







### Polar Ocean Predictions: Opportunities and Challenges in a Rapidly Changing Environment

Gregory Smith Env. Canada



Heather Regan, NERSC

#### **Disclaimer:**

- if you want to hear about sea ice, you are too late!
- IICWG-DA workshop was in Frascati 5-7th Nov.
- Heavy Arctic bias in this presentation... (100%)



**Model processes** 

Operations

#### Conclusion

# Polar regions are warming

HIGH NORTH NEWS	* *	
Business Politics Science Arctic Living Opinions Newsletter		٩

HOME

#### State of the Climate Report 2023: The Fourth Warmest Year on Record for the Arctic

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<b>Climate crisis</b>	s 🔤	• This article is mo	re than <b>2 years old</b>					
New data reveals ex		xtraordin	ary glo	bal <sup>M</sup>	st viewed			
		heating in th		the Arctic			At lease dead a and flo	st 63 people feare fter torrential ra oods in Spain
	Temperatures in the Barents Sea region are 'off the scale' and may affect extreme weather in the US and Europe			Two w BA flig over M	omen removed ht 'after altercat laga cap'			



Search NOAA sites

Warmest Arctic summer on record is evidence of accelerating climate change



The spring temperatures in Russia and Norway break records

May 2024 has been a few degrees warmer than normal.





esco 2021

Introduction	Observations: gaps and opportunities	Model processes	0	perations	Conclusion
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Model processes

Conclusion

# Consequences...

- Rapid changes in atmosphere coincides with sea ice losses and ocean warming
  - Significant increase in occurrence and intensity of marine heat waves
  - Impacts on marine habitats and species migration
  - Driving new needs for ocean predictions

)cean



Barkhordarian et al., 2024 (https://www.nature.com/articles/s43247-024-









Climate change comes

with opportunities ...

**Model processes** 

The growing need for improved polar predictions

**Operations** 

Photo by Chilean Navy/Reuters

and risks!

Conclusion

Oil spill in ice: Is the OceanPredict community ready?

- Increase in maritime traffic and exploitation of marine resources in the Arctic
- Predictive power of traditional knowledge is breaking down
- Support for Antarctic operations and understanding of ice shelf stability
- More open water leading to greater need for "traditional" ocean prediction products (e.g. currents, storm surge, waves)





Photo from Llodys report

Jung et al. (BAMS, 2016)





# ...but gaps in observations

 Ice cover hinders use of traditional remote sensing measurements (SST, SLA)

Introduction

- In situ coverage extremely sparse compared to other regions
- Yet, need for accurate predictions of water mass properties and mesoscale circulation (like other regions in the world)
- Some important improvements over recent years....
  - But climatology remains unreliable







February salinity [PSS] at the surface (quarter-degree grid)



# Various international efforts underway to address gaps in Arctic ocean observations

- EU4oceanobs (www.eu4oceanobs.eu)
- Arctic Passion (https://arcticpassion.eu/
  - $\circ~$  Pan-Arctic Observing System of Systems pan-AOSS
- ArcticROOS
- EuroArgo (<u>www.euro-argo.eu</u>)
- ARCGOOS (Lee et al., 2019)
- HiAOOS (hiaoos.eu)











# Increasing open water areas could be opportunity for more observations

<u>In situ</u>

- Saildrones
- Marine mammals
- Underwater cables\*
- Ships of opportunity
- Profiling floats (ALAMO, Argo, gliders ... )

### **Satellites**

- Altimeters (SSH, winds, waves, sea ice)
- Passive microwaves (sea ice, SST, SSS, winds)
- SAR (sea ice, winds, waves, doppler currents...)
- Infrared (SST)
- Visible (Ocean colour)

\*Note also potential use of underwater cables for tomography, geolocation of Argo floats,...











