

# Physics-Informed Neural Data Assimilation for High-Resolution Coastal SPM Reconstruction from Model and Satellite data

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## Results

## Introduction

Suspended particulate matter (SPM) plays a critical role in estuarine and coastal marine systems. Satellite remote sensing, particularly via platforms such as the Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Service (CMEMS), offers synoptic views of its distribution. However, gaps in data (e.g., Fig 1) limits our understanding of coastal processes. The global SPM reconstructions (Liu and Wang, 2022, 2023) face challenges in coastal applications, because they cannot resolve complex geometry and coastal processes. Moreover, they based on DINEOF omits high-latitude regions due to reduced performance associated with server data missing (e.g. Fig.1c).

## Method

### End-to-end reconstruction of sea surface SPM

**4DVarNet**: integrates 4-dimensional variational **DA principles** into an end-to-end trainable **deep learning** architecture. (<https://cia-oceanix.github.io/ocean4dvarnet/>). The approach (Fig. 2) employs a novel two-phase transfer learning strategy: (1) pre-training on OSSEs where gap-free model outputs are masked with synthetic cloud patterns, and (2) fine-tuning on OSEs using sparse satellite data. The architecture embeds a trainable dynamical prior and a convolutional LSTM solver to iteratively minimize a cost function that balances data agreement with physical consistency.

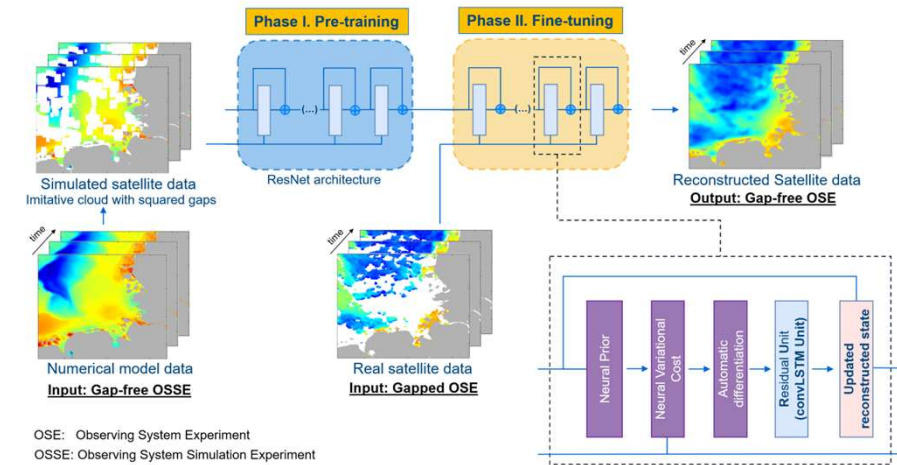


Fig.2: The architecture of 4DVarNet and the workflow sketch of reconstructing gapped SPM data.

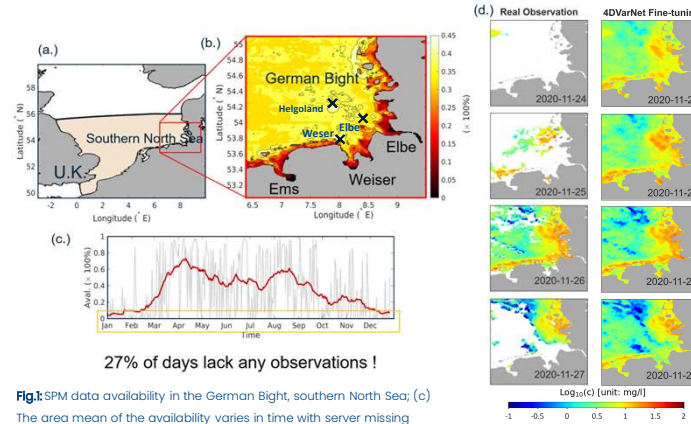


Fig.1: SPM data availability in the German Bight, southern North Sea; (c) The area mean of the availability varies in time with server missing during winter months. (d) left column shows examples of SPM from satellites.

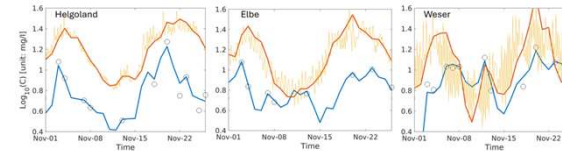
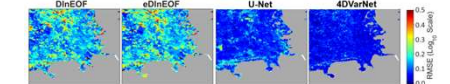


Fig. 3: SPM variation in time at different places (see Fig 1b for locations). SPM curves from numerical model (orange) and 4DVarNet (blue). Dots are observations;

Fig. 4: (upper panels) RMES of reconstruction by different methods; (lower panel) Statistic of RMES, RE (%), MAE, and structure similarity (SSIM) index of different methods.



Algorithm	RMSE	RE (%)	MAE	SSIM
DInEOF	0.184	37.452	0.129	0.610
eDInEOF	0.192	39.943	0.135	0.611
U-Net	0.098	14.754	0.062	0.905
<b>4DVarNet</b>	<b>0.063</b>	<b>9.315</b>	<b>0.038</b>	<b>0.916</b>

## Contribute to Digital Twin Ocean

- A future operational Digital Twin Ocean (DTO) will require a fully interoperable European marine data space and improved modelling capabilities.
- This work contributes to DTO as an EDTIO-Modellab service, advances the dimension of CMEMS.
- The work develops novel, seamless coastal forecasting capabilities.



Fig.5: The Digital Twin infrastructure