A bias-kalman-filter for operational storm-surge forecasting

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Dutch Continental Shelf Model Delft3D-Flexible Mesh



Shallow-water tide-surge model



Bias in operational storm-surge forecasts in 2022



Model Measurement

Possible causes

- Vertical referencing
 - Local subsidence / tide gauge benchmark
 - Issues in national vertical reference systems
 - Connection between countries
- Uncertainty in boundary conditions
 - Sea level rise
 - Seasonal variations
 - Long period ocean variations
- Model physics
 - 3D effects (density, temperature, salinity)



Running mean (7 and 30 days)



Ensemble Kalman filter – add 'bias-force' to model

EnKF

Model

Time update

Measurement update

$$\boldsymbol{K}_{k} = \boldsymbol{P}_{k}^{f} \boldsymbol{H}' \left[\boldsymbol{H} \boldsymbol{P}_{k}^{f} \boldsymbol{H}' + \boldsymbol{R} \right]^{-1}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\xi}_{k}^{a}(i) = \boldsymbol{\xi}_{k}^{f}(i) + \boldsymbol{K}_{k}(\boldsymbol{z}_{k} - \boldsymbol{H} \boldsymbol{\xi}_{k}^{f}(i) - \boldsymbol{v}_{k}(i))$$

Shallow water equations: $\frac{\partial h}{\partial t} + \nabla (H u) = 0$ $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{H} (\nabla \cdot (H u u) - u \nabla (H u)) + f \times u$ $= -g \nabla (h - h_{tide} - \frac{h_{bias}}{\rho}) - \frac{\nabla p_{atm}}{\rho} + \frac{\tau_{atm}}{\rho H}$

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} h \\ u \\ h_{\text{bias}} \end{bmatrix}$$

Add term in pressure gradient, that will be balanced by sea-level if changes are slow enough.

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Asher et al 2019, "Low frequency water level correction in storm surge models using data assimilation", Ocean modelling, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ocemod.2019.101483

Noise model

Specifications:

First-order autoregressive AR(1)

$$h_{\text{bias,k+1}}(x, y) = \alpha h_{\text{bias,k}}(x, y) + w_k(x, y)$$

Time correlation scale: 750 hours Horizontal correlation scale: 1500 km

$$\boldsymbol{w}_k \sim N(\boldsymbol{0}, \boldsymbol{Q})$$



Temporal averaging of measurements



The bias kalman filter assimilates daily waterlevels at 22 stations in the North Sea





First results: example time-series of residuals from a hindcast



Simulation 2013 without bias Kalman filter

Simulation 2013 with bias Kalman filter



Impact on low-frequency residuals

Change in std 3-day averaged residual rel. to reference simulation [%]



Change in std 7-day averaged residual rel. to reference simulation [%]

> 0 2.5

5 7.5

10 12.5

> 75

25

-50

Change in std monthly residual rel. to reference simulation [%]



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RMSE change of low-pass filtered residuals

Forecast experiment with DCSM7 coarse



Reanalysis:

Modelsimulation with daily assimilation of waterlevel residual

Steady state filter vs. Ensemble Kalman Filter

EnKF

Time update

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{\xi}_{k+1}^{f}(\boldsymbol{i}) &= \boldsymbol{M}\left(\boldsymbol{\xi}_{k}^{a}(\boldsymbol{i})\right) \\ \boldsymbol{\hat{x}}_{k}^{f} &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \boldsymbol{\xi}_{k}\left(\boldsymbol{i}\right) \\ \boldsymbol{P}_{k}^{f} &= \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left(\boldsymbol{\xi}_{k}^{f}(\boldsymbol{i}) - \boldsymbol{\hat{x}}_{k}^{f}\right) \left(\boldsymbol{\xi}_{k}^{f}(\boldsymbol{i}) - \boldsymbol{\hat{x}}_{k}^{f}\right)' \end{aligned}$$

Measurement update

$$\boldsymbol{K}_{k} = \boldsymbol{P}_{k}^{f} \boldsymbol{H}' \left[\boldsymbol{H} \boldsymbol{P}_{k}^{f} \boldsymbol{H}' + \boldsymbol{R} \right]^{-1}$$
$$\boldsymbol{\xi}_{k}^{a}(i) = \boldsymbol{\xi}_{k}^{f}(i) + \boldsymbol{K}_{k}(\boldsymbol{z}_{k} - \boldsymbol{H} \boldsymbol{\xi}_{k}^{f}(i) - \boldsymbol{v}_{k}(i))$$

 If the Kalman Gain converges approximately to a steady value then steady-state filter is a much cheaper approximation



Apply estimated corrections to higher-resolution model



Longitude [°]

4



Longitude [°]

3.75

Longitude [°]

13

30

25

20

4.25

'Bias correction field', applied to DCSM-FM 100m

- Various model versions in operational system:
 - DCSM-FM 0.5nm
 - DCSM-FM 100m
- Estimate bias correction for coarse model and apply it to other models.

Change in std. 7-day averaged residual [%]



DCSM 100m without bias Kf



DCSM-FM 100m with bias correction derived from DCSM-FM 0.5nm



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Pre-operational evaluation



Next steps

- Evaluation of pre-operational set-up for winter 2023-2024
- Connect downstream models
- Test use of satellite altimetry in global tide-surge model



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