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Efficient recovery of multi-year ocean field in the marginal ice zone with uncertainty quantification

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Abstract Text:

Understanding the multi-year time evolution of the ocean flow field in the Arctic marginal ice zone (MIZ) significantly impacts the climate system. Despite the lack of direct observations of the ocean velocity due to the ice coverage, the trajectories of individual floes extracted from satellite images can be used as Lagrangian observations to infer the underneath ocean field. However, the cloud covers constantly blur the satellite images and lead to the break of these Lagrangian trajectories. Meanwhile, key parameters, such as the thickness of each floe, need to be estimated. In this talk, we will present an efficient modeling and data assimilation framework. A simple discrete element model is coupled to a set of reduced-order stochastic models for the atmosphere and ocean fields that allows using closed analytic formulae to infer the ocean field with a quantification of the uncertainty. The framework also automatically estimates thickness and other key parameters using semi-analytic statistical inference. The framework will be used to study the variation of the ocean field in the MIZ in different years over the 21st century to better understand the impact of the climate on ocean and sea ice dynamics.

Session Selection:

NG004. Efficient Data-Driven Methods for Multiscale Stochastic Modeling and Uncertainty Quantification

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