## Numerous efforts to address polar gap

- PolarArgo: New Argo technologies

   e.g. Le Traon et al. (2020)
   More robust hardware to resist ice damage
   Ice detection (ability to abort float asscent)
   Storage of under-ice profiles
   Float localization under-ice
- OneArgo Decade project • see OP24 talk by B. King



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**Model processes** 

## Potential impact of Argo floats on Ocean State Estimate



Arctic Observing System Simulation Experiments (OSSEs)

- Lyu et al. (2021):
  - 1x1° Arctic profiling array could substantially improve watermass properties
- Nguyen et al. (2020):
  - OSSE with Argo floats seeded in the Arctic basin
     Impact strongly sensitive to ability of floats to surface

Mean normalized temperature error (Nguyen et al., 2020)









# Arctic OSE results

- Data withholding experiments performed using YOPP in situ observations over summer 2018 using regional ocean analysis system (RIOPS).
- With YOPP data, sea ice increments are smaller for a rapid freeze up event suggesting 7d trial fields provided a more accurate estimate of conditions.
- Salinity increments using YOPP data freshen and stratify mixed layer allowing faster surface cooling leading to better representation of rapid ice formation event in Beaufort/Chukchi Sea
- Impact of in situ observations strongly affected by satellite altimetry

#### Sea ice concentration increment for 2018-10-17





Model processes

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# **Satellite altimetry**

- Increasing open water areas provide greater potential impact of altimetry
- SWOT has potential to improve constraint on smaller scales present in the Arctic
  - Lots of cross-overs near 79N
- Also, altimetry in leads (Prandi et al., 2021)
- However, inaccuracies in MDT due to short observation period an issue (Pujol et al., 2018)



14 days of SWOT data from NERSC virtual laboratory (20240915)











Project Clean Arctic: Assimilation of absolute dynamic topography data in an ocean assimilation system for the Arctic

- Developed new Absolute Dynamic Topography (ADT) dataset over the Arctic.
  - Avoids the need for Mean Dynamic Topography (as for SLA assimilation)
- Assimilated ADT in Regional Ice-Ocean Prediction System
  - Required various adaptations for spatial scales and under-ice assimilation
- Significant impact on basin-scale sea level and transports through key Arctic gateways

#### Smith et al. (2024)

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Model processes

### Preliminary results of assimilation of early SWOT observations

- Assessed the impact of assimilation both real and synthetic SWOT observations in Regional Ice Ocean Prediction System (RIOPS)
- 4-km resolution over the Arctic (inc. tides)
- SWOT data: AVISO Level 3, release v0.3
- Evaluated for 2023-09-13 to 2023-11-22

cean

- OSE1: Assimilate only 2 altimeters (Cryosat2, Jason3)
- OSE2: Impact of SWOT+2 nadir
- Reduction of RMS differences in GIN and Beaufort Seas

RMS difference compared to all SLA observations





Conclusion

### Assimilating SMOS SSS can reduce errors compared to CTD data...



### ... and can have large effects on Freshwater content



# Effect of assimilating SSS from SMOS

- Assimilating sea surface salinity can reduce biases
  - This could have important effects for ocean stratification and sea ice freeze/melt
  - However, sources of uncertainty leading to the differences remain











- Pacific / Bering Strait (2.500 km3/yr)
  - Moorings: 0.8 Sv, increasing (Woodgate et al. 2018)
  - Often 1.4 Sv in models
- Rivers (2.900 km3 / yr)
  - Increasing ... ٠
- Glacial melt
  - Lacks streamflow measurements •
  - Mostly going to North Atlantic, not Central Arctic
- Sea ice melt (300 km3 / yr, Edel et al. 2024)
  - Reduced ice thickness abruptly in 2007 •
    - Uncertainties: Lacking observations of snow depth and sea ice density
  - Export in Fram Strait is reducing
- Precipitations evaporation

Introduction

- Increase moisture flux (correlated with the AO) ٠
  - North of 60N: 8.500 km3/yr -> 9.000 km3/yr ٠
- **Reduced evaporation** ٠
- acks observations of snowfall à la Edel et al. 2020 (CLOUDSAT)









Model processes

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# **Big spread in modelled SSS...**











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### Challenges in Ocean Modelling: small scale

- Importance of small scales in the Arctic and important exchanges through open boundaries and between shelf and interior.
- e.g. MacKinnon et al. (2021): Processes affecting heat redistribution associated with subduction of warm(er) Pacific waters in Beaufort Gyre
- Demonstrates example of processes affecting heat exchange and driving submesoscale circulation that ocean models need to capture.









