



Overview of OM5 and MOM6 development

Presented by Brandon Reichl on behalf of OM5DT & MOM6 team

Q1: Concerning GFDL's core strength of building and improving models of the weather, oceans, and climate for societal benefits, how can GFDL leverage advances in science and computational capabilities to improve its key models? What are the strengths, gaps, and new frontiers?



NOAA
GEOPHYSICAL FLUID
DYNAMICS LABORATORY

5-YEAR REVIEW
JANUARY 28-30, 2025



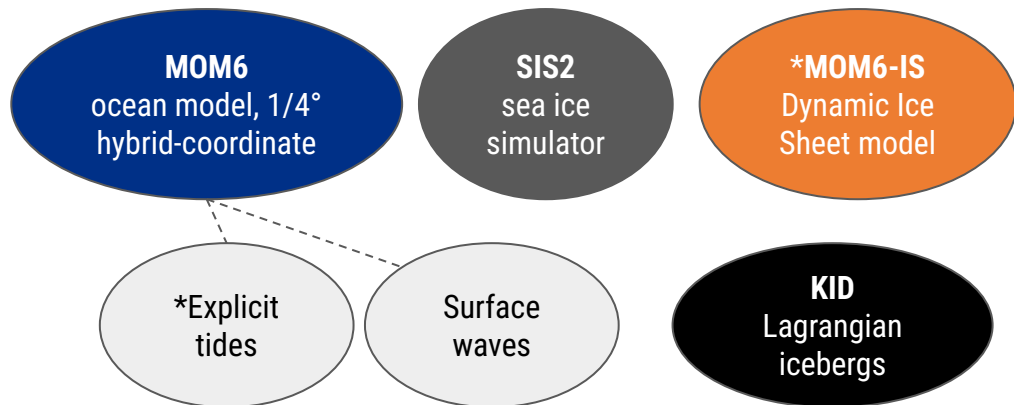
Image Generated by ChatGPT

OM5 Mission

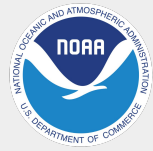
The next generation of GFDL's world-leading ocean and cryosphere models that will advance GFDL scientific interests and NOAA's mission

OM5 Goals

- A. Simulate regional-to-global patterns and trends of sea level
- B. Reduce polar ocean and cryosphere biases
- C. Reduce tropical & mid-latitude ocean stratification biases
- D. Improve representation of deep ocean circulation



*New Features beyond OM4



NOAA
GEOPHYSICAL FLUID
DYNAMICS LABORATORY



5-YEAR REVIEW
JANUARY 28-30, 2025

MOM6 development activities are supporting OM5's goals

A. Simulate regional-to-global Sea Level

Non-Boussinesq implementation, explicit tides, self-attraction and loading, modern equation of state

B. Reduce Polar Biases

Ocean sea-ice coupling & numerical stability, improved sea-ice physics, double-diffusive mixing, internal gravity wave mixing, brine rejection

C. Reduce Tropical & Mid-latitude Ocean Biases

Boundary layer mixing improvements, shear mixing improvements, Implementing tidally-driven diffusivity, mesoscale eddies, mixed layer eddies

D. Improve Deep Ocean Circulation

Porous boundaries, vertical coordinate development, updated bathymetry and horizontal grids



mom-ocean / MOM6

Edit Pins

Unwatch 50

Fork 232

Star 186

Under the MOM6 open development paradigm, all of these capabilities are freely available. OM4 is the basis of the UFS GFS v.17 ocean; OM5 will be available as a template for future versions of UFS



NOAA
GEOPHYSICAL FLUID
DYNAMICS LABORATORY



5-YEAR REVIEW
JANUARY 28-30, 2025

MOM6 algorithm and formulation improvements are available to OM5

- Non-Boussinesq version of MOM6 [goal A]
- Improved vertical coordinate algorithms [goal D]
- Improved various numerical aspects [goal A,D]
- “Porous” representation of bathymetry [goal D]
- Modern Equation of state [goals A,B,C,D]
- Surface wave-averaged equations [goals A,B,C]
- Explicit simulation of global tides [goal A]
- Add Great Lakes and waterfalls [goal A]
- Add support of evolving ice-sheet geometry [goal A,B]

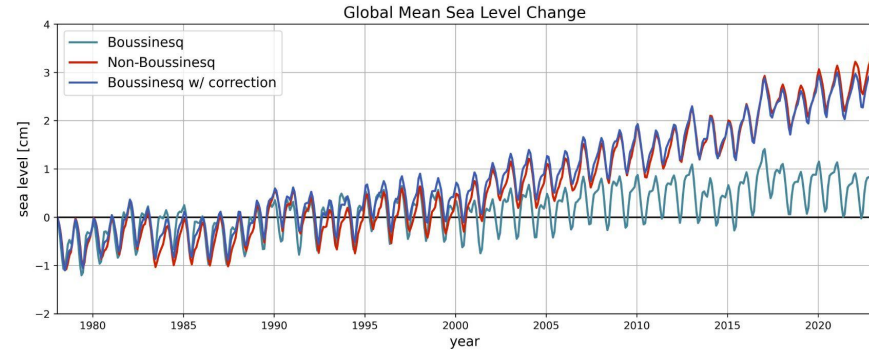


Fig 1: OM5 w/ non-Boussinesq version of MOM6 can explicitly simulate the thermal contraction (by cooling) and expansion (by warming) of sea level in the recent historical epoch.

