







The Scale-Aware Sea Ice Project SASIP

2024 EUROPEAN POLAR SCIENCE WEEK THURSDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER

Charlotte Durand, Tobias Finn, Alban Farchi, Marc Bocquet, Julien Brajard, Laurent Bertino Four-dimensional variational data assimilation with a sea-ice thickness emulator









Building an emulator for neXtSIM SIT

neXtSIM is a Lagrangian sea-ice model, based on brittle Bingham-Maxwell rheology, Guillaume Boutin [1] has coupled it to an ocean model to create ~12km simulation running from 1995 to 2018







[1] Boutin, G., Òlason, E., Rampal, P., Regan, H., Lique, C., Talandier, C., Brodeau, L., & Ricker, R. (2023). Arctic sea ice mass balance in a new coupled ice–ocean model using a brittle rheology framework. The Cryosphere, 17 (2), 617–638.

Building an emulator for neXtSIM SIT

Training a NN to predict 12 hours dynamics





UNet based architecture Additionnal ERA5 atmospheric forcings (U10, V10, T2M at t, t+6h, t+12h) NN is constrained within the loss to minimize the bias error



Emulating neXtSIM with a NN

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4D-Var: the use of the adjoint for DA

ENKF based methods

State of the art DA for sea-ice : ENKF based methods

- Computationnaly expensive (need to run the model for each member)



Williams, neXtSIM-F

Variational methods with NN

- Cheaper in computation cost (due to the NN), no ensemble statistics
- Need the adjoint of the model

Adjoint 'for free' with a NN

 $\label{eq:Gradient of the NN wrt SIT} Gradient of the NN wrt SIT$





4D-Var principle



Minimizing the cost function taking into account the background term and the observations across the DAW

Background term estimation:

- Classical diagonal B matrix
- Projection onto the EOF of the system



4D-Var – twin experiments

16 days assimilation with simulated observations every 2 days for 2017 – 2018 Tuning of the background term with model inflation Additional 30 days forecast

Gain of ~16% by projecting the 4DVar onto the EOF





Assimilating CS2SMOS

Assimilation in October 2020 – April 2021 Comparison with neXtSIM-F [1] Truth considered as CS2SMOS; DAW of 8 days with 8 obs



[1] Williams, T., Korosov, A., Rampal, P., and Ólason, E.: Presentation and evaluation of the Arctic sea ice forecasting system neXtSIM-F, The Cryosphere, 15, 3207–3227, https://doi.org/10.5194/tc-15-3207-2021, 2021.

4D-Var – real observations – CS2SMOS

4DVar, CS2SMOS assimilation



neXtSIM



Analysis

Smooth emulator Smooth observations

= Smooth analysis

 \rightarrow Model bias correction







Machine Learning for Arctic sea-ice

Stochastic vs Deterministic neural networks what is our goal ?

- Deterministic NN are fast, correct in terms of RMSE but lose small scales physics
- Stochastic NN are more computationally expensive, more realistic, but less reliable
 →Good for ensemble prediction

What could be the impact of NN in coupled systems ?

Access to HR data of different model ? Size of the dataset, size of the NN and associated training time



Take-home messages

- NN can emulate SIT dynamics, but deterministic NN leads to a loss of fine-scale dynamics
- Cheap to run (1 year forecast in less than 1 minute)
- Access to the emulator gradient
- Model emulator can be used in a 4D-Var framework with results close to operational systems
- But we would need more fine-scale dynamics observations to benefit them
- Cheap DA scheme: 1 cycle takes ~3min

Thank you for your attention!

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