CMIP6 evaluation of marine ecosystem stressors in the Arctic

Nadja Steiner, Cathy Reader Institute of Ocean Sciences, Fisheries and Oceans Canada Canadian Center of Climate Modelling and Analysis, Environment and Climate Change Canada

- Motivation Why multi-stressor analysis? Why multi-model analysis?
- 2. Models, regions and depth intervals for CMIP6 marine stressor evaluation
- Results: Regional differences (timeseries and trends)/ Model differences/ Scenario differences/ Heatmaps/ Annual cycle
- 4. Key messages

Why a multi-stressor analysis ?



From Pförtner & Farrell, 2008

Species performance is primarily a function of temperature

Species concentrate in habitats where performance is optimal

Pfortner & Farell, 2008 suggest that the thermal window is narrowed by additional stressors – decreasing the range of optimal performance

Why a multi-model analysis ?



Model uncertainty remains a key factor of uncertainty for biogeochemical variables.

Multi-model analysis provide a measure of this uncertainty

Limited runs in model downscaling efforts can then be put into context with ESM-multi-model analysis

Frolicher et al. 2015: Fraction of total uncertainty explained by internal variability uncertainty (orange), model uncertainty (blue), and scenario uncertainty (green) in projections of annual mean surface pH, SST, O2 averaged over 100 to 600 m, and NPP integrated over the top 100m for (a–d) global projections, (e–h) projections averaged over 17 biogeographical biomes,



Multiple stressors in CMIP6 – 10 models

- CESM2-WACCM
- CNRM-ESM2-1
- ACCESS-ESM1-5
- GFDL-ESM4
- MIROC-ES2L
- UKESM1-0-LL
- NorESM2-MM
- MRI-ESM2-0
- MPI-ESM1-2-HR
- CanESM5-CanOE
- --- CanESM5
 - mean
 - ORA-S5

"Stressors":

- Temperature
- Ocean acidification (Ωa, Ωc, pH)
- Oxygen
- Sea-ice

O7: Bering O8: Chukchi



14 regions

Vertical averaging following species assemblages identified in the Beaufort Sea Marine Fishes Project (Majewski et al. 2017) 0-50m, 50-200m, 200m-500m, >500m



Steiner & Reader in preparation

CMIP 6 model mean SSP585 – regional differences in T and O2, sea ice





O7: Bering **O8:** Chukchi

Sea-ice concentration winter (JFM)

Arctic Basin

Greenland Shelf

S. Beaufort Sea

N. Beaufort Sea

N. East Siberian Sea Kara Sea

Bering Sea S. Chuckchi Sea N. Chukchi Sea S. East Siberian Sea

Barents Sea Nordic Sea



CMIP 6 model mean SSP585 – regional differences in T and O2 (0-50m), sea ice







O7: Bering O8: Chukchi



CMIP6 multi-model mean – SSP585 regional differences in CaCO₃ saturation state, Ω



SSP585: all Arctic regions show aragonite undersaturation by 2080 O7: Bering O8: Chukchi The Arctic shows distinct regional differences, with most advanced ocean acidification (lowest pH and $CaCO_3$ saturation states) in the East Siberian and Laptev Seas.



Steiner & Reader

O7: Bering O8: Chukchi

CMIP6 model trends 3 40-year timeperiods - SSP585 Temperature 0-50m







Models show distinct regional differences in trends and large spread among models (increasing over time). Subregional differences are greatest in the middle period when large sea-ice changes are







O7: Bering O8: Chukchi

CMIP6 model trends 3 40-year timeperiods - SSP585 Oxygen 0-50m







CNRM-ESM2-1
ACCESS-ESM1-5
GFDL-ESM4
MIROC-ES2L
UKESM1-0-LL
NorESM2-MM
MRI-ESM2-0
MPI-ESM1-2-HR
CanESM5-CanOE
CanESM5
Mean

Models show distinct regional differences in trends with increasing spread over time following the T-trend pattern. CanESM comparison indicates that despite consistent T-trends O2 trends show varying trend biases by region. This indicates that the model differences in O2 are not solely due to the physical parametrizations driving T, but to some extent based on the biogeochemical model (e.g. CMOC vs CanOE).





