

A dynamic-thermodynamic sea ice model on an Arakawa C grid for coupled ocean and sea ice state estimation

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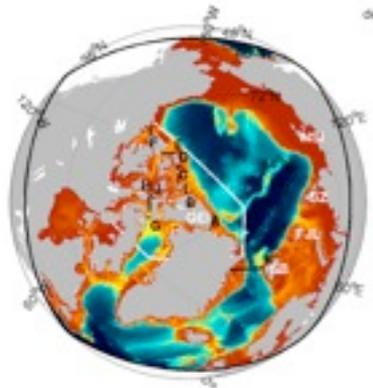
Overview

As part of an ongoing effort to obtain a best possible, time-evolving analysis of most available ocean and sea ice data, a dynamic and thermodynamic sea-ice model has been coupled to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology general circulation model (MITgcm). The sea ice model components were borrowed from current-generation climate models but they were reformulated with a finite-volume discretization on an Arakawa C grid in order to match the MITgcm oceanic grid and they were modified in many ways to permit efficient and accurate automatic differentiation. Features include:

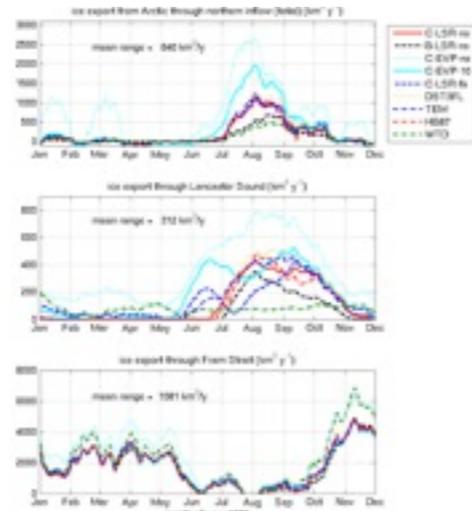
- viscous-plastic rheology with line-successive-over-relaxation (LSOR) or elastic-viscous-plastic (EVP) solver
- either zero-heat-capacity for two-layer thermodynamics following Winton (2000)
- ice-ocean stress can be formulated as in Hibler and Bryan (1987)
- ice concentration and thickness, snow, and ice salinity or enthalpy can be advected by sophisticated, conservative advection schemes with flux limiters
- growth and melt parameterizations have been refined and extended in order to allow for automatic differentiation of the code

List of experiments and acronyms

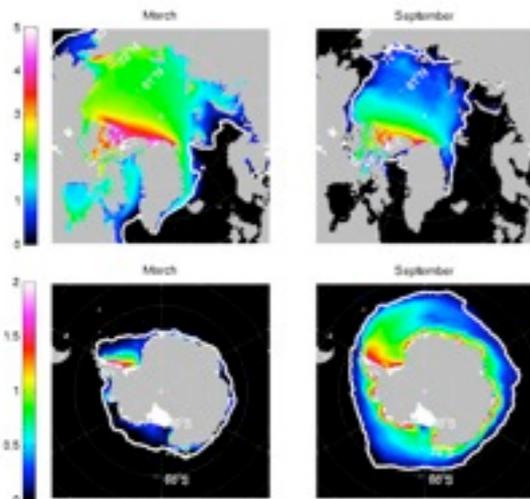
C-LSR-ns	baseline C-grid LSOR solver, no-slip bcs
B-LSR-ns	original B-grid LSOR
C-EVP-ns	C-grid EVP solver no-slip, $\Delta t = 150s$
C-EVP-10	C-grid EVP solver no-slip, $\Delta t = 10s$
C-LSR-fs	C-grid LSOR solver, free slip
DST3FL	C-grid LSOR solver, 3rd adv., flux lim.
TEM	C-grid LSOR, truncated ellipse method
HB87	C-grid LSOR, Hibler and Bryan (1987) stress
WTD	C-grid LSOR, Winton (2000) thermodynamics



