Multi-month forecasts of marine heatwaves and ocean acidification extremes

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long-term threats for marine ecosystems



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growing concern about the impacts of **short-term variability** and **extreme events**



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Marine Heatwaves (MHW) SSTa > 90th percentile

The Blob (2013-16)

Forced by persistent high pressure ridge

Negative impacts on marine ecosystems, from primary producers to larger organisms



July, 2014

hatching indicates extreme

STa (°C

Marine Heatwaves (MHW) SSTa > 90th percentile

The Blob (2013-16)







hatching indicates extreme

- 1.6

-1.6

-2.0

Ocean Acidification Extremes (OAX) aragonite saturation state < 10th percentile

OAX are relatively understudied but also threaten marine ecosystems

Enhanced vertical mixing brings corrosive water to the surface



hatching indicates extreme

te saturatior anomaly

state











- Initialized 4 times / year (Feb. 1, May 1, Aug. 1, Nov. 1) from 1970-2019
- Each forecast integrated for 2 years

Compare to observation-based product (Gregor et al. 2020)



SEDI = Symmetric Extremal Dependence Index

Stippling indicates insignificant skill

-0.5 Forecast Skill (SEDI) -0.0 -0.5 -1.0

1.0

Mogen et al., in review Nature Geoscience





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We find high skill for both MHW and OAX

Skill is highest in the eastern Pacific

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Ocean Acidification Extreme









-0.5 Forecast Skill -0.0 (SEDI) -0.5

1.0



Mogen et al., in review Nature Geoscience



Forecast initialized in November 2023 We forecast widespread MHW and OAX through 2024

Mogen et al., in review Nature Geoscience

Future work:

High resolution CESM SMYLE experiments (including ocean biogeochemistry)

Actionable predictions on the scales of fisheries Low resolution Reconstruction (1°)

High resolution Reconstruction (0.1°)







CESM SMYLE skillfully forecasts MHW and OAX up to a year in advance

CESM SMYLE forecasts widespread MHW and OAX in key regions in 2024



Next, we plan to generate high resolution forecasts of regional biogeochemical signals





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Mogen et al., in review Nature Geoscience

supplemental

CESM SMYLE Nov., 2023 Forecast of May, 2024

May MHW



NMME Nov., 2023 Forecast of May,

Marine Heatwave (MHW) Forecast [Jacox et al 2024 1HW probability • 0-10% • 10-20% • 20-30% NORT • 30-40% AMERIO • 40-50% • 50-60% 60-70% 70-80% 80-90% . 90-100% SOUTH Carto CopenStreetMap contributor



Lead time = 6.5 months (05/2024)

Symmetric Extremal Dependence Index

$$SEDI = \frac{\log(F) - \log(H) - \log(1 - F) + \log(1 - H)}{\log(F) + \log(H) + \log(1 - F) + \log(1 - H)}$$

Forecasts initialized during strong ENSO events* demonstrate higher skill



Mogen et al., in review

* Combined Niño and Niña