Energetics Based Boundary Layer Parameterizations

- Upgrade surface mixing scheme (ePBL)^{1,11,12}
 - Improves mixed layer depths and diurnal cycle [goal A,B,C,D]
- Include surface wave driven fluxes and mixing^{2,3,4,5,6,8,10,16,17}
 - Improves mixed layer depths and air-sea fluxes [goal A,B,C]
- New submesoscale parameterization^{10,15}
 - Physically consistent frontal length scale in tropics [goal B,C,D]
- Improve BBL mixing^{12,14}
 - Improves bottom water from coastal regions to deep overflows [goal D]
- Machine learn ePBL enhancements^{9,13}
 - Further improves stratification and mixed layer depths [goal A,B,C,D]
- New energetic mixed layer depth metrics and observations⁷
 - Improves model bias diagnosis and process understanding

Improve Diurnal “Deep Cycle” mixing

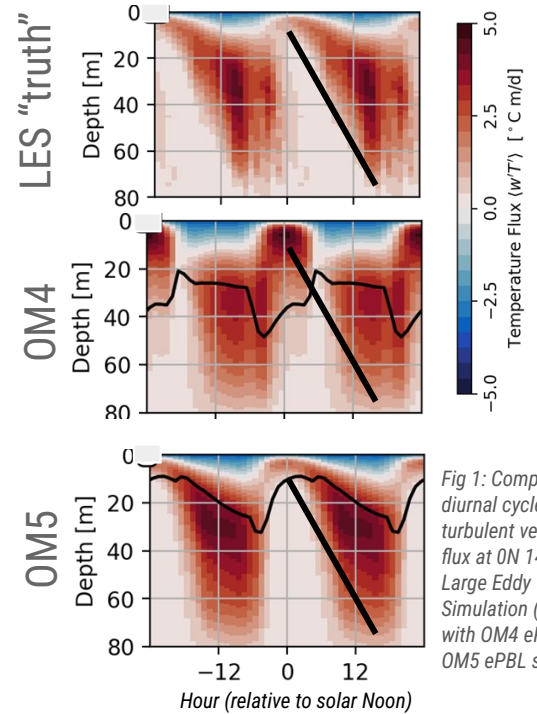


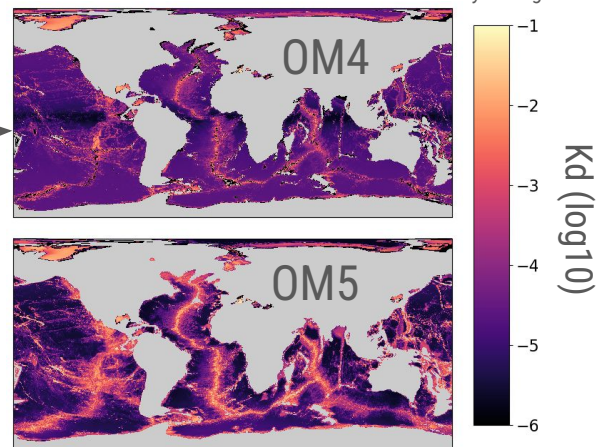
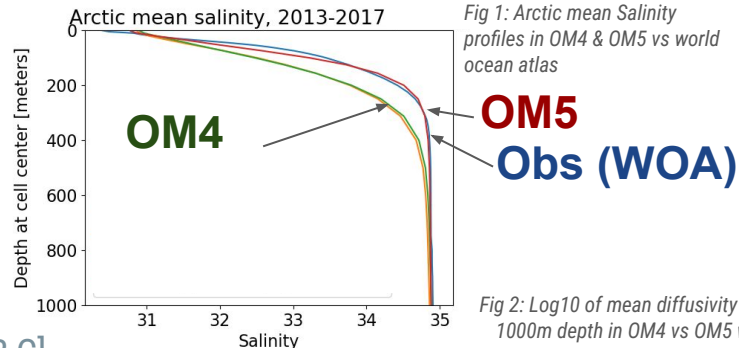
Fig 1: Comparing diurnal cycle of turbulent vertical heat flux at ON 140W using Large Eddy Simulation (“truth”) with OM4 ePBL vs OM5 ePBL setting

¹Reichl and Hallberg (2018) ²Li et al. (2019) ³Reichl and Li (2019) ⁴Reichl & Deike (2020) ⁵Deike et al. (2022) ⁶Kim et al. (2022) ⁷Reichl et al. (2022) ⁸Zhou et al. (2022) ⁹Sane et al. (2023) ¹⁰Zhou et al. (2023) ¹¹Reichl et al. (2024) ¹²Griffies et al. (in review) ¹³Sane et al. (in prep) ¹⁴Hallberg et al. (in prep) ¹⁵Uchida et al. (in prep) ¹⁶Rustogi et al. (in review) ¹⁷Deike et al. (in review)

