Creating a Sea-Level-Enabled E3SM: A critical capability for predicting coastal impacts

Matt Hoffman Los Alamos National Laboratory Sea-level change from recent land ice mass changes

– 0.02 – 0.015 – 0.01 – 0.005 – 0 – 0 – 0.005 – -0.005 – -0.015 – -0.02

Energy Exascale Earth System Model

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(LANL)







Challenges

 Sea-level change is major impact of climate change, but Earth system models only account for the ocean contribution

 Sea-level change varies regionally due to ocean and solid Earth processes







Project Objectives

- Produce diagnostic evaluation of regional sea-level change in E3SM accounting for
 - land ice mass changes
 - terrestrial water storage changes
 - solid Earth deformation and gravitation changes
 - ocean density changes
 - ocean dynamics changes
- Add regional sea level representation to ocean & ice-sheet models
- Quantify sea-level/Earth-system feedbacks
 - Sea-level/ice-sheet interactions
 - Sea-level/ocean interactions





Contributions to Regional Sea Level



Earth System Model

Sea-Level/Ice-Sheet Feedbacks



Figure 1. Schematic showing effects of ice-sheet melting on sea level (adopted from Fyke et al., 2017)







Book et al. EPSL (2020)

EACH System Model Solid Earth response to dynamic sea-level

- **Dynamic sea level** = deviation of sea surface height from geoid
- Predicted using global ocean models
- Mass redistribution from DSL is a load change to the solid earth.



Research Question:

How much does solid Earth deformation modify DSL?



EAST Solid Earth response to dynamic sea-level

Dynamic sea level projections

- Height variation of ocean surface due to ocean dynamics
- E3SM v1, 2015-2100





Additional sea-level change due to deformation & gravitation

- 1-D Sea-Level Model (Han et al. 2020)
- Apply ΔDSL as surface load change



- 0.05 - 0.04 - 0.02 - 0.01 (E) - 0.00 (E) - -0.01 (E) - -0.02 - -0.03 - -0.04 - -0.05

ADSL (m)



Machine learning emulation of regional sea-level model





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Yoo et al. JGR-MLC (submitted) https://arxiv.org/pdf/2406.17729

Outcomes

Career Growth with ECR

- Build reputation & collaborators in new discipline
 - Sophie Coulson University of New Hampshire
 - Holly Han NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory
- ECR experience springboard to PI SciDAC project (FAnSSIE)
- Sea-Level Focus Group Co-Lead for Ice Sheet Model Intercomparison Project (ISMIP7)

Lessons Learned

- identify critical gaps
- interproject coordination critical
- working at intersection of disciplines requires finding common language, which takes time
- people make the project
- best software practices are best for a reason



Acknowledgements



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