Tropics-Extra-tropics

Coherent tropospheric response to modulation of tropical convection



Cntrl (contours) vs BV avg (shaded)



ETKF versus BVs case study 2016 El Nino

- Ensemble spread versus analysis increment during build up to 2016 El Niño.
- BVs add similar flow dependent structures to ETKF background covariances.



ENSO Prediction case study

• Ensemble forecasts of NINO3.4 beginning January 2007 comparing isosurface BVs (F1) to BVs generated between 20° N- 20° N renormalised to 1% of the background RMSE (F0).

• Spread reduced in isosurface ensemble due to reduced error growth in regions unrelated to the thermocline.

• D1 is the reanalysed state estimates as compared to NCEP reanalysis v2.

Note: no SST perturbations are used in isosurface BVs - predictability comes from thermocline perturbations)



ENSO Prediction: ROC curves for NINO4

ROC curves of the F0 20°S-20°N (black) and F1 isosurface (red) hindcasts (3960 model years) for NINO4 calculated over a 15 year period (2 year lead-times, 11 members each starting every month over the period 2003 to July 2017)



Current work

- Assimilation of high resolution JRA-55 reanalysis data (hybrid sigma-pressure levels)
- Assimilation of OSISAF sea-ice concentration



ensemble spread 2014-06-06





Current work

Reanalysis and decadal prediction

- 1988-2018 Coupled reanalysis (96 member ETKF)
- 1960 onwards Hindcast / forecast 5 year leadtime initiated every season
 30 member ETKF + multiscale breeding

Model configurations and development

- CM2.1 (2 degree atmosphere, 1 degree ocean (MOM5)
- CM2.5 (50km atmosphere (AM2/LM2, 1/4 degree ocean (MOM5))
- CMFLOR (50km atmosphere, 1 degree ocean)
- ACCESS ESM1.5 comparison studies (future model for decadal MIPS)
- KPP ocean surface boundary layer parameterization (CVMix Griffies et al 2015)

Conclusion

- A properly observed ocean is required to constrain the slow climate "manifold"
- For multi-year forecasting we do not try to track the fast convective or synoptic scales of the atmosphere but rather excite the slow predictable modes coupled to the ocean.
- Optimal perturbations for state estimation are not necessarily optimal for forecasting a given climate mode at a given lead time and should be augmented or replaced by perturbations specific to the phenomena of interest.
- Here we show that it is possible on seasonal timescales to modulate the midtroposphere jets via targeted perturbations to the tropical thermocline however, how longer timescale memory residing in the subtropical oceans affects the atmosphere and predictability is still unclear.
- The CAFE system is being developed as a tool to target and understand the mechanisms by which coherent variability determines predictability in the climate system in the near term.

References

• O'Kane, T.J., P.A. Sandery, D.P. Monselesan, P. Sakov, M.A. Chamberlain, R. Matear, & M. Collier (2018) "Coupled data assimilation and ensemble initialization in CAFE with application to near term ENSO prediction." (In review)

Thank You

CSIRO Oceans & Atmosphere

Terence O'Kane

- t +61 3 6232 5066
- e terence.okane@csiro.au
- w http://people.csiro.au/O/T/Terence-OKane

http://nespclimate.com.au/decadal-prediction/

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