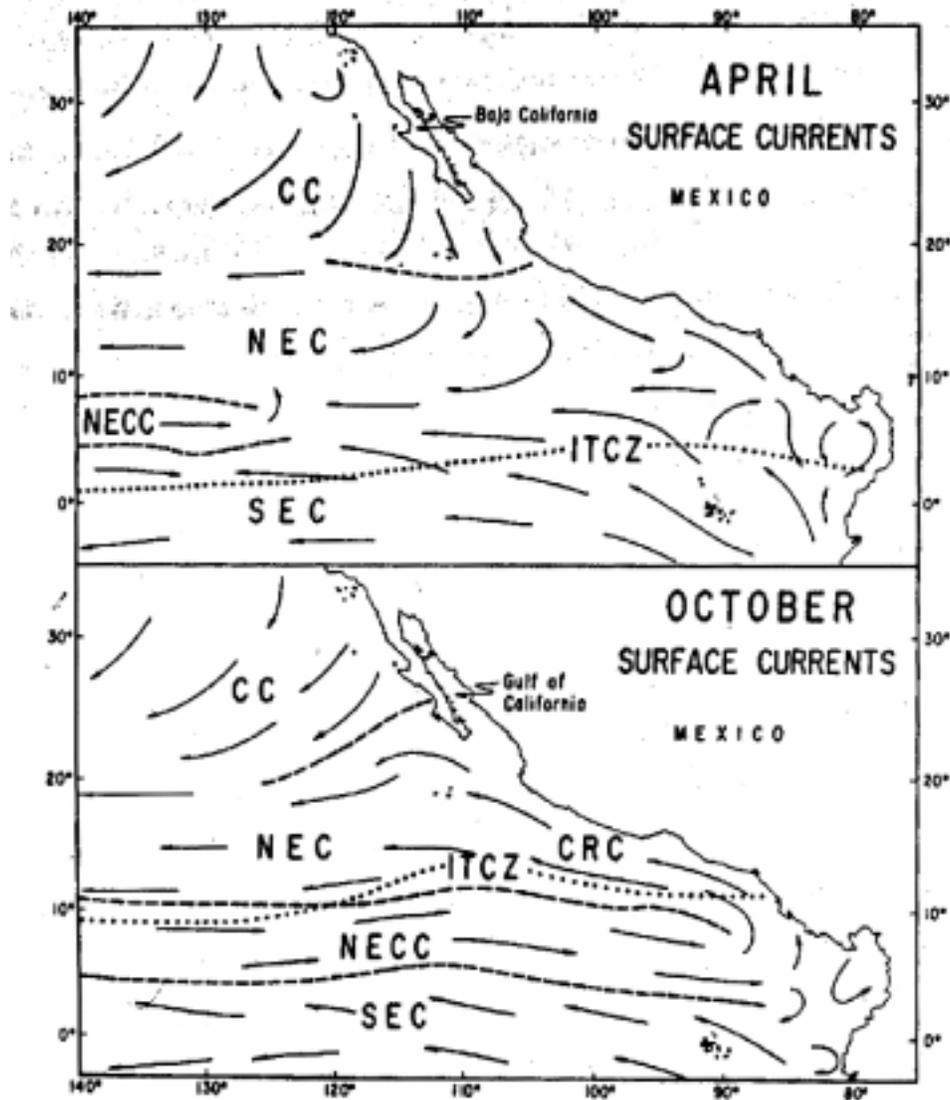