# **Presence of eddies**

#### Eddies are detected in observations...



#### can affect transports through key gateways



High-resolution simulations also show imprint of eddies on sea ice



Manucharyan and Thompson, 2022 (Nature)

#### The Arctic is a "quiet" ocean, but how quiet should it be?

**Operations** 

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Model processes

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Model processes

### New possibilities to inform model processes in the MIZ from satellites

- e.g. using Doppler shift to retrieve surface currents in the MIZ, or detecting waves under floes
- Multisensor approaches to diagnose contributions and reduce uncertainty



**Figure 1.1.** MIZ structures in the Denmark Strait on 14th November 2020: (a) Sea ice concentration derived from the thermal infrared sensor (MODIS) and passive microwave radiometer (AMSR2) observations (Ludwig et al. 2020), black barbs indicate wind field at 10m height at time of SAR acquisition from ECMWF; (b) Sea ice and Ocean surface radial velocities derived from the Sentinel-1B Doppler Centroid Anomaly - negative/positive values indicate motion to the left/right; (c) Surface roughness from Sentinel-1B. The yellow curves display the sea ice edge derived in the left image. The presence of a clockwise rotating mesoscale eddy is marked with white arrows. All datasets are provided at a 1 km grid resolution.

#### Figure courtesy of A. Moiseev



#### Collard et al. (2022)







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# Waves increasingly important in Arctic?

- Models suggest strong effects on sea ice growth, melt and mobility in MIZ, and potential growth in wave-affected area in sea ice
- How to validate such models?
- Altimetry detection of wave-affected area:
  - Horvat et al. 2020: IceSat-2 (detection of wave trough in-ice)
  - Zhu et al. 2023: CryoSat-2 (from waveform power and the waveform stack statistics)
- Main challenge: How to link this waveaffected area to more quantitative (and measurable) properties of the ice/wave state? (like wave height, floe size...)



Horvat et al. (2020)





0.2 <u>0</u>

concentration

### Limited available in-situ wave observations

Historically, few in-situ data collected, even less available

- Open Met Buoy program: cheap & light buoys
  - Almost 200 <u>publicly</u> trajectories available since 2018 (mostly Barents/Greenland area); Rabault et al (2023)
- And also "Swift" buoys and moorings from APL-UW (mostly for the Beaufort area); Thomson et al (2023)

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Note: no operational forecast model currently has two-way coupling with waves and sea ice (very costly...)



#### scientific **data**

### OPEN A dataset of direct observations of sea ice drift and waves in ice

Jean Rabaut (2<sup>125</sup>, Malte Nüller (2<sup>14</sup>), Losy Vaernans<sup>1</sup>, Dmitry Brazhnikov<sup>1</sup>, Ian Tumbull<sup>1</sup>, Aleksey Machenko<sup>1</sup>, Marini Bulw<sup>2</sup>, Takehiko Nose<sup>2</sup>, Takeji Wasea<sup>1</sup>, Malti Johanson (2<sup>14</sup>), Øyvind Breivik<sup>12,13</sup>, Graig Sutherland<sup>14</sup>, Lars Robert Hole<sup>13</sup>, Mark Johnson<sup>1</sup>, Atle Jensen<sup>14</sup>, Olav Gundersen<sup>12</sup>, Yingye Kristoffersen<sup>16</sup>, Alexander Babanin<sup>6</sup>, Paulina Tedesco (2<sup>14</sup>), Kai Haskon Christensen (2<sup>14</sup>), Hantir Kristiansen<sup>17</sup>, Goarte Hope<sup>2</sup>, Tsubasa Kodaira<sup>1</sup>, Victor de Agula<sup>11</sup>, Catherine Taelman<sup>11</sup>, Cornelius P. Quigley<sup>11</sup>, Kirill Filchuk<sup>18</sup> & Andrew R Manopy<sup>13</sup>





Conclusion

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#### **Observations: gaps and opportunities** Model processes Introduction **Operations MIZ highly coupled: dedicated campaigns useful**

#### Observed cold air outbreak and southerly storm event in Svalbard, 2024

### Coupling experiment, May 2023





#### Courtesy M. Muller, MET Norway

Important for weather forecasting...

