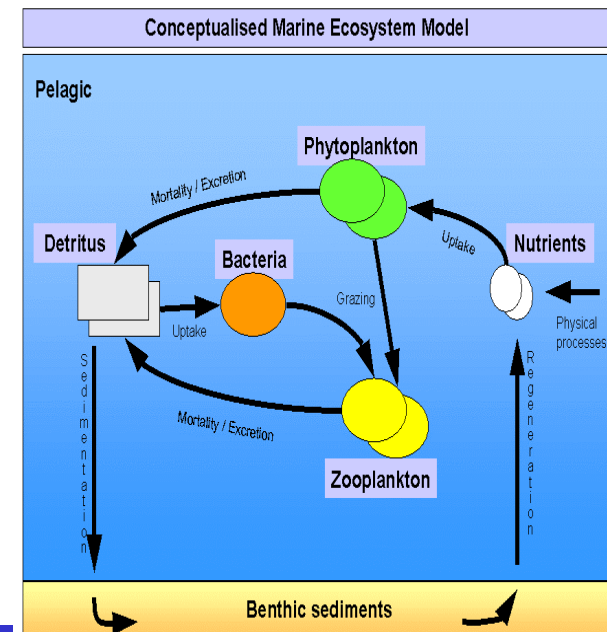
HALO Workshop



Experiments - applications - products

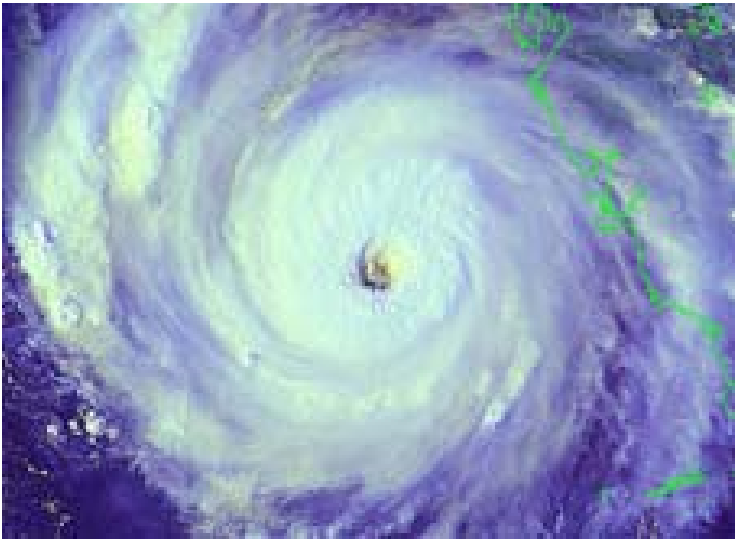
- Biogeochemical variability in regional and shelf seas (Atlantic margin and Med Sea)
 - Global carbon cycle
 - Coastal ecosystems, algal blooms, eutrophication, water quality
 - Improve, validate, integrate into operational systems

Coupling physical and ecosystem models



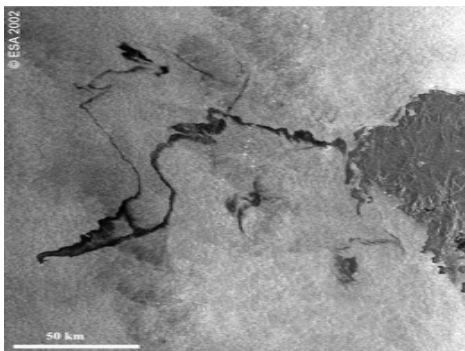
Experiments - applications - products

- Seasonal forecasting
 - Provide initial conditions to coupled global (or local) models
 - Determine statistics of ocean variability (covariances)

