Modeling study of the Svalbard fjord -Hornsund

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Location of the Hornsund fjord, model grid and bathymetry



Motivation:

Hornsund is the most southern fjord of the Svalbard archipelago. But in biological point of view the fjord has slower growing up (aging). So although the Hornsund is in the southern part of archipelago, it is called cold by biologist. One of the main part of our work is to understand why this fjord is colder then other fjords.

Also it is important to understand the interactions between the key components of the climate system in the Svalbard area.

The work is done in the frame of two projects:

GAME – Growing Arctic Marine Ecosystems

AWAKE2 - Arctic Climate System Study of Ocean, Sea Ice and Glaciers Interactions in Svalbard Area









Outline:

1) Short model description 2) Three levels of validation:

- Tides
- Shelf area
- Fjord area
- 3) Selected results
- 4) Conclusions and future plans

Model description:

- 1) Model engine MIKE by DHI (commercial product)
- 2) Open boundary conditions
 - Data (temperature, salinity, barotropic velocity) from Norway Arctic Model (ROMS) – 800 meters horizontal resolution
 - Tidal sea level data from global tidal model (0.25 degrees resolution)
 - At the lateral boundary implemented flather boundary (combined sea level with barotropic velocity)
- 3) k-epsilon vertical mixing scheme
- 4) Variable roughness for the whole domain
- 5) Atmospheric data from ECMWF (except ice concentration and thickness)
 - Precipitation
 - Winds
 - Visibility (cloud cover)
 - temperature
- 6) Ice cover also from Norway Model
- 7) Fresh water fluxes from two simple images (next slides)

Very limited sources of data that covers Hornsund area (mostly resolution for climate models – not for regional small domains)

This work is still in progress

Model domain, bathymetry and lateral boundary







Fresh water sources interpolated for the model



Validation in the shelf area – batrotropic currents





\$800





Sea level validation (tides) – only term comparison





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NPI mooring: ADCP w/CTD + thermistor stri



Available one year real time series (Arild Sundfjord, Norwegian Polar Institute, project AWAKE2)

Measured (red line) and modelled (black and green lines) temperature for three depths [note: different years]



Measured (ADCP, 2013-2014) and modeled (2006-2007) average velocity profiles



Modelled, average currents for the whole domain for January and July



Modeled (July 2006, average) and measured (July 2014, snapshot) surface temperature and salinity





Surface salinity





Surface temperature



Transect and vertical profiles of temperature, salinity and currents (model, average of July 2007)



Hydrological front – annual variability (salinity – left images)

34.97

34.96

34.96

34.95

34.95

34.94

34.93

34.93

34.92

34.92

34.91

34.89

34.89

34.87

34.85

34.83 - 34.84

34.83 - 34.83

34.82 - 34.83

34.81 - 34.81

Below

Undefined Value

- 34.82

34.81

34.81

34.84







36'E 42'E 48'E 15°54'E

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-0.90 - -0.75

-1.05 - -0.90

-1.20 - -1.05

-1.35 - -1.20

-1.50 - -1.35

-1.65 - -1.50

Below -1.65

Undefined Value

16"24'E

16°

16° 30'E 36'E 16°42'E

16

16°12'E 18'E

16 °0'E 16°6'E

4

Salt content and heat content and its anomaly

FJORD HORNSUND



Seasonal variability of the entire fjord and Brepollen (salt and heat content)



BREPOLLEN





Integrated over time salt content anomaly and its time derivative for entire fjord and for Brepollen















FJORD HORNSUND



Underwater part of glacier (acoustical detection)





Time (one year)

Buoyancy frequency (left) for selected profile and calculated internal tides (modes 1-4)



Spectrum of residual part of ssh (most of energy is located in M2)



Buoyancy frequency (left) for selected profile and calculated internal tides (modes 1-4)



Conclusions and future plans:

- In the seasonal scale results are reasonable
- The limited experimental data (time series) does not permit to make full validation process (but we hope there will be more data from AWAKE2 project) and next projects
- The important part is underwater melting. To have correct energy budget this melting should be taken in to account.
- Vertical structure and its variability suggests annual variability of the internal tides thus we are going to work on it in the future

Thank you for your attention