- Coupled atm-ocean vs operational (non-coupled) system •
  - Only coupling ocean mixing processes (1D GOTM water column) 0
  - Ocean currents neglected for efficiency
- Positive impact on air temperatures through coupling, especially for the coastal stations.

Coupled vs. Uncoupled

**Jre STDE** 

Courtesy Y. Batrak, MET Norway

Conclusion



**F CUS** 







Introduction

Model processes

### **Uncertainty in surface fluxes- Example**



#### Iceland Greenland Sea Project OBSERVATIONS

- Multiplatforms atmospheric & ocean
  - met buoy, research ship,
     radiosondes & aircraft
- Captures multiple Greenland *cold air outbreaks*



#### **CAPS operational (2018)**

- Uncoupled version running in operations starting Feb 2018 and fully coupled starting in June 2018. Currently being reinstalled.
  - 48h forecast (2x per day)
- Initialized with daily SST & ice analysis at 25km res.









### CAPS (uncoupled) vs IGSP YOPP Observations





- Cold biases over the ice (lack of leads)
- Overestimated wind speeds over ice
- Sensible heat fluxes
  - Underestimated sensible heat flux over the ice (too few leads)
  - Overestimated sensible heat fluxes at ice edge
    - abrupt transition vs. observations
    - overestimated against ship data (>100 Wm<sup>-2</sup> differences)
- Biases all highly dependent ice edge location & representation

See presentation by F. Dupont for details

JP Paquin, M. Gheta, F Dupont, ECCC

Model processes

### Physical properties at all scales must be accurate in order to accurately model biology in models

- Ice algae grows earlier than ocean algae
- Very important for zooplankton





Ocean Predict



# **Biogeochemistry expected to change...**





...but uncertainties and simplifications in ecosystem models are compounded by errors and uncertainties in modelled physical properties (sea ice, T, S, transports...)

 Assimilation of surface chlorophyll changes modelled values in top 100 metres...



Fig. 3. Comparison of simulated Chlorophyll profiles to BGC-Argo buoys (panel a). The model root mean square error (RMSE) is shown in panel-b, note the inclusion of surface chlorophyll from satellite in January 2017 and the logarithmic scale for concentrations.

#### Bertino et al., 2021 (EUROGOOS)





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## Sea ice impacts on upper ocean

- Accurate sea ice thickness distribution, not just total!
  - Freshwater inputs and stratification
  - Heat budget
  - Momentum transfer
  - SIN'XS project is a nice example of coordinated database of sea ice thickness









## Sea ice impacts on upper ocean

- Accurate sea ice thickness distribution, not just total!
  - Freshwater inputs and stratification
  - Heat budget
  - Momentum transfer
  - SIN'XS project is a nice example of coordinated database of sea ice thickness
- Dynamic sea ice response to storms (leading to shear-induced mixing)

   A dynamic ice cover gives increased heat, momentum, and gas exchanges
   SIDFEx is a nice example of intercomparison of sea ice drift



Model processes

Model processes

### Main novelties in sea ice developments

- Increasing diversity of rheologies (e.g. BBM, EAP), and intercomparisons (e.g. SIREX)
- Improved thermodynamics in forecasting systems
- Introduction of wave-ice interaction and floesize distribution
- How much can AI help to reduce costs, improve accuracy, generate ensembles...





Operations



Conclusion

#### Figure courtesy of J. Brajard





BBM North Pole

Olason et al (2022)





