AWI Data Science Workshop, Bremerhaven, December 6, 2018

Enhancing Data Sets through Data Assimilation

Lars Nerger

Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research Bremerhaven, Germany

> M. Goodliff, H. Pradhan (AWI) F. Schwichtenberg, I. Lorkowski, T. Brüning (BSH) Watson Gregg (Nasa/GSFC)



Motivation





Data Assimilation

This

talk

Methodology to combine model with real data

Optimal estimation of system state:

 initial conditions 	(for weather/ocean forecasts,)	
 state trajectory 	(temperature, concentrations,)	
 parameters 	(ice strength, plankton growth,)	
 fluxes 	(heat, primary production,)	

- boundary conditions and 'forcing' (wind stress, ...)
- More advanced: Improvement of model formulation
 - Detect systematic errors (bias)
 - Revise parameterizations based on parameter estimates



Example 1

Coastal ocean-biogeochemical state in the North- and Baltic Seas

Project MeRamo – cooperation with BSH



Model and Domain



Biogeochemical model: ERGOM



Lars Nerger – Enhancing Data Sets through Data Assimilation

Augmenting a Model for Data Assimilation

Couple PDAF (Parallel Data Assimilation Framework) with model

- Modify model to simulate ensemble of model states
- Insert correction step (analysis) to be executed each 12 model hours
- PDAF is free open-source Software developed at AWI (http://pdaf.awi.de)



Observations



Used here:

- sea surface temperature (SST)
 - 2012: from NOAA satellites
 - 2017: from Sentinel-3a
- 12-hour composites
- Interpolated to both model grids (satellite data resolution ~1 km)
- Many data gaps (clouds)

Possible further data:

- Satellite ocean color (chlorophyll, diffuse attenuation, reflectance)
- In situ data (here used for validation)



Influnce of Assimilation on Surface Temperature

Temperature RMS error

ensemble mean

5km grid

• root-mean square (RMS) error

RMS error (°C)

Grid	Model	Assim.
5km	0.78	0.60
900m	0.81	0.74



1.6

1.4

1.2

0.0 gWXse

Modell Assim

Influence of Assimilation on Ecosystem Variables



MSFD Indicators (unofficial result)

- EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive requires monitoring
- MSFD Indicator: total nitrogen (nitrate, ammonium, nitrogen in phytoplankton, zooplankton, ..)
- OSPAR region ICNF (Inner Coastal North Frisian) red frame
- Limit 23.66 mmol / m³
- Number of days exceeding limit
 - Change due to assimilation: -30 to +12 days



Outcomes of applying data assimilation

Each 12 hours, at analysis time, we get

- complete surface temperature fields
 & 3D physical model state
- modified biogeochemical fields
- derived indicator quantities
- ensemble of 40 realizations

at 5 km and 900 m resolution



Example 2

Assimilation of Satellite Ocean Color Data into Ocean-biogeochemical Model

Project IPSO – AWI strategy fund



Coupled Model: MITgcm - REcoM

MITgcm

General ocean circulation model of MIT (*Marshall et al., 1997*).

Global configuration

80°N - 80°S, 30 layers

Resolution:

- lon: 2 deg
- lat: 2 deg in North up to 0.38 deg in South
- layers: 10 m 500 m



Regulated Ecosystem Model – Version 2 (Hauck et al., 2013)



Assimilation of chlorophyll data for phytoplankton groups

Assimilated data:

Total chlorophyll data from OC-CCI and Phytoplankton group data SynSenPFT (Losa et al. 2018)



Assimilation:

- Assimilate each 5th day for years 2008 & 2009
- Handle logarithmic concentrations
- Validate with in situ data



Assimilation effect on Total Chlorophyll (April 20, 2008)

Pradhan et al., J. Geophy. Res. Oceans, under review

Validation with in situ data

- Assimilation of total chlorophyll or SynSenPFT group data
- Validation with independent data
- Assimilation of total Chlorophyll improves both groups
- Stronger error-reductions for group data assimilation
- Stronger error-reductions for Diatoms (slightly below SynSenPFT for group data assimilation)

→ global (gap-free) fields with similar error as SynSenPFT

Summary

• Data assimilation merges observational data with model data

Allows

- to dynamically interpolate through data gaps
- improve data quality where observational data exists

→ Yields data products at resolution of model grid

Multivariate data assimilation also constrains unobserved variables

- Opportunity to generate additional data products
- Ensemble data assimilation also provides uncertainty estimates

Thank you!

Lars.Nerger@awi.de