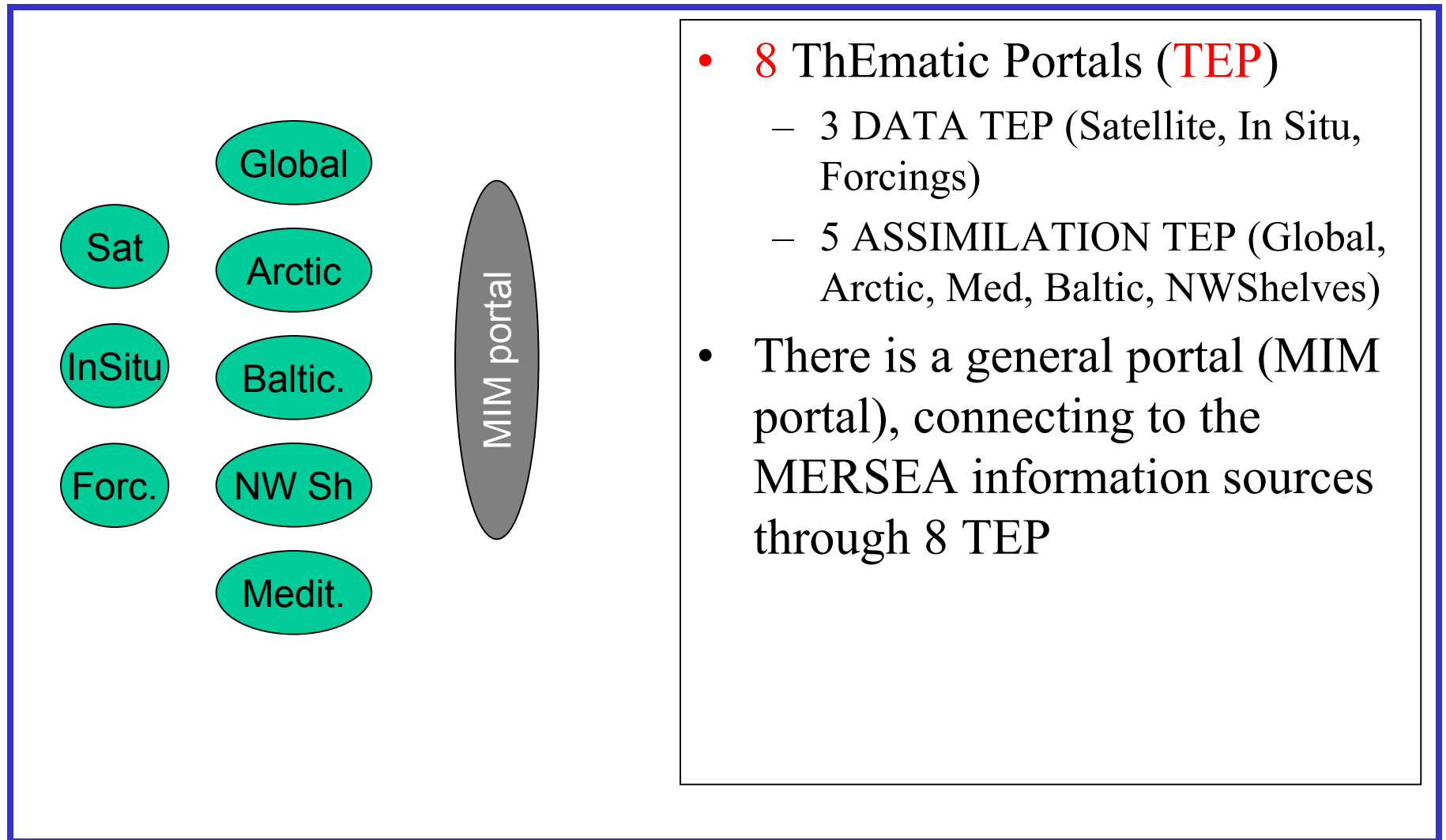


Experiments - applications - products

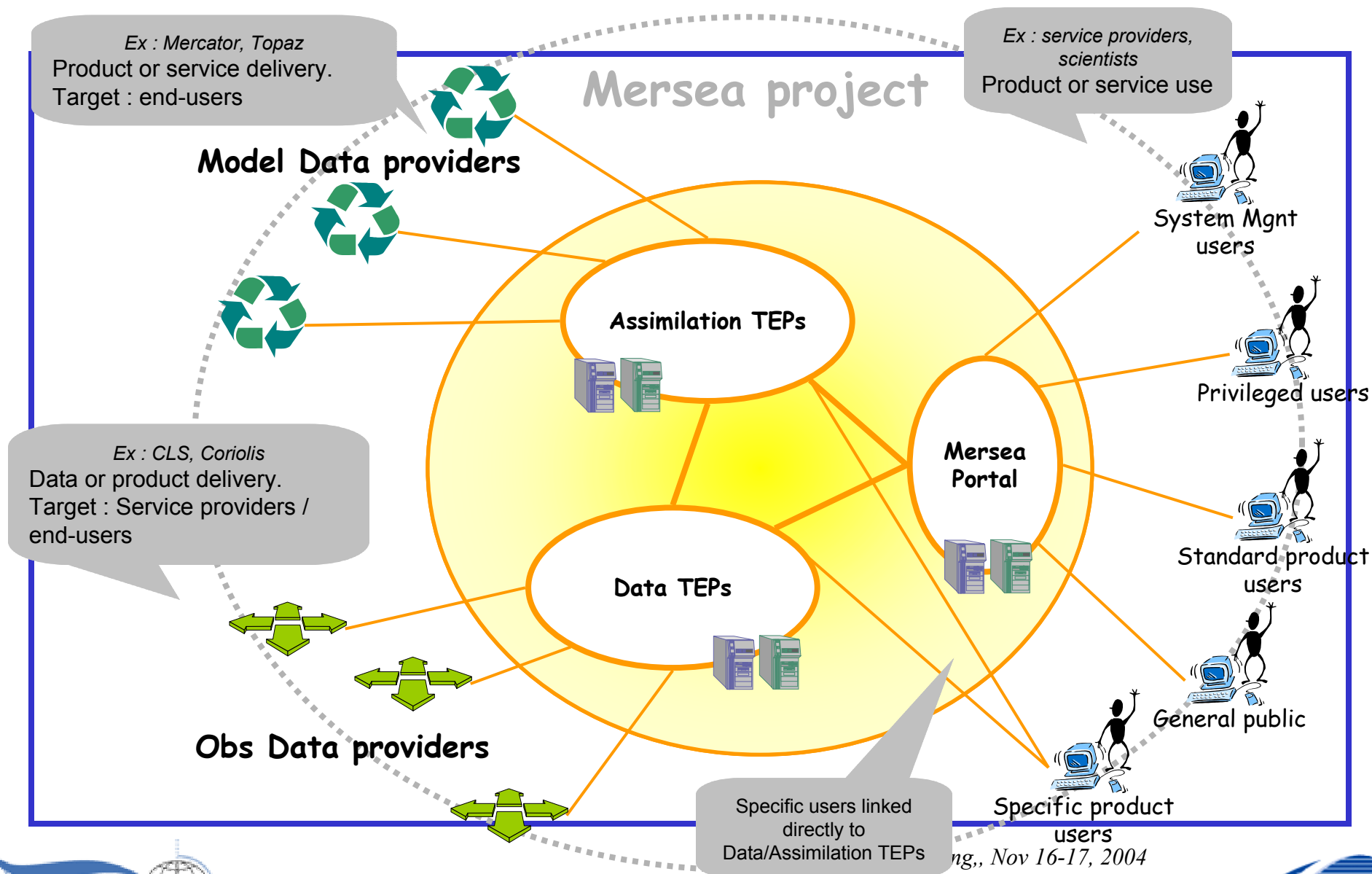
- User products :
 - offshore oil exploration and production
 - (relocatable high resolution models)
 - wave forecasts and ship routing
 - wave-current interaction, sea ice
 - oil drift fate prediction