Model processes

### Al for sea ice







### What is the current status of Arctic forecasts?

### Global: 10 models

Model	Domain	Coupling	Resolution	Availability	Website and/or reference
ECMWF	Global	IFS fully	1/10 degree	Free for member	https://www.ecmwf.int/en/forecasts/
		coupled		states; fee for	datasets/set-i
				commercial users	
GIOPS	Global	NEMO-	12 km	Data and visual	Smith et al., 2016
		CICE			
MOI	Global	NEMO-	3.5 km	Data and visual	https://data.marine.copernicus.eu/pro
		LIM2			duct/GLOBAL_ANALYSISFOREC
					AST_PHY_001_024/description
GOFS3.1	Global	НҮСОМ-	3.5 km	Data and visual	Metzger et al., 2014
		CICE			
GOFS16	Global	NEMO-	3.5 km	Visual	https://gofs.cmcc.it/backend/public/g
		LIM2			ofs/short-description.html
Met Office	Global	UM-JULES-	12 km	Not readily	https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/servic
coupled DA		NEMO-		available	es/data/met-office-data-for-
		CICE			reuse/model
Met Office	Global	NEMO-	3.5 km	Not readily	https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/servic
FOAM		CICE		available	es/data/met-office-data-for-
					reuse/model
RTOFS	Global	HYCOM-	3.5 km	Data and visual	https://polar.ncep.noaa.gov/global/da
		CICE			ta_access.shtml
NAVY-	Global	HYCOM-	1/25 degree	Limited availability	Barton et al., 2021
ESPC		CICE-		as registered user	
		NAVGEM			
FIO-COM10	Global	MOM5-SIS	1/10 degree	Not readily	Shao et al., 2023
		with		available	
		MASNUM			
		wave			

### Regional: 8 models

Model	Domain	Coupling	Resolution	Availability	Website and/or reference
ArcIOPS	Regional	MITgcm	18 km	Not readily available	http://www.oceanguide.org.cn/TceInd exHome/ThicknessIce; Liang et al., 2019
DMI	Regional and coastal	HYCOM- CICE	10 km	Visual	https://ocean.dmi.dk/models/hycom. uk.php: Ponsoni et al., 2023
neXtSIM-F	Regional	neXtSIM	7.5 km*	Data and visual	https://data.marine.copernicus.eu/pro duct/ARCTIC_ANALYSISFOREC AST_PHY_ICE_002_011/descriptio n: Williams et al., 2021
NIPR**	Regional	N/A	?	Visual	https://www.nipr.ac.jp/sea_ice/e/fore cast/
NOAA PSL (CAFS)	Regional	POP2-CICE- WRF	10 km	Data and visual	https://psl.noaa.gov/forecasts/seaice/ about.html
RIOPS	Regional	NEMO- CICE	3.5 km	Data and visual	https://science.gc.ca/eic/site/063.nsf/ eng/h_97620.html; Smith et al., 2021
TOPAZ5	Regional	HYCOM- CICE (+ ECOSMO)	6km	Data and visual	https://data.marine.copernicus.eu/pro duct/ARCTIC_ANALYSIS_FOREC AST_PHYS_002_001_a/description
VENUS	Regional and coastal	IcePOM- WW3	2.5 km coastal	On demand	Yamaguchi, 2013

### Coastal: 4 models

Model	Domain	Coupling	Resolution	Availability	Website and/or reference
Barents-2.5	Coastal	ROMS-	2.5 km	Data and visual	https://ocean.met.no/models; Röhrs
		CICE			et al., 2023
CIOPS	Coastal	NEMO-	5 km	Data	Paguin et al. (2024)
01015		CICE			raquin et al. (2024)
NOAA Ice	Coastal	N/A (free	N/A; visual	Visual	Grumbine, 1998
Drift**		drift)	on 0.5 x 0.5		
			degree grid		
Stormsurge	Coastal	ROMS	4 km	Data + warning	https://ocean.met.no/models
		barotropic			

Operations

# What do users want?

- Ice charts at 100m resolution!
- Trajectories (icebergs, oil spills, man-over-board...)
- Single access to different ranges of forecasts from planning to operations
- Model outputs for forecasts, not climate: ice strength, ridging, pressure...
- Presentation of trustworthiness of forecasts
- Reliability of forecasts...





## What can we do to increase user uptake?

- Pulling together different forecasts in the Arctic, but no coordination in products and services
- Potential for developing a multimodel ensemble.
  - Could highlight uncertainties in water mass properties and circulation.
  - Communicate strengths and weaknesses to users (via shared validation metrics or similar)
  - Draw attention to services in the Arctic
- Arctic DCC task team trying to work on these!