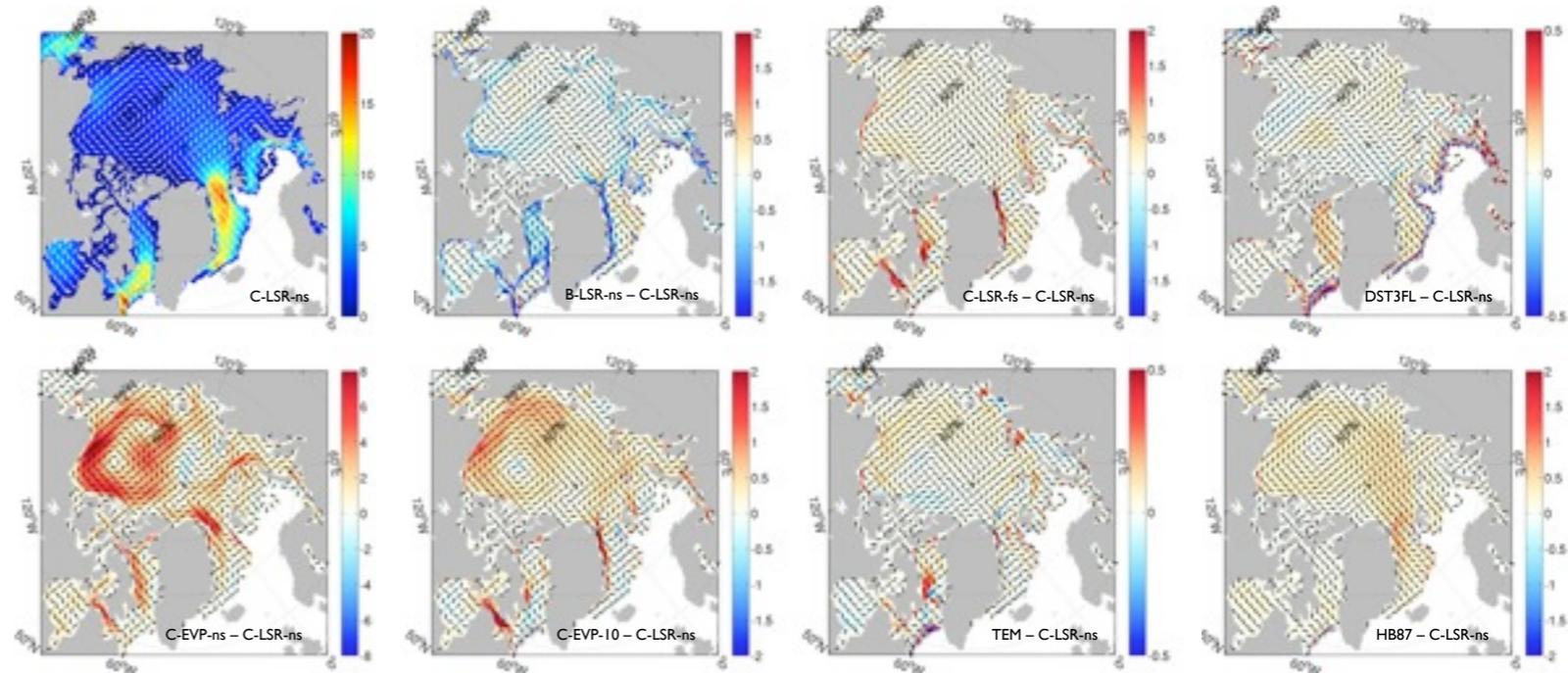
Arctic model domain carved out from global model (below) with various sections.



Solid fresh water (ice and snow) transport through various sections in 1996



Example Arctic and Antarctic results from an eddy-permitting, global ocean and sea-ice simulation: Sea ice thickness distribution (color, in meters) averaged over the years 1992-2002. The ice edge estimated as the 15% isoline of ice concentration retrieved from passive microwave satellite data is drawn as a white contour line for comparison. The top row shows the results for the Arctic Ocean and the bottom row for the Antarctic Oceans; the left column shows distributions for March and the right column for September.



Above: Ice drift velocity (cm/s) of the C-LSR-ns solution averaged over the first 3~months of integration and differences to other experiments; color indicates speed or differences of speed and vectors indicate direction only. The direction vectors are smoothed and plotted for every eighth velocity point. Note that color scale varies from panel to panel.

Below: Ice thickness (m) of the C-LSR-ns solution, averaged over the months January through March 2000 and differences between to other experiments