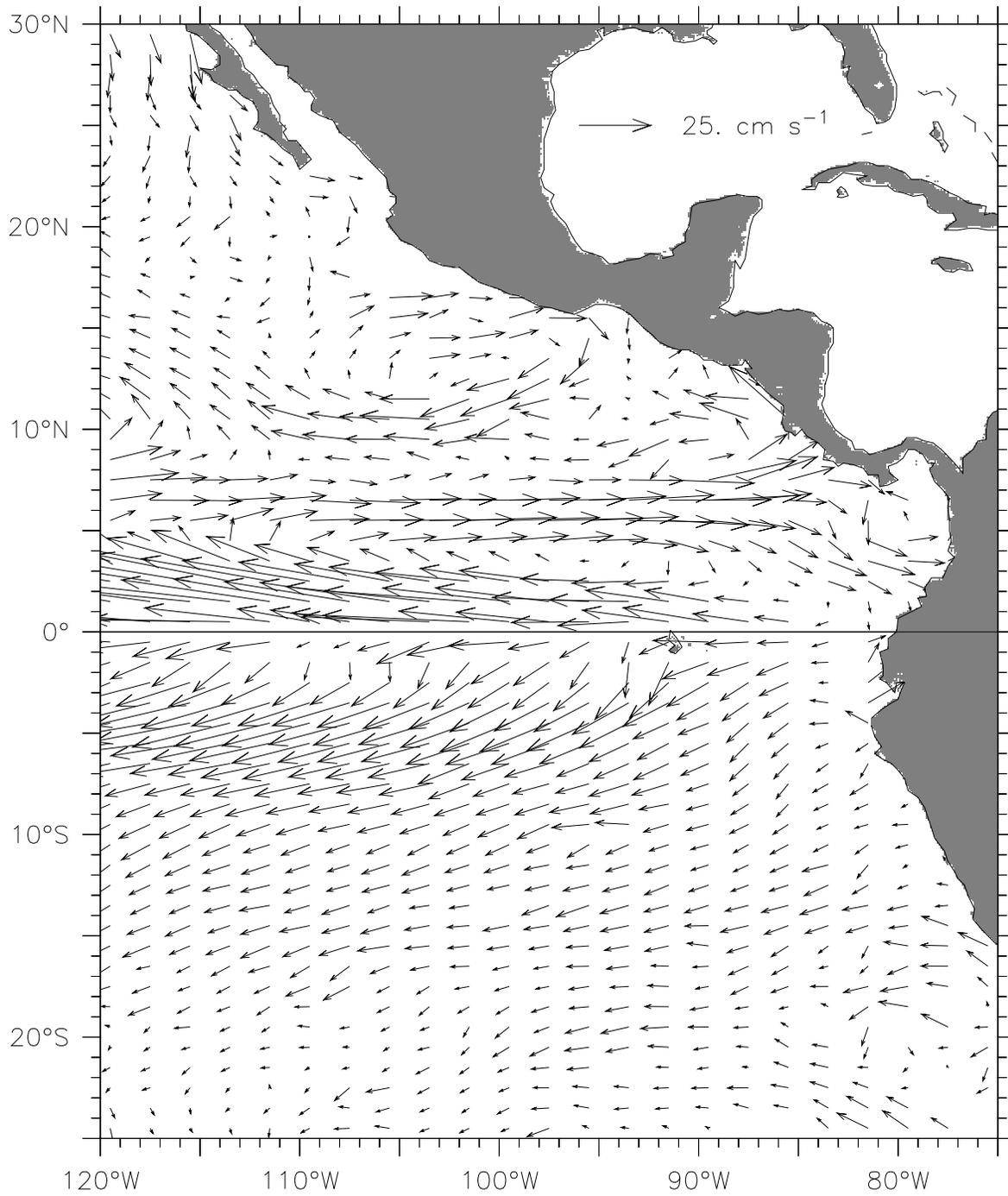