### **Key challenges in polar environmental prediction**

- Increased understanding of polar processes to allow improved formulation of ocean prediction models and parameterization schemes in the polar regions.
  - Atm-ice-ocean heat, freshwater and momentum fluxes
  - Role of submesoscale and chaotic intrinsic variability
  - Strong sensitivity to ocean model numerics and mixing
- Recommendations for an optimized Arctic and Antarctic observing system to benefit predictions in polar regions and beyond.
  - ArcticArgo: Technical challenges significantly reduced, problem is lack of sustained funding, limited deployment opportunities
  - Better use could be made of satellite altimetry in polar regions to constrain smaller scales. However, ensembles will likely remain essential to adequately sample uncertainty.
  - International coordination efforts essential to implement OceanObs'19 recommendations





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# **IPY 2032-33: A role for OceanPredict?**

International Polar Year (2032-33) provides opportunity to demonstrate importance of polar observations for Environmental Prediction and inform observing system design.



Introduction

UN

**Observations: gaps and opportunities** 

**Model processes** 

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**ADVANCING OCEAN PREDICTION SCIENCE FOR SOCIETAL BENEFITS** 

Thank you!







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# **Recommendations from OO19**

- Deploy and support operationally an Arctic network of ice-borne measurement systems
  - Adapt technologies developed in Arctic for use in Antarctic as well
- Re-evaluate observing system design to account for changing patterns of ice-cover
  - Use of open-water observing systems (e.g. Argo and gliders) in seasonally ice-free areas
- Make better use of ships of opportunity, especially given increase in marine traffic in the Arctic
- Improve availability of near-real time in situ observations for calibration of remote sensing products.
  - Efforts involving multi-platform calibration are needed to improve remote sensing products
- Expand efforts for sea ice thickness use in environmental prediction
  - In particular, require products for southern ocean









# **Recommendations from OO19**

- Call for coordinated efforts (including QND, OSEs and OSSEs) to enhance the Arctic and Southern Ocean observing networks
  - $\circ$  ~ In particular, require OSEs using real-time prediction systems and multi-system exercises
- Require collocated information about the state of the atmosphere, sea ice and ocean, to be used for improving interfacial fluxes (esp. covariance measurements)
- Open access to real-time data is a critical capability for improved sea-ice and weather forecasting and other environmental prediction needs
  - Prioritize real-time dissemination of in-situ observations in polar regions to global data assembly centers
- International collaboration will continue to be key for facilitating deployment of polar ocean instrument systems, including the fielding of drifting and anchored buoys, floats and gliders and free, rapid dissemination of the resulting data







### **Recommendations (2 / 2)**

### **Outlook**

, are they worth the cost?

# Important role for OceanPredict to play in answering this question

YOPP Final Summit 2022 provides opportunity to demonstrate importance of polar observations for Environmental Prediction and inform observing system design.



### **Canadian Arctic Prediction System (CAPS)**

High-resolution coupled atmosphere-ice-ocean prediction system

#### • In support of :

- Weather prediction for northern Canada
- EC METAREAs Services
- Marine emergency response
- Study impact of fine-scale interactions
- YOPP Community support
- Coupled atmosphere-ice-ocean model
  - Ice-ocean: NEMO-CICE (3-8 km)
    - Tides, landfast ice
  - Atmosphere: GEM (3 km)
    - Predicted particle properties microphysics
  - 48 h forecasts (2/day)
  - Uncoupled since Jan. 24, 2018
  - Coupled since Jun. 28, 2018
  - Decommissioned in Feb. 2022
  - To be re-instated in 2024!





Casati et al. (Atm-Ocean, 2023)

### Global ensemble cou

- Developed in response to need by Ice services for long-range forecast guidance
- 32d coupled forecasts now produced operationally with 21 members weekly
- Required new verification metrics
  - Integrated Ice Extent Error (Goessling et al., 2016)
  - Stochastic probability score(SPS; Goessling and Jung 2018)
- System is underdispersive due to use of a single ice-ocean initial condition
  - onetheless, it shows valuable skill w.r.t coministic system and persistence provehout the year.
    - Largest errors during melt season











# **Ensemble uncertainties (Laurent)**







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