# Adaptive covariance hybridization for coupled climate reanalysis

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#### 1. Introduction

- 2. Background error covariance hybridization
- 3. Experimental design
- 4. Results
- 5. Conclusion

▶ NorCPM is the combination of the NorESM and the EnKF



#### **Objectives:**

- Long climate reanalysis
- Seasonal-to-decadal climate predictions

# Data assimilation in NorCPM



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 Covariances are constructed in isopycnal coordinates

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#### Seasonal correlation of SST in 2010 in the Labrador Sea



Source: [Counillon et al., 2016]

- ▶ Sharper correlation
- ▶ Deeper signature
- Conjugate update of T and S to

preserve density



#### Source [Bethke et al., 2018]

► This problem is due to sampling noise despite computing the covariances in isopycanl coordinates

> What are the possible solutions to address this issue?

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The hybrid covariance  $P_h^f$  is a linear combination between:

- $\circ~$  a **dynamic** covariance  $\mathbf{P}_d^{\rm f}$  computed from the ensemble (flow dependent but large sampling error).
- $\circ\,$  a static covariance  $P_{s}^{f}$  computed from a long stable climatological pre-industrial run (static but lower sampling error).

$$\mathbf{P}_{h}^{\mathrm{f}} = \alpha_{d} \mathbf{P}_{d}^{\mathrm{f}} + \alpha_{\mathrm{S}} \mathbf{P}_{\mathrm{S}}^{\mathrm{f}}, \qquad \alpha_{d}, \alpha_{\mathrm{S}} \ge 0 \tag{1}$$

- ▶  $(\alpha_d, \alpha_s) = (1, 0) \rightarrow full \, dynamic \, case \approx EnKF$
- ►  $(\alpha_d, \alpha_s) = (0, 1) \rightarrow full static case \approx set of EnOI$
- ▶ Important to tune  $\alpha_d$  and  $\alpha_s$  to optimal performance:
  - · Empirical tuning: sensitivity analysis  $\Rightarrow$  computationally expensive
  - Adaptive tuning of the coefficients

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> The optimal hybrid coefficients are defined as those minimizing the function *e*:

$$e(\alpha_d, \alpha_s) = \mathbb{E}\left[ \|\mathbf{P}_h - \mathbf{P}\|^2 \right] = \mathbb{E}\left[ \|\alpha_d \mathbf{P}_d + \alpha_s \mathbf{P}_s - \mathbf{P}\|^2 \right]$$
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▶ It can be showed that the optimal coefficients are given by:

$$(\alpha_d, \alpha_s) = \left(\frac{\|\mathsf{P}_s\|^2 \mathbb{E}\left[\|\mathsf{P}\|^2\right] - \mathbb{E}\left[\mathsf{P}_d \cdot \mathsf{P}_s\right]^2}{\|\mathsf{P}_s\|^2 \mathbb{E}\left[\|\mathsf{P}_d\|^2\right] - \mathbb{E}\left[\mathsf{P}_d \cdot \mathsf{P}_s\right]^2}, \frac{\left(\mathbb{E}\left[\|\mathsf{P}_d\|^2\right] - \mathbb{E}\left[\|\mathsf{P}\|^2\right]\right) \mathbb{E}\left[\mathsf{P}_d \cdot \mathsf{P}_s\right]}{\|\mathsf{P}_s\|^2 \mathbb{E}\left[\|\mathsf{P}_d\|^2\right] - \mathbb{E}\left[\mathsf{P}_d \cdot \mathsf{P}_s\right]^2}\right)$$
(3)

The properties highlighted in [Ménétrier and Auligné, 2015] hold here:

1. Behavior of the hybridization coefficients: if  $P_s$  is multiplied by a factor  $\lambda$ , then  $\alpha_s$  is divided by  $\lambda$ , while  $\alpha_d$  remains unchanged  $\Rightarrow$  no need for tuning  $P_s$ .

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- 2. Asymptotic behavior: with an infinite ensemble  $\mathbb{E}\left[\|\mathbf{P}_d\|^2\right] = \mathbb{E}\left[\|\mathbf{P}\|^2\right]$ , replacing in Eq. (3) we get:  $(\alpha_d, \alpha_s) = (1, 0)$

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4. **Optimality condition:**  $P_h$  verifies the following optimality condition:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial e}{\partial \alpha_d} = 0\\ \frac{\partial e}{\partial \alpha_s} = 0\\ \frac{\partial e}{\partial \alpha_s} = 0 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \mathbb{E}\left[ (\mathsf{P}_d - \mathsf{P}_s) \cdot (\mathsf{P}_h - \mathsf{P}) \right] = 0. \quad (4)$$

