



Real-time Ocean Reanalyses Intercomparison for Quantifying Uncertainties in Ocean Reanalyses and Monitoring Climate Variability

Yan Xue

Climate Prediction Center, NCEP/NOAA

Applications of seasonal to decadal climate predictions for marine resource management workshop, Princeton University, NJ, June 3-5, 2015

NCEP Operational Ocean Reanalyses

Ocean-alone

Partially Coupled System

Climate Forecast System Reanalysis

(CFSR, implemented in 2011)





Ocean Initial Conditions for CFS

Atmosphere Data Assimilation System (T382L64 GSI)



Ocean Data Assimilation System (MOM4 Ocean Model and 3D VAR)

Ocean Initial Conditions for CFSv2

Ocean Reanalyses Intercomparison (ORA-IP) Coordinated by CLIVAR-GSOP/GODAE OceanView

- Ocean reanalysis production is an on-going activity
- New vintages are produced approximately every 5 years
 - Improved quality controlled observations (XBT corrections, Argo corrections and black lists)
 - > Improved forcing fluxes
 - > Improved models and methods
- We need to assess uncertainties among ocean reanalyses (through intercomparison and validation with independent data)
- We need to facilitate the use of ocean reanalyses by other communities
- We need to prepare for quasi-real time monitoring of the ocean

Tropical Pacific Observing Systems



Real-Time Ocean Renalyses Intercomparison Project

- Extend Ocean Reanalyses Intercomparison Project (ORA-IP) into real time
- Assess uncertainties in temperature analysis of tropical Pacific in support of ENSO monitoring and prediction
- Explore any connections between gaps in ocean observations and spreads among ensemble ORAs
- Articulate needs for sustained ocean observing systems in support of design of Tropical Pacific Observing Systems in 2020
- Monitor signal-to-noise ratio in the global ocean temperature, 300m heat content, depth of 20C isotherm

Real-Time Ocean Reanalyses

Name	Method & Forcings	In Situ Data	Altimetry Data	Resolution	Period	Vintage	Reference
NCEP (GODAS)	3D-VAR	T, SST	NO (Yes since 2007)	1°x 1° (1/3° near Eq)	1979- present	2003	Behringer and Xue (2004
ECMWF (S4)	01	T, S, SST	Yes	1°x1° (1/3° near Eq)	1959- present	2011	Balmaseda et al. (2012)
ЈМА	3D-VAR	T, S, SST	Yes	1°x1° (1/3° near Eq)	1979- present	2009	Usui et al. (2006)
GFDL (ECDA)	EnKF coupled	T, S, SST	Yes	1°x 1° (1/3° near Eq)	1970- present	2010	Zhang et al. (2009)
NASA	EnOI Partially coupled	T, S, SST	Yes	1/2°x 1/2° (1/4° near Eq)	1980- present	2011	Rienecker at al. (2011)
BOM (PEODAS)	EnKF	T, S, SST	Νο	2°x 1.5 ° (1/2° near Eq.)	1980- preesnt	2009	Yin et al. (2010)
UK Met (GLOSEA5)	3DVAR	T, S, SST	Yes	1/4°x 1/4°	1993- present	??	Waters et al. (2014)
MERCATOR (GLORYS2)	KF-SEEK	T, S, SST	Yes	1/4°x 1/4°	1993- present	??	??

http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/GODAS/multiora_body.html



Monitoring the Tropical Pacific ENSO Variability



Eq. Subsurface Temp.



Signal, Noise and Signal-to-Noise Ratio (1985-2013)











Summary

- An ensemble of six operational ORAs has been used to assess signal (ensemble mean) and noise (ensemble spread) in upper ocean temperature analysis in near real-time.
- Although there are uncertainties in ocean reanalysis products, the ensemble mean of multiple ocean reanalyses likely provides the best estimation of the state of ocean and can be used to derive climate indicators. The ensemble spread provides uncertainties in our estimation.
- The ensemble mean of temperature analyses from multiple ORA products has been used in monitoring and predicting ENSO.
- The next step is to include UK Met Office and MERCATOR ocean reanalyses and to develop an ensemble of eight ORAs.
- The analysis and monitoring products will be expanded beyond the tropical Pacific.
- There might be potential utilities for nowcasting and monitoring subsurface temperature conditions for ecosystem applications in coastal regions.