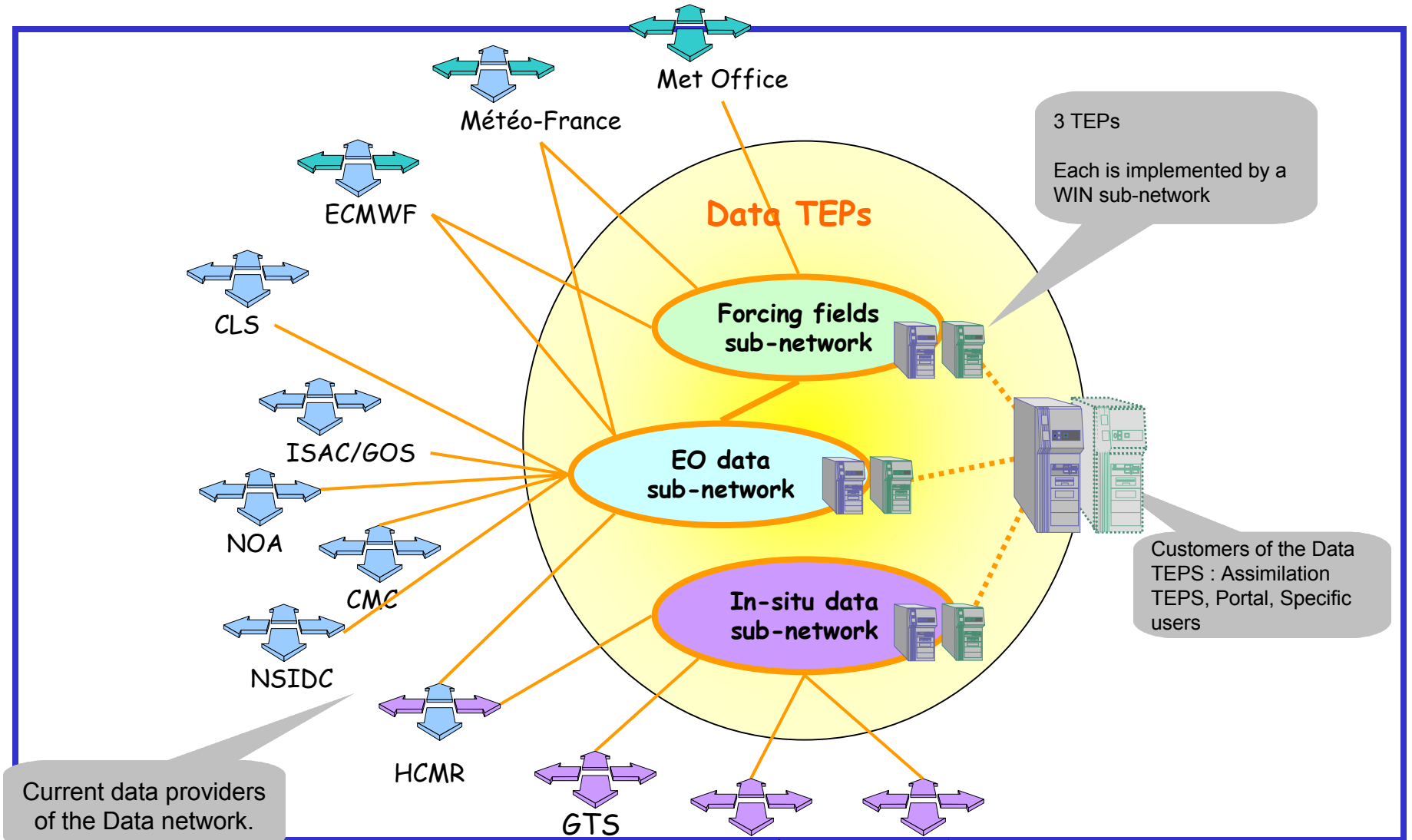
Basic components



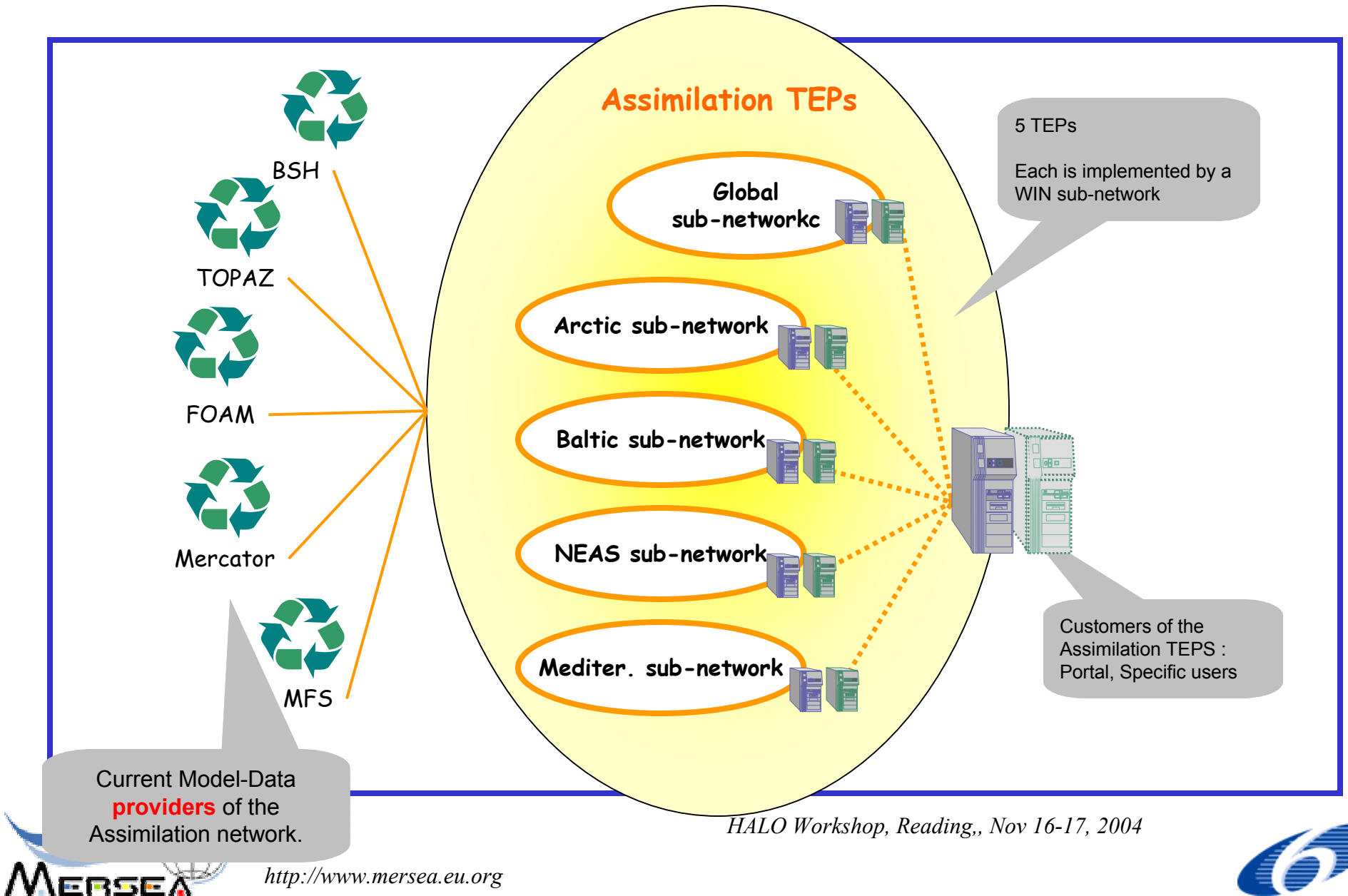
Mersea system logical breakdown : 1st level



Data network logical breakdown



Assimilation network logical breakdown



Interacting components

- Land : river run-off, aerosols (via atmosphere)
- Atmosphere : **Wind**
 - fluxes (momentum, heat, moisture, gas exchange),
 - Waves
 - Wind driven currents
 - Clouds : incoming solar radiation
 - E-P
- Global :
 - fluxes, re-analysis (ERA40, NCEP)
- Regional, coastal :
 - High resolution (HIRLAM, ALADIN, ...)

