Updates on sub-seasonal to decadal prediction research in Japan



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Research & development highlights

- The new JMA seasonal prediction system (JMA/MRI-CPS3) is under development. (due in operation by 2022)
- Large ensemble experiment presents some preponderance for ENSO and IOD prediction. (SINTEX-F2)
- Seasonal-to-decadal prediction research using MIROC6 (model for CMIP6, Tatebe et al. 2018 GMD)

Next generation of the JMA Seasonal Ensemble Prediction System (JMA/MRI-CPS3)

Specifications of JMA/MRI-CPS3

| | JMA/MRI-CPS2 (operational since 2015) | JMA/MRI-CPS3 (due in operation by 2022) |
|--|---|---|
| Atmosphere (JMA-AGCM) | <i>TL159L60</i> , ~110km, Up to <i>0.1hPa</i> Stochastic Tendency Perturbation <i>GHG forcing</i> in RCP4.5 scenario | TL319L100 , ~55km , Up to 0.01hPa Stochastic Tendency Perturbation GHG forcing in SSP2-4.5 A1 scenario |
| Ocean (MRI.COM) (Tsujino et al 2010) | 1.0° (lon) x 0.3-0.5° (lat) L52+BBL Global Ocean with Tripolar Grids Sea-ice model | 0.25° (lon) x 0.25° (lat) L60 Global Ocean with Tripolar Grids Sea-ice model |
| Initial Condition | Atmosphere: JRA-55 Land: JRA-55 land analysis Ocean: MOVE/MRI.COM-G2 T, S & SSH Sea-ice model | Atmosphere: JRA-3Q Land: JRA-3Q land analysis Ocean: MOVE/MRI.COM-G3 4DVAR at low + IAU at full res. Sea-ice assimilation |
| Ensemble Size | 51 (13 BGMs, 4 days with 5-day LAF) | 51 (3-5 members per day, 11-17-day LAF, TBD) |



Ocean 4DVAR Analysis



Fig. SST in degrees Celsius at 30th July, 2010.

- 4DVAR+IAU gives better initial conditions over 3DVAR for seasonal EPS.
- Preliminary experiments have found positive impacts on ENSO forecast.
- Pilot ocean reanalysis (1990-) is on going to accommodate further tests.

ENSO asymmetry and ENSO feedbacks



- The model fails to reproduce ENSO asymmetry
- "too" regular and strong ENSO, suggesting severe lack of negative feedbacks during the events.

Shortwave radiation feedback in ENSO



Correlation between SST and net downward shortwave radiation flux at the surface

- Convective clouds during El Nino reflect downwelling shortwave flux back to space, serving as a negative feedback to SST.
- In the model, excessive low-level clouds disappear during ENSO as sea surface warms up, bringing a positive feedback to SST.

Stratocumulus scheme update



- Kawai et al. (2017) introduces an improved index to measure favorable conditions for stratocumulus to develop.
- With the index implemented in the st. scheme, the model now suppresses thick low-level cloud in NINO.3 and reproduces the negative shortwave radiation feedback.

Low clouds play a leading role in the relationship between clouds and surface temperature variability, amplifying ENSO-induced surface temperature anomalies through thermodynamically driven changes in the shortwave CRE. c.f. Lutsko (2018) GRL

ENSO-feedback diagnostics in previous system

ENSO thermal feedback

$$Q' = \alpha T'.$$



Matsueda and Takaya (2013, WGNE Blue book)

CGCM

FLAD

CGCM

NFLAD

15.00 10.00

5.00 0.00

-5.00

-10.00 -15.00

JRA55 MOVE-C

Nino 3 {Wm⁻²C⁻¹}

Merits of a 108-Member Ensemble System in ENSO and IOD Predictions

Merits of a 108-Member Ensemble System in ENSO and IOD Predictions (Doi et al. 2019, J.Climate)



Probability prediction of extremely strong ENSO and the Indian Ocean dipole (IOD) events is significantly improved in the larger ensemble.

Note: 108 ensemble members: 12 Burst (SINTEX-F2-3DVAR, Doi et al. 2017) * 9 days LAF

Seasonal-to-decadal predictions by MIROC6

Seasonal-to-decadal predictions by MIROC6



908

60S

• Significant skills are seen within limited regions such as the North Pacific and North Atlantic at lead year 5.



• Initialization system with LETKF has been continuously developed as well.

-0.9 -0.7 -0.5 -0.3 -0.1 0.1 0.3 0.5 0.7 0.9

0.5

0.4

0.3

0.2

0.1 -0 -

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Lead time (year) — MIROC6 Anom+JRA55 — MIROC5 Anom+NCEP

- - MIROC6 Hist

- - persistence

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