

Guassianized 2dVar assimilation of ice concentration into CICE model

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M. Yaremchuk, T. Townsend, G. Panteleev, D. Hebert, and R. Allard

Naval Research Laboratory, Stennis Space Center, MS

ABSTRACT

Results of numerical experiments assimilating SSMI/IMS data into the HYCOM-driven CICE model are presented. To remove inconsistency between the Gaussian assumptions underlying the 2dVar algorithm and non-Gaussian nature of ice concentration (IC) errors, IC innovations are gaussianized prior to the analysis. The inverse (degaussianization) transform is computed at the analysis step and exploits similarity between the PDFs of IC innovations and increments. Gaussianization uncertainties are taken into account by an additional 2dVar algorithm optimizing the estimate of the background error variance with respect to the innovations obtained after the analysis. Numerical experiments with 2dVar assimilation of SSMI/IMS observations acquired in September-December 2015 in the Beaufort Sea demonstrate 5-10% improvement of the 24-hour forecast skill compared to the operational runs executed without gaussianization. An additional set of experiments was conducted to assess the impact of anisotropic IC covariance generated by the background ice velocity field. The respective forecast skill improvements were 1-2% in the gaussianized mode and 4-6% without gaussianization.



METHODOLOGY

Univariate gaussianization & degaussianization:

 $\mathcal{G}(\delta \mathbf{d}) = \mathcal{P}_q^{-1} \mathcal{P}_d(\delta \mathbf{d})$ $\mathcal{G}^{-1}(\delta \mathbf{x}) = \mathcal{P}_d^{-1} \left[\frac{1}{2} (1 + \operatorname{erf} \frac{\delta \mathbf{x}}{\sqrt{2}}) \right]$

$$\mathbf{C}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{N} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2}\nabla^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{D}(\mathbf{x})\nabla\right]\mathbf{x}$$
$$\mathbf{D} = \hat{\mathbf{D}}^{\mathsf{T}}\hat{\mathbf{D}}: \qquad \hat{\mathbf{D}}(\mathbf{x}) = r\left[\begin{array}{c}\sqrt{\lambda(\mathbf{x})} & 0\\ 0 & 1\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{c}\cos\theta(\mathbf{x}) & \sin\theta(\mathbf{x})\\ -\sin\theta(\mathbf{x}) & \cos\theta(\mathbf{x})\end{array}\right]$$

Fig. 2 Improvement of the forecast skill wrt operational run (gray); ice cover Percentage (blue) and mean ice concentration (black).