Figure 3.



**Figure 3.** Annual cycle surface circulation based on ship-drift records (after Baumgartner & Christensen, 1985, which was adapted from Wyrki, 1965). Current abbreviations are: California Current (CC), North Equatorial Current (NEC), North Equatorial Countercurrent (NECC), South Equatorial Current (SEC) and Costa Rica Coastal Current (CRCC). The Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) is marked by a dotted line. The dashed lines around the NECC show its changing extent.

**Figure 4.**



**Figure 4.** Mean surface circulation from surface drifters. The scale vector is located in the Gulf of Mexico.

Figure 5.

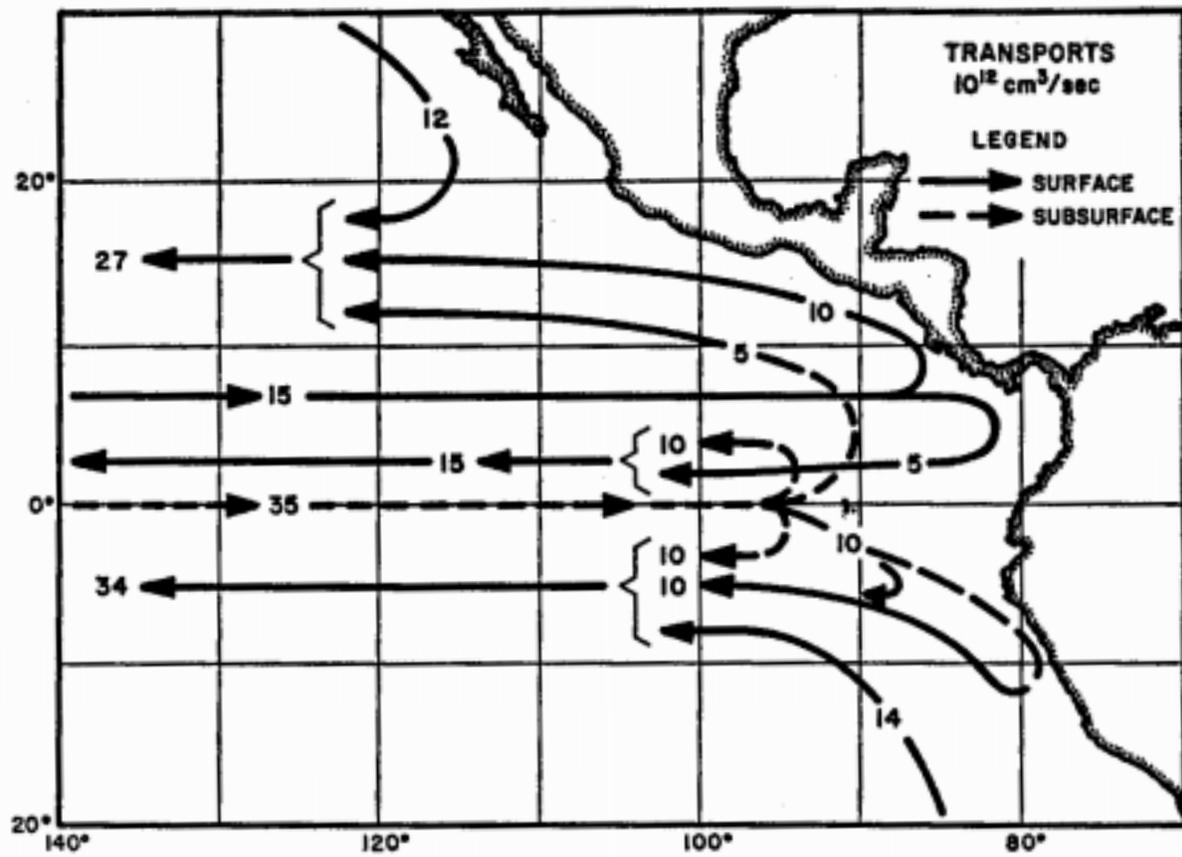
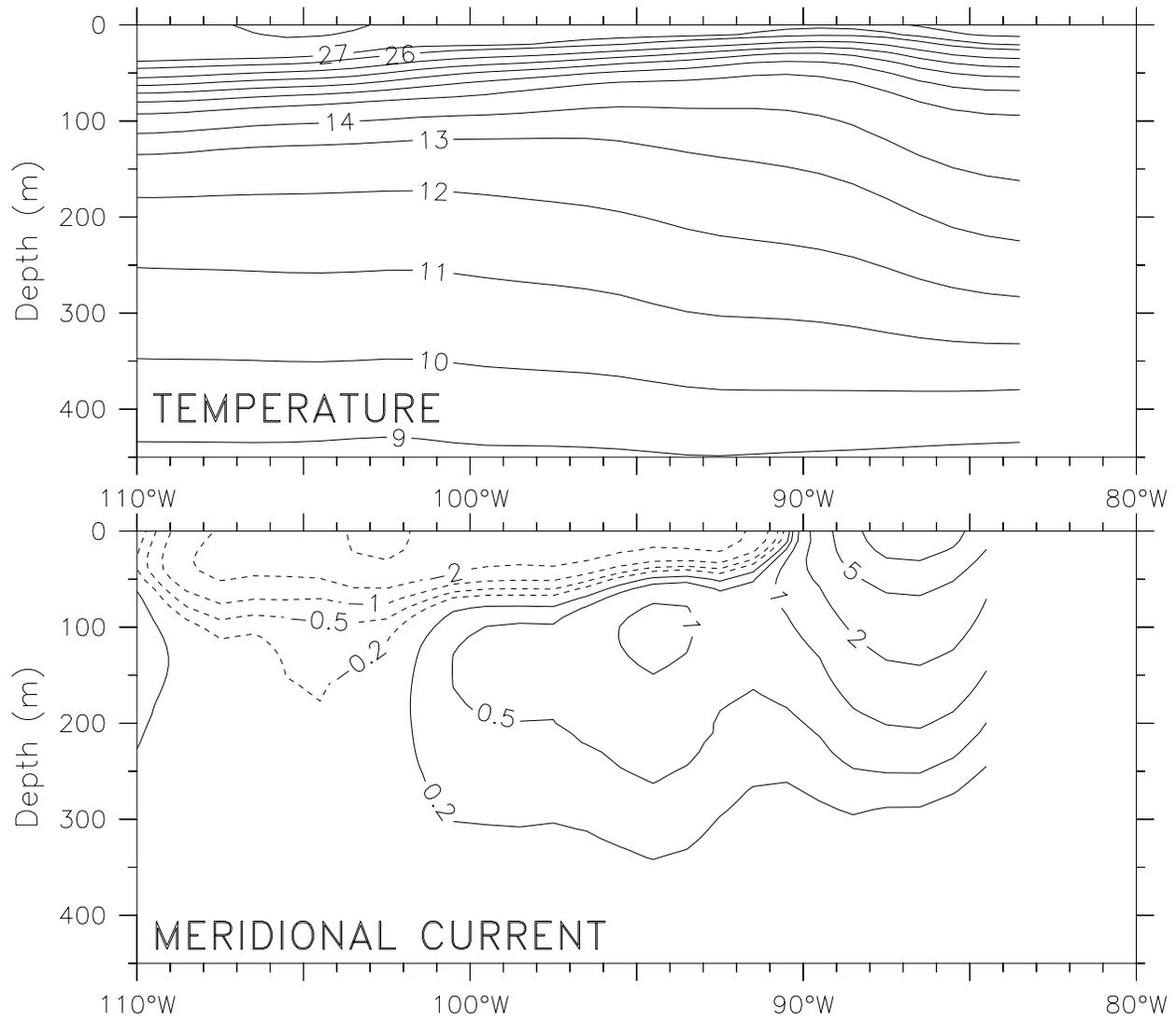


