COUPLING 3D OCEAN BAROCLINICITY INTO 2D DEPTH-INTEGRATED COASTAL OCEAN MODELS

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MOTIVATION

For a certain storm, flooding risks for coastal cities change based on long term, seasonal, and other (e.g. climate induced) variabilities in water levels

- Long term warming of the ocean and melting of glaciers
- Seasonal warming and cooling



- Changes in ocean current systems
- Changes to freshwater runoff
- Interaction of winds and nearshore stratification

Tidal Flooding Is Rising with the Sea

The frequency of high-tide flooding has doubled over the past 30 vears along U.S. coasts, driven by rising sea levels. This chart shows the average number of days per year across tide gauges tracked by NOAA.

U.S. HIGH-TIDE FLOODING AND COASTAL SEA LEVEL 1920-2017



PROBLEM

Tide + Surge analysis is often conducted using 2D barotropic model

Model does not take into account vertical density structure

□ 3D models are being used more for surge analysis but..

- 3D model is more sensitive and adds a greater degree of freedom compared to 2D
- > Horizontal resolution, temporal resolution, and domain size typically sacrificed

3D baroclinic ROMS coupled system during Hurricane Isabel

J.C., Armstrong, B., He, R., Zambon, J.B., 2010. Development of a Coupled Ocean-Atmosphere-Wave-Sediment Transport (COAWST) Modeling System. Ocean Model. 35, 230–244. doi:10.1016/j.ocemod.2010.07.0100



WRF+ROMS+SWAN

4

3

2

0

3

-60

MY SOLUTION

- Feed a 2D barotropic model (ADCIRC here) internal density information from an operational and freely available 3D baroclinic ocean model (HYCOM)
- Preserve the high horizontal and temporal resolution, and numerical stability associated with 2D barotropic models that makes them so useful
- Accounts for the effects of 3D ocean baroclinicity on coastal water levels
- Leverages on the quality of existing widely validated and used ocean circulation models (e.g. HYCOM)



30°N

METHOD

- *PB* calculated from the density ρ on the HYCOM-GOFS 3.1 grid and interpolated to 2D ADCIRC model
- GOFS 3.1 outputs (T and S) converted to ρ
- Internal tide wave drag parameterization uses buoyancy frequencies computed from GOES 3.1



$$\frac{\partial \boldsymbol{u}}{\partial t} + (\boldsymbol{u} \cdot \nabla)\boldsymbol{u} + f\boldsymbol{k} \times \boldsymbol{u} = -\nabla \left[\frac{p_s}{\rho_0} + g(\zeta - \zeta_{EQ} - \zeta_{SAL}) \right] \\ + \frac{\nabla M}{H} - \frac{\nabla D}{H} + \frac{\nabla B}{H} + \frac{\tau_s}{\rho_0 H} - \frac{\tau_b}{\rho_0 H} - \frac{\mathcal{F}_{IT}}{\mathcal{F}_{IT}} \\ \text{Internal tide wave drag} \\ \bullet \text{ Baroclinic pressure gradient (BPG):} \\ \nabla B = \int_{-h}^{\zeta} \left(g \nabla \left[\int_{z}^{\zeta} \frac{\rho - \rho_0}{\rho_0} \right] dz \right) dz \\ \text{Momentum Dispersion due to non-uniform velocity structure}$$

Need to parameterize, e.g. through additional bottom friction and horizontal mixing

(see e.g., Pringle, W.J., et al., 2018. Finite-Element Barotropic Model for the Indian and Western Pacific Oceans: Tidal Model-Data Comparisons and Sensitivities. Ocean Model. 129, 13–38. doi:10.1016/j.ocemod.2018.07.003

MacKinnon, J.A., et al., 2017: <u>Climate Process</u> Team on Internal Wave–Driven Ocean <u>Mixing.</u> Bull. Amer. Meteor. Soc., 98, 2429 2454, https://doi.org/10.1175/BAMS-D-16-0030.

APPLICATION TO PUERTO RICO AND US VIRGINISLANDS (PRVI)U.S. 1005 - NOAA Coastal and
Ocean Modeling Testbed Project

- Maximum resolution ~8 km in ocean (same as HYCOM GOFS 3.1)
- ~30m resolution around PRVI coast and shelf breaks
- Force with CFSv2 atmospheric data

19⁰N

40

20'

40'

68°W

67°W

18⁰N

PRVI high-resolution region

66°W

65°W

North Atlantic Ocean Domain ~1.5 million nodes (HYCOM has ~30 million wet nodes in same region)



RESULTS FROM PUERTO RICO IN 2017





30-day moving average



HIGH-FREQUENCY SPECTRAL DENSITIES





Yearly Errors/Skill Level



8

HURRICANES IRMA AND MARIA



PRVI15

9

30'

15'

GLOBAL TIDE AND SURGE MODELING WITH OCEAN-CIRCULATION COUPLING Forcing with





Global Meshing achieved through Stereographic projection: Wraps around globe and is conformal

Implemented in **OceanMesh2D**:



https://github.com/CHLNDDEV/OceanMesh2D/tree/Projection

SEA SURFACE HEIGHT VARIABILITY (NO TIDES)

Ocean-circulation coupled ADCIRC



MEAN TOTAL KINETIC ENERGY (NO TIDES)

Ocean-circulation coupled ADCIRC



SUMMARY

Ocean baroclinic coupled coastal ocean models can be useful tool for taking into account the effects of seasonal fluctuations, local baroclinic effects, and the effects of climate change on the coastal zone

Demonstrated improvements to capturing coastal water level signal including seasonal variability and TC ocean cooling effects around PRVI

Currently developing Global Tide and Surge model that efficiently predicts global coastal flooding taking into account density stratification