Physically Consistent Interior Mixing Parameterizations

- More realistic (reduced) background viscosity²
 - Improves mean shear and thermocline bias [goal C]
- Improve tidal mixing physics¹
 - Major improvement to Arctic salinity bias [goal B]
- Add double diffusive vertical mixing
 - Include mixing by salt fingers & diffusive convection [goal A,B,C]
- Improved interior shear driven mixing³
 - Reduces numerical sensitivity of induced mixing [goal B,C,D]
- Ray-tracing internal tide energy for mixing⁵
 - Propagate energy and convert to turbulent mixing [goal B,C,D]
- Implicit energetics-based full-column mixing⁴
 - More robust & consistent mixing algorithms [goal A,B,C,D]

¹Harrison & Hallberg (2008) ²Reichl et al. (2024) ³Griffies et al. (in review) ⁴Hallberg et al. (in prep) ⁵Dussin et al. in prep

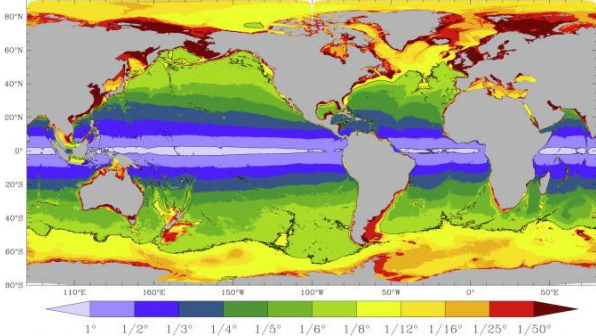


Mesoscale Eddy Mixing Parameterization Development

OM5's $\frac{1}{4}^\circ$ resolution is insufficient to resolve all mesoscale eddies

GFDL plays a critical role in eddy parameterization development

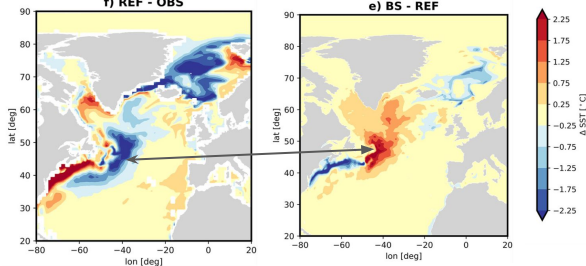
- Progress to understand and simulate processes, energetics, and scales of the ocean's mesoscale eddy field^{1,4,5,7,8,9,10,18}
- Progress to develop energetically constrained eddy parameterizations with realistic vertical structures
 - Improving resolved eddy characteristics¹³ [goal C]
 - Improving sub-grid energy models^{11,12,15} [goal B,C]
 - Improving algorithms and approaches^{2,3,6,14,17,20,21} [goal A,B,C,D]
- Progress in machine learning parameterizations^{16,19}



Hallberg (2013)

Fig 1: Simulation horizontal resolution requirement to resolve mesoscale eddy effects in global ocean model

OM4 SST Bias Impact



Chang et al. (2023)

Fig 2: Impact of eddy backscatter parameterization on SST bias in OM5 prototype model

¹Naveira Garabato et al. (2019) ²Shao et al. (2020) ³Stanley et al. (2020) ⁴Khatri et al. (2021) ⁵Aluie et al. (2022) ⁶Kenigson et al. (2022) ⁷Marques et al. (2022) ⁸Naveira Garabato et al. (2022) ^{9,10}Yassin & Griffies (2022a,2022b) ¹¹Storer et al. (2022) ¹²Buzzicotti et al., 2023 ¹³Chang et al. (2023) ¹⁴Loose et al. (2023) ¹⁵Storer et al. (2023) ¹⁶C. Zhang et al. (2023) ¹⁷Jansen et al. (2024) ¹⁸Lobo et al. (2024) ¹⁹Perezhogin et al. (2024) ²⁰W. Zhang & Wolfe (2024) ²¹W. Zhang et al. (2024)



5-YEAR REVIEW
JANUARY 28-30, 2025

OM5 and future global ocean and cryosphere modeling at GFDL

- OM5 continues GFDL's role to advance the state of ocean and cryosphere modeling
- GFDL is addressing gaps in ocean and cryosphere modeling capabilities to enable better projections to address NOAA's mission objectives
 - Adding Great Lakes to global climate models for regional U.S. climate (See Q3 slides)
 - Ocean wave component for improved air-sea coupling (See Q3 slides)
 - Explicit Tides and self-attraction and loading for better regional circulation and changes
 - Ocean - Ice-sheet coupling for better sea-level rise projections
- OM5 prepares GFDL for a next generation of high resolution ocean and coupled modeling, subject to availability of computational resources (see also Q1 CM4X slides)



NOAA
GEOPHYSICAL FLUID
DYNAMICS LABORATORY



5-YEAR REVIEW
JANUARY 28-30, 2025