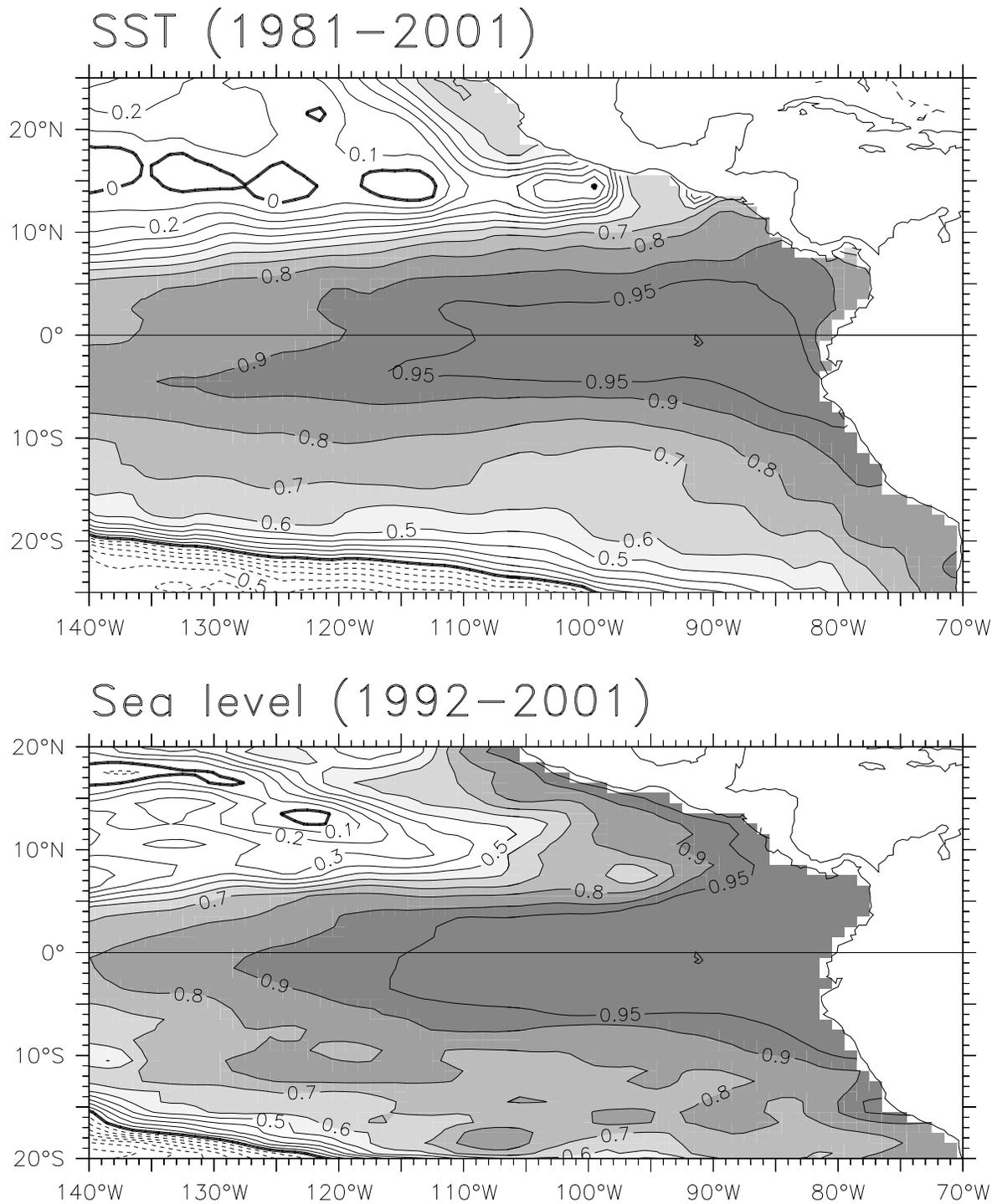
Figure 5. Schematic three-dimensional circulation in the eastern tropical Pacific. (After Wyrtki 1966).

**Figure 7.**



**Figure 7.** Zonal sections of temperature (top) and meridional geostrophic current (bottom) along 8.5°N, from the coast (right edge) to 110°W. The contour interval for temperature is 1°C from 8°C to 14°C, then 2°C from 16°C to 26°C, then 1°C from 27°C to 29°C. In the bottom panel, northward current is indicated by solid contours, southward by dashed contours; the contour interval is every 5 cm s<sup>-1</sup> within ±15 cm s<sup>-1</sup>, with additional contours at ±1 and 2 cm s<sup>-1</sup>, ±0.5 cm s<sup>-1</sup> and ±0.2 cm s<sup>-1</sup>.

**Figure 10.**



**Figure 10.** Correlations of interannually-smoothed quantities with themselves at 0°, 95°W. Top: SST from the Reynolds SST product (1981-2001). Bottom: sea level from the Topex altimeter (1992-2001). Interannual smoothing is demeaning by the average annual cycle, then smoothing with an 11-month running mean.