 ${\sf P}_h$  is the orthognal projection of  ${\sf P}$  on the subspace defined by  ${\sf P}_d$  and  ${\sf P}_s$ 

►  $(\alpha_d, \alpha_s)$  can not be computed directly as they are a function of  $\mathbb{E}\left[\|\mathbf{P}_d\|^2\right]$ ,  $\mathbb{E}\left[\|\mathbf{P}\|^2\right]$ , and  $\mathbb{E}\left[\mathbf{P}_d \cdot \mathbf{P}_s\right]$  that are unknown

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 $\triangleright$  ( $\alpha_d$ ,  $\alpha_s$ ) can be estimated using Eqs. (3)-(5) and the **local homogeneity** assumption

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 $\Rightarrow$  Enables the estimation of the terms with the expectation operator  $\mathbb{E}$   $\triangleright$  ( $\alpha_d$ ,  $\alpha_s$ ) can be estimated using Eqs. (3)-(5) and the **local homogeneity** assumption  $\triangleright$  ( $\alpha_d$ ,  $\alpha_s$ ) are estimated every  $\Delta x = 5$  points and interpolated to the rest of the grid.

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- Monthly assimilation of synthetic SST over 31 years: 1980-2010
  Synthetic SST observations are generated from an independent realisation (TRUE) of the same model with error perturbation matching that of real data (HadISST2)
  30 dynamic members and 315 seasonally varying static members generated from a climatological run with pre-industrial conditions
  4 different experiments:
  - FREE: 30 members run with transient forcing from 1850 to 2014
  - EnKF: the standard EnKF used in NorCPM
  - Standard hybrid: constant and global hybridization coefficients with  $\alpha_d + \alpha_s = 1$ . We run 7 versions with  $\alpha_d = 0, 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8, 0.9, 1$
  - Adaptive hybrid: the hybridization coefficients are estimated at each assimilation cycle and vary spatially.  $\alpha_d + \alpha_s$  can be different from 1

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 $(\alpha_d, \alpha_s)$  are globally averaged (ice covered regions are masked)



- ▶ Convergence of the hybrid coefficients within 3 years
- Some seasonal variability of the coefficients
- ▶  $\alpha_d + \alpha_s \leq 1$  (automatic scaling of  $P_s$  )

# Seasonal variability of $(\alpha_d, \alpha_s)$ with the adaptive method

▶ We show the average of the monthly estimates for the period 1983–2010



 $\triangleright \alpha_d$  and  $\alpha_s$  are somehow anti-correlated

 $\triangleright \alpha_d$  is large where the internal variability is important, for example in the North Atlantic or the tropical Pacific.

> Inter-annual deviation from the seasonal estimate is very small (not shown)

## Intercomparison of the EnKF and the hybrid covariance schemes

▶ Mean Skill Score (MSS) of one of the nine configurations *i*: EnKF, adaptive hybrid, standard hybrid with  $\alpha_d = 0, 0.1, ..., 1$ :



> The standard hybrid performs better for large values of  $\alpha_d = 0.8, 0.9$ 

- ▶ Both the standard hybrid and the adaptive hybrid outperform the EnKF and improve performance substantially between 2000 and 4000m depth
- > The adaptive hybrid outperforms the standard hybrid
- ▶ We compare hereafter the adaptive hybrid and the EnKF.

## Difference of RMSE with FREE between 1000-2000 m

▶ Difference of pointwise RMSE between FREE and assimilations run (warm colours indicates that assimilation reduces error)



Salinity

- Improvement in the North Atlantic subpolar gyre
- ▶ Mitigate the bias in the north Atlantic and the Southern Ocean.

## Difference of RMSE with FREE between 2000-4000m



▶ The adaptive hybrid drastically reduces the degradation seen in the EnKF in the North Pacific and Atlantic, and improves the benefit in the Southern Ocean

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## Conclusion

▶ Development of an adaptive hybrid covariance method (explicit optimality [Ménétrier, 2021]) for the assimilation of SST within NorCPM

- ▶ The hybrid covariance schemes outperform the standard EnKF
- > The adaptive hybrid outperforms the standard hybrid
- ▶ Article in prep. to be submitted to JAMES

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#### Perspectives

- > Testing the method in real framework and with other observations data sets
- Combining with other approaches (isopycnal vertical localisation [Wang et al., 2022])

 $\blacktriangleright$  It should be used for producing long coupled reanalysis from 1850–present  $\Rightarrow$  project NFR-COREA.

▶ DFS = Tr (KH)  $\Rightarrow$  can be interpreted as the amount of observation extracted from the observations. [Cardinali *et al.*, 2004].



The standard Hybrid causes larger assimilation update than the EnKF
 The Adaptive Hybrid achieve better performance with nearly similar assimilation updates.