

# Norwegian Institute of Marine Research

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# Barents Sea Opening Mooring Array

The main purpose of the Barents Sea Opening Mooring Array is to monitor the main currents flowing in from the southwest, which are of great importance for the oceanographic and ecological state of the Barents Sea.

The Barents Sea Opening Mooring Array consists of fixed moorings along a section across the western Barents Sea. Surface and subsurface ocean temperature and current velocity are recorded every 20 minutes by means of Aanderaa RCM7 current meters. The number of moorings deployed (now 5), and the number of instruments attached to each mooring, has varied. Instruments are typically placed at 50, 125, 225 meters and close to the sea floor.

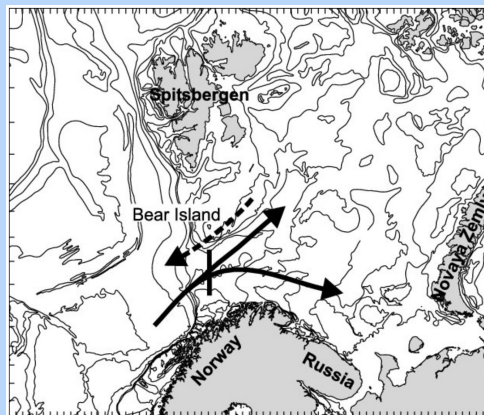


Figure 1. The Barents Sea. The solid line indicates the section where the moorings were deployed, the solid and dashed arrows the flow of Atlantic and Arctic water, respectively.

The first mooring was deployed 20 August 1997 and the platform has been operating consistently since then. The data are handled by the Norwegian Marine Data Centre and are now available in the INTAROS data catalog together with more information: [Mooring data from the Barents Sea Opening – Atlantic Water inflow - Datasets - INTAROS Data Catalogue \(nerisc.no\)](https://www.nerisc.no/).

The mooring network is supported by funding to IMR from the Norwegian government ensuring long-term operation and sustainability.

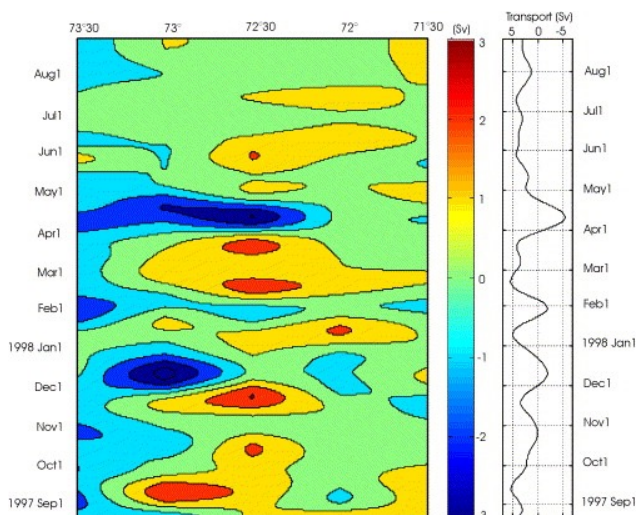


Figure 2. Time series of transport through the BSO based on 30 days low-pass filtered and vertically integrated currents (left panel), and the total transport in Sv through the section (right panel). Ingvaldsen et al. (2002)