01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 010 011 012 013 014 All

-0.00025

-0.00050

-0.00075

-0.00100





-0.00025

-0.00050

-0.00075

-0.00100



01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 010 011 012 013 014 All



O7: Bering O8: Chukchi

CMIP6 model trends 3 40-year timeperiods - SSP585 Omega_a 0-50m







Canada

CMIP6 models – CaCO₃ saturation state Ωaragonite - SSP585 - 0-50m average



2020 2040 2060 2080 2100

1980 2000 2020 2040

2060

2080 2100



1980

2000

CMIP6 models – Ωaragonite - SSP585 & SSP245 - 0-60m average





Ocean acidification until ~2035 is already defined by past emissions after which higher emission scenarios show faster acidification progression. For regions with most advanced acidification aragonite undersaturation will be reached in all scenarios, for other regions lower emissions can avoid undersaturation.

Canada

Steiner & Reader



Fisheries and Oceans Pêches et Océans Canada

Space and Time/Species relevance

Temperature patterns in defined spatial and temporal units and their change through time.

Canada



Waldock et al. 2018, BioScience, Volume 68, Issue 11, November 2018, Pages 873-884, https://doi.org/10.1093/biosci/biy096

The content of this slide may be subject to copyright: please see the slide notes for details.



Waldock et al. 2018



Annual cycle analysis Temperature 0-50m



Clear increase in temperature seasonality in the upper 50m due to sea-ice retreat and warming. Large regional differences and high model uncertainty.



Annual cycle analysis Omega_a 0-50m





Seasonality remains weak although some shift to a later max is visible. Note that models without representation of the sea-ice carbon pump significantly underestimate the seasonal cycle in the surface ocean.



CMIP6 model thresholds: Omega <1, T >5C (SSP585 0-60m), Ice-A <15% (JAS)



Models show a range of timing for threshold crossings, but consistent regional differences *Colors indicate number of models crossing threshold

Canada

Steiner & Reader, in preparation





- There is significant regional variability in the Arctic with somewhat consistent patterns across models.
- Models show variations in trends and initial biases among models: reduced spread/ lower uncertainty in Arctic ocean acidification over time (with decreasing sea-ice). Model spread/uncertainty is increasing for temperature and O2 patterns. Some biases are related to the biogeochemical model/parametrizations.
- Annual cycles, relevant for ecosystems, are generally increasing in amplitude over time, particularly in the top 50m. In many cases a seasonal cycle is a "new" feature. This is particularly obvious for O2 where a pronounced September minimum is developing. Some shifts in timing of max/mins are also indicated, particularly for OA (note, missing sea-ice carbon pump underrepresents seasonal cycle).
- Environmental changes until ~2035 are already defined by past emissions after which higher emission scenarios show faster progression (acidification/warming/ice retreat)

Steiner & Reader , in preparation



Questions??

Regional downscaling: NAA-CanOE-CSIB

16.0

15.0

14.0

13.0

12.0

10.0

8 0



Coupled ocean circulation, sea-ice and biogeochemical models: 2 species of phytoplankton, ice algae, 2 zooplankton and 2 nitrogen forms (ice and ocean), 2 detritus forms, carbon, sulfur and oxygen cycling in sea ice and ocean (1-D and 3D models)

Historical runs 1969-2015 & projection runs (RCP8.5, RCP4.5)

- Use CMIP6 evaluation to assess model spread and uncertainty, then use the regional model for more detailed analysis. Evaluation is in progress but has not been done yet for O2



Ocean Ecosystem model CanOE as in CanESM5-CanOE

Hayashida et al 2019, 2020, Mortenson et al 2020

