Applications of Ocean Data Assimilation Systems

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Operational set up of INCOIS-GODAS



Applications in the pure operational sense

- Ocean Initial and boundary conditions improves 5-day ROMS ocean forecasts
- Ocean initial conditions provided to IITM, Pune for CFS-V2 improves seasonal prediction of monsoon
- Global maps of TCHP, SST and SST anomalies provided to IMD improves cyclone intensity and track

Applications with regard to ensuing Climate phenomena Temperature anomaly along 5S IOD index



220

260

300

140°E

180°

140°W

SDMJSDMJSDMJ

Jun-2016

100°W

-1.0

-2.0

M J S D M J S

2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 20152016

Ocean Re-analysis for Research

- Ocean re-analysis from SODA, helped Vijay et al., 2015 to find a new link in the Atlantic Ocean that influences Indian summer monsoon rainfall
- Vertical variation of oxygen isotope in BoB and its realtionships with water masses were examined by Sengupta et al. (2013) using ocean re-analysis from INCOIS-GODAS
- Upper ocean thermal features during tropical cyclones over BoB were studied by Ramu et al., (2012) using ocean re-analysis from INCOIS-GODAS

Advocacy in the design and maintenance of ocean observations

- Observation System Evaluation experiments (OSEs)
 - Uses real observations
 - Can provide quantitative assessments on the loss/gain due to the addition/denial of an observation of interest
- Observation System Simulation Experiments (OSSEs)
 - Uses virtual observations
 - Advocates the design of future observation networks, resolutions etc.

OSEs: Methodology

- Choose state-of-the-art assimilation system. It must represent the ocean phenomena of interest at satisfactory level.
- Conduct a reference experiment (ALL) in which all (e.g. XBTs, CTDs, Buoys, Argo etc) observations (real) are assimilated. Usually this is the default configuration of the fore-mentioned state-of-the-art assimilation system.
- Conduct a data denial (e.g. No Argo) experiment in which all observations are assimilated except the observation in query
- Compare results from data denial (e.g. No Argo) and reference (ALL) experiment to know the impact of denied observation (e.g. Argo)

OSEs: An example



Indian Ocean Dipole index



OSSEs: Methodology and guidelines

There are three major components in OSSEs

- **1. Nature Run, the virtual world:** Usually this is from a state-of-the-art model that best represents the real world
- 2. Virtual observations sampled/simulated from Nature Run. These observations should have noise levels close to the real observations.
- **3. Imperfect model coupled with data assimilation:** The background model should contain the variability's of the virtual world. One should make sure it is sufficiently different (not too different) from the Nature run.
 - One can opt the model used to create Nature run by tweaking the model physics, initial conditions, boundary conditions etc. This approach is close to identical twin OSSEs
 - One can opt a different DAS in the fraternity. For example, use ECMWF model for Nature and NCEP-DAS under imperfect model. This approach is called Fraternal twin OSSEs

Schematic Representation of OSSE



Thank you

