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Analysis of Remotely Sensed Ocean Data by the Optimal Spectral Decomposition (OSD) Method

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- Chu, P.C., L.M. Ivanov, O.M. Melnichenko, and N.C. Wells, 2007: On long baroclinic Rossby Waves in the tropical North Atlantic observed from profiling floats. Journal of Geophysical Research Oceans, 112, C05032, doi:10.1029/2006JC003698
- These papers can be downloaded from:
- <u>http://faculty.nps.edu/pcchu</u>





How can we effectively use remotely observed data to represent and to model/predict the ocean state?







Outline

- (1) Theory and Methodology
- (2) Application
 - ARGO Data: Baroclinic Rossby Waves in Tropical Atlantic
 - CODAR Data: Monterey Bay Surface Circulation

Part-1 Theory and Methodology

Spectral Representation - a Possible Alternative Method

Theoretical Base: Fourier Series Expansion

$$c(\mathbf{x}, z_k, t) = A_0(z_k, t) + \sum_{m=1}^M A_m(z_k, t) \Psi_m(\mathbf{x}, z_k),$$

Basis Functions (Closed Basin)

$$\Delta \Psi_k = -\lambda_k \Psi_k, \quad \Psi_k|_{\Gamma} = 0, \qquad k = 1, ..., \infty$$

$$\Delta \Phi_m = -\mu_m \Phi_m, \quad \frac{\partial \Phi_m}{\partial n}|_{\Gamma} = 0, \qquad m = 1, ..., \infty.$$

Eremeev et al. (1992 JGR)

Basis Functions (Open Boundaries) (Chu et al., 2003 a,b JTECH)

$$\triangle \Psi_k = -\lambda_k \Psi_k,$$

$$\Delta \Phi_m = -\mu_m \Phi_m,$$

$$\Psi_k|_{\Gamma} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial \Phi_m}{\partial n}|_{\Gamma} = 0,$$

$$\left[\frac{\partial \Psi_k}{\partial n} + \kappa(\tau)\Psi_k\right]|_{\Gamma_1'} = 0, \quad \Phi_m|_{\Gamma_1'} = 0,$$

Boundary Conditions



Benefit of Using OSD

• Ocean Topographic Configuration \rightarrow

Basis Functions (Pre-Determined)

Optimal Mode Truncation

$$J(a_{1,...,}a_{K}, b_{1,...,}b_{M}, \kappa, P) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\left\| u_{p}^{obs} - u_{KM} \right\|_{P}^{2} + \left\| v_{p}^{obs} - v_{KM} \right\|_{P}^{2} \right) \to \min,$$

$$J_{emp} = J(a_{1,...,}a_{K,b_{1,...,}}b_{M},\kappa,P).$$

$$\operatorname{Prob}\left\{\sup_{K,M,S} \left| \langle J(K,M,S) \rangle - J_{emp}(K,M,S) \right| \ge \mu \right\} \le g(P,\mu)$$

$$\lim_{P\to\infty}g(P,\mu)=0$$

Optimal Truncation

 Gulf of Mexico, Monterey Bay, Louisiana-Texas Shelf, Tropical Atlantic

Determination of Spectral Coefficients (III-Posed Algebraic Equation)

$A\hat{a} = QY,$

Part 2 Applications

2.1. Argo Drifters



- http://www.argo.net/index_flash.html
- 3000 Argo drifters → Sampling the Global Ocean



Opportunities

- (1) 4D (T, S) fields
- (2) Deep ocean currents
- (3) Physical phenomena → Rossby wave propagation in mid-depth, …

Challenges

- Argo (T, S) profile and drift data
 - \rightarrow Noisy and inhomogeneously distributed

ARGO Observations (Oct-Nov 2004)

(a) Subsurface tracks

(b) Float positions where (T,S) were measured





Circulations at 1000 m estimated from the original ARGO float tracks (bin method) April 2004 – April 2005



It is difficult to use such noisy data into ocean numerical models.

Boundary Configuration \rightarrow Basis Functions for OSD



Basis Functions for Streamfunction Mode-1 and Mode-2



Circulations at 1000 m (March 04 to May 05) Bin Method OSD



Baroclinic Rossby Waves in Tropical North Atlantic

Annual Component



Semi-annual Component



Characteristics of Annual Rossby Waves

	March, 04 – May, 05 float data			March, 04 – May, 06 float data		
Latitude	$c_p \text{ (cm/s)}$	<i>L</i> ₁ (km)	L_2 (km)	$c_p \text{ (cm/s)}$	<i>L</i> ₁ (km)	L_2 (km)
5 ⁰ N	12	1200	1100	12	1300	900
8 ⁰ N	16	2500	1400	12	2100	1100
11 ⁰ N	14	2200	1400	11	1900	1100
13 ⁰ N	11	2100	1500	10	2300	1500

Western Basin

Eastern Basin Western Basin Eastern Basin

CODAR



Monterey Bay





Place for comments: left - radar derived currents for 17:00 UT December 1, 1999 right – reconstructed velocity field.



Conclusions

- OSD is a useful tool for processing real-time velocity data with short duration and limited-area sampling.
- The scheme can handle highly noisy data.
- The scheme is model independent.
- The scheme can be used for velocity data assimilation.
- Phase space consideration