A High-Resolution Ocean-Ice Model of the Arctic (Sensitivity to Surface Forcing)

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Objectives

- Develop ice-ocean models based on NEMO, built on expertise developed from COMDA, CONCEPTS and GOAPP
- Use 2-way nesting technique (AGRIF): pan-Arctic model includes large-scale forcing; high-resolution submodel for focused regions
- Use models to interpret observed changes in Arctic
- Serve applications in regional operational forecasting link to sea-ice and ocean data assimilation
- Serve future applications in coupled regional climate downscaling

Model Configuration

- Outer model for pan-Arctic, 18 km grid spacing, 348×364 grids
- Inner model for CAA and Beaufort Sea, 6 km grid spacing, 349×328 grids
- Maximum 46 z-levels in vertical with partial bottom cells
- Inner model will be extended to include McKenzie Delta and whole Beaufort Sea



Model Setup

- Base on GOAPP debugged NEMO 2.3, sea-ice module LIM2
- Initialization: January T-S from PHC v3.0; sea-ice properties from ORCA025 global simulations
- Open boundary conditions: monthly T, S, velocity and sea level from ORCA025 simulations (Flather radiation for barotropic velocity)
- Surface forcing: CORE Normal Year Forcing (NYF) for spin-up tests; OMIP forcing for sensitivity study
- Runoff climatology; SSS resorting

Two-way Nested Model: Results of High-Resolution Embedding



For Details see presentation by S. Nudds

Pan-Arctic Model Solutions: Spin-up simulations with CORE NYF

Total Ice Area



Seasonal Ice Thickness

Winter

Summer



Annual-Mean Circulation

(colour axis m/s)

50 m depth

400 m depth



Annual-Mean Freshwater Content (upper 1000 m, colour axis m)

PHC Climatology

Model



Pan-Arctic Model: Different Solutions Using CORE & OMIP Forcing

Total Ice Volume



Pan-Arctic Model: Sensitivity Experiments

Experiments	Sea-Ice Drifting	400 m Cyclonic Circulation
All CORE	No	Yes
All OMIP	Yes	Yes
OMPI but CORE long &short wave radiation	Yes	Yes
OMIP but CORE precip, snow	No	No
OMIP but CORE precip, snow, wind	Yes	Yes

Understanding Sea-Ice Drifting in OMIP Run

- Drifting with CORE radiation heat fluxes
- No drifting with CORE precipitation & snow
- Drifting with CORE precipitation, snow & wind

Hypotheses

- Difference in total precipitation causes difference in incoming Atlantic water?
- Or: snow changes ice insulation?
- Roles of difference in wind need further study: turbulent heat fluxes vs circulation?

Further Work

- Complete assessment of forcing climatologies, and model dependence on accuracy of forcing
- Spin-up => Simulations with inter-annually varying forcing (including boundary forcing from global models)
- Validation with satellite and in situ observations
- Add tides
- Upgrading ice and ocean model; new ice model (LIM3); LIM3-CICE4 inter-comparison(?)
- Develop forecasting capacity (sea-ice and ocean data assimilation, M. Buhner & G. Smith)
- Regional climate applications