Interacting components

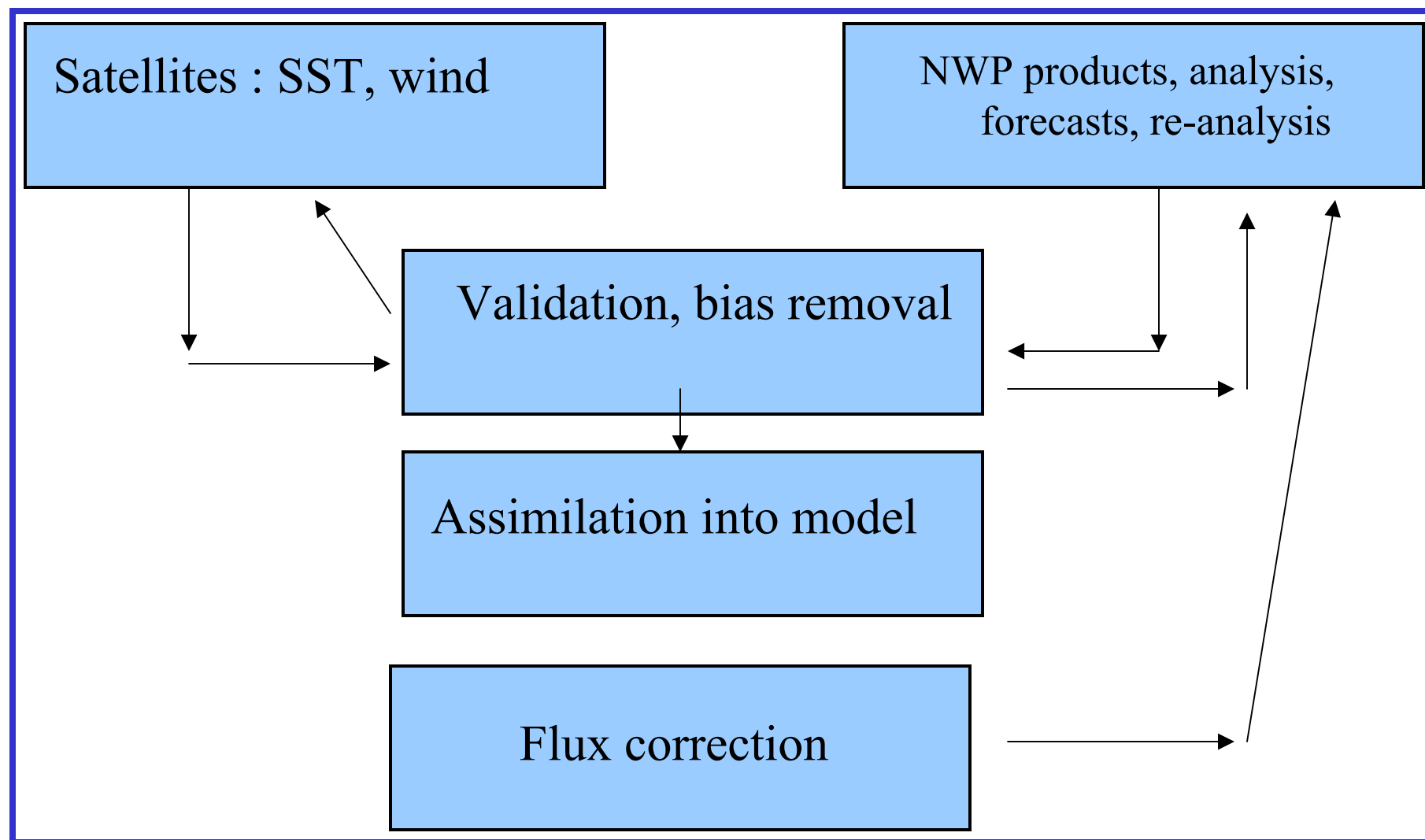
Meteorological agencies provide GMES services (by default?) for which MERSEA inputs are necessary :

- Oil spill response, search and rescue, drifting objects
- Wave forecasts
- Hurricane and seasonal forecasts
- Ice drift

Other feedbacks :

- Sea ice (albedo, fluxes)
- Atmospheric pressure for altimeter correction (IB)
- Aerosols for ocean colour, iron input

Ocean – Atmosphere Interactions : fluxes



Conclusions

- Weak coupling between land and ocean
 - Except River run-off
- Strong interactions with atmosphere, mostly physical
 - Two – way interactions
- CO² :
 - Physical pump
 - Biological pump : more prospective ?
- Several links already in place to exchange data in real-time

Remarks

- Distinguish project from the system to be delivered
 - Architecture
- Re-analyses are important
 - CO₂,
 - validation of fluxes
- Ocean component depends more on standard NWP than chemistry (GEMS)