Quantifying the sensitivity of internal waves in the Philippine Sea

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The Philippine Sea



Internal tides



- Energy loss from the barotropic tide to the open ocean
- Turbulence and mixing of the deep ocean (eg. Kuroshio front and the South China Sea)
- Baroclinic currents

Predicting and observing the ocean state

- Typically focus on mesoscale
- How do internal waves affect the predictive skill?



Predicting and observing the ocean state

- Typically focus on mesoscale
- How do internal waves affect the predictive skill?
- How does internal tide generation vary?
- How do internal waves affect
 observations of the ocean state?



Tidal Model

- Regional Ocean Modeling System (ROMS)
- Free-surface, hydrostatic, terrain-following, primitive equation ocean model
- 8 km horizontal resolution, 40 sigma-levels
- Boundary forcing from TPXO: M₂ Only
- Uniform stratification



Mesoscale Model

- Regional Ocean Modeling System (ROMS)
- 12 km horizontal resolution, 25 sigma-levels
- Boundary forcing from global model HyCOM
- Atmospheric forcing from NCEP



Internal Tide Generation – Barotropic to Baroclinic Energy Conversion



Adjoint sensitivity of conversion

M2 Barotropic to Baroclinic Energy Conversion



Sensitivity to temperature - tidal



Sensitivities to varying mesoscale



Sensitivity to temperature - mesoscale

Sensitivity of conversion to temperature - mesoscale circulation



Sensitivity to temperature - mesoscale



Observations of the Ocean using Acoustic Tomography





Acoustic tomography

- Speed of sound function of temperature and pressure
- Acoustic signals travel along a set of ray paths, multiple arrivals at the receiver
- Inverse problem reconstruct the sound speed (temperature) and velocity fields from the acoustic travel times



Adjoint sensitivity of travel time

Speed of sound - tide run initial conditions - Ion=127 ° E



Travel time variation with mesoscale



Travel time for defined ray path - 2009 mesoscale run

Sensitivity to temperature - tidal

Sensitivity of J to Temeprature over time



Sensitivities to varying mesoscale



Sensitivity to temperature - mesoscale



Sensitivity to temperature - mesoscale



Conclusions

- Mesoscale changing generation of internal tides
- Internal tides important impact on acoustic travels times
 Next Steps -
 - Assimilation of acoustic data need to include internal tides
 - Sensitivities for different ray paths where we have surface and bottom bounces – are internal waves still significant?