



Fig. 17. Same as Fig. 16, but for the dominant error covariance forecast for Sept. 18.

(Panel a) are now smaller than these at the bottom of the thermocline (Panel b). The  $T$  auto-covariance (top right of Panels a–b) is elongated along ( $\sim 80$  km), but much shorter across ( $\sim 15$  km), the local energetic MCC meander (Fig. 12). The negative part of the initial “Mexican hat” pattern is modified in accord with the AIS advection path (top right of Panel a). The top right of Panel (b) is the covariance between the surface  $T$  at (36.53°N, 13.40°E) and  $T$  at the bottom of the MAW layer (level 10). It has a positive center, extending in three lobes and covering a wider region than the corresponding