Land Data Assimilation Systems at NCEP/EMC

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Motivation

Applications:
- North American Land Data Assimilation System (NLDAS) -- “Flagship” LDAS project at NCEP
- “HRAP”-NLDAS
- Global LDAS (GLDAS)

Methods/examples:
- Surface emissivity/Tb assimilation
- Soil moisture
- Snow

Summary/Future
Motivation

• Better initial land conditions for numerical weather prediction (NWP) and seasonal climate model forecasts, and application to regional and global drought monitoring and seasonal hydrological prediction.

• Assess model (physics) performance and make improvements by assimilating real land data (sets).
Outline

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- Methods/examples:
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  - Soil moisture
  - Snow
- Summary/Future
NLDAS background

• Drought monitoring and hydrological seasonal prediction.
• Uncoupled multi-model system.
• Long-term project (2000-present & beyond).
• Multi-institution collaboration (NOAA, NASA, Princeton U, Univ Wash, NWS/OHD, others).
• Multi-agency sponsored support (i.e., NOAA/CPO GAPP, CPPA & MAPP; NASA Terrestrial Hydrology Program).
• R2O task: from research to NCEP operations.

Youlong Xia and NLDAS team
NLDAS is a multi-model land modeling and data assimilation system...
...run in uncoupled mode driven by atmospheric forcing (using surface meteorology data sets)...
...with "long-term" retrospective and near real-time output of land-surface water and energy budgets.

NLDAS Configuration: Land models

Atmospheric Community

- Uncoupled ("offline") simulations.
- Input: atmospheric forcing.

Hydrology Community

- Output: water/energy budgets (surface fluxes, land states)

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NCEP operational land model

NOAH

NWS operational hydrological model

SAC

NASA GSFC

Mosaic

Princeton & U. Washington

VIC
NLDAS Data Sets and Setup

NLDAS Configuration: Land data sets

- fixed climatologies or near real-time obs.
- Some quantities may be assimilated (e.g. soil moisture, snow).
NLDAS Data Sets and Setup

NLDAS Configuration: Land data sets

NLDAS Configuration: Forcing data

- Continental US domain, 1/8\textsuperscript{th} degree resolution.
- Common land surface forcing from North American Regional Reanalysis real-time extension (gauge-based observed precipitation, temporally disaggregated with radar/sat. data).
- Hourly, 1/8-deg, Jan 1979 to present, near real-time.
NLDAS Data Sets and Setup

NLDAS Configuration: Land data sets

NLDAS Configuration: Forcing data

NLDAS Configuration: Simulations

- **Retrospective mode** *(to provide climatologies)*
  - 30-year runs: Oct 1979-Sep 2008
  - 15-year spin-up
  - 30-year climatology for each land model (1979-2008)

- **Near real-time mode** *(quasi-operational)*
  - depict conditions as anomalies and percentiles from climatology
Anomaly and percentile for six variables and three time scales:

- Soil moisture, snow water, runoff, streamflow, evaporation, precipitation
- Current, Weekly, Monthly
NLDAS Evaluation and Validation

JGR, Xia et al., 2011, submitted

Monthly streamflow anomaly correlation over continental United States (1979-2007 USGS measured streamflow)

(a) Noah
(b) Mosaic
(c) SAC
(d) VIC
(e) MM
Ensemble Mean
NLDAS Evaluation and Validation

Energy flux validation from tower: net radiation, sensible heat, latent heat, ground heat

Water flux: evaporation, total runoff/streamflow

State variables: soil moisture, soil temperature, skin temperature, snow water equivalent, snow cover

Monthly streamflow anomaly correlation over continental United States (1979-2007 USGS measured streamflow)

Ensemble Mean

Spatial averaged daily top 1m soil moisture anomaly correlation over continental United States

U.S. Soil Climate Analysis Network (SCAN), 1 January 2002 - 31 December 2009

JHM, Xia et al., 2011, in preparation
Texas Drought 2011
Near Real-time Quasi-weekly
Texas Drought Monitoring (D0 yellow – D4 red)

Four-model ensemble mean total column soil moisture percentile
(5 January - 14 September 2011)

Next slide shows
daily flood monitoring case
Texas Drought 2011
Near Real-time Quasi-weekly
Texas Drought Monitoring (D0 yellow – D4 red)

Four-model ensemble mean total column soil moisture percentile
(5 January)
Northeast Flood 2011 Monitoring

Impact of Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee

Ensemble mean daily streamflow anomaly (m$^3$/s) 20 Aug – 17 Sep

NLDAS Application to
U.S. Drought Monitor (USDM) and USDA
Northeast Flood 2011 Monitoring

Impact of Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee

Ensemble mean daily streamflow anomaly (m³/s) 20 Aug – 17 Sep

[Map showing ensemble mean current streamflow anomaly (m³/s) for the U.S., with NCEP NLDAS products valid: Aug 20, 2011]
Geotiffs of NLDAS are imported directly into the US Drought Monitor (USDM) editing process via GIS.
NLDAS GIS data are an integral part of the USDM process, both operationally and also as part of a weekly ppt sent to the USDM Listserv.
NLDAS GIS data are also used in conjunction with USDA crop-area shapefiles for crop-weather assessment. Here, recent dryness depicted in the Corn Belt.
NLDAS shows a variety of adverse conditions afflicting cotton, from Texas’ Drought to excessive wetness in the mid-Atlantic.
NLDAS data indicate dire planting prospects for winter wheat on the southern Plains.
NLDAS Support for NCEP/CPC
Drought Monitoring & Assessment Activity
NLDAS Past, Present and Future Monitoring Mode

• Past:
  - Phase 2 (2006-2010) – to make long-term (30 years) retrospective NLDAS run using the improved forcing & models, to establish a quasi-operational NLDAS system to support NIDIS activities, and to assess NLDAS products using observations.

• Present:
  - Phase 3 (2011-2014) – to maintain a quasi-operational NLDAS system, to transition all codes and scripts to NCEP central computer system, and to implement NLDAS system into NCEP operations.
NLDAS Past, Present and Future Monitoring Mode

• Future:
  - EMC will maintain two NLDAS systems: operational version (current) & research version. Any upgrades from both forcing and models from research community will be quickly implemented in the research version with internal tests at EMC (i.e. “tempest” and/or NCEP CCS computer).
  - EMC will collaborate NASA/GSFC to install LIS for the NLDAS system to construct a real data assimilation system to assimilate observed data from both in-situ and remote sensing.
  - EMC will collaborate with NWS/OHD to extend a fine scale (~4 km “HRAP” grid) NLDAS system.
Future:
- EMC will extend the NLDAS system from NLDAS domain to whole North America, to support North American Drought Monitor.
- EMC will collaborate NCEP/CPC and other NLDAS partners to further extend NLDAS system from whole North America to the globe to support Global Drought Monitor being initiated by multi-countries as EMC has developed its own CFS-GLDAS system.
- EMC will collaborate with its partners to improve land surface models (physics) and test the role of NLDAS and GLDAS initial conditions in coupled models.
NLDAS development & evaluation using the NASA Land Information System (LIS)

NLDAS LSMs to be upgraded to the latest model versions (Noah3.2/3.3, Noah-MP, GMAO’s Catchment, etc.) within the Land Information System (LIS) framework, which will allow data assimilation of soil moisture and snow products to help improve drought diagnosis in NLDAS. NLDAS products and drought monitoring skill will be evaluated using numerous observations.

The Land Information System (LIS)

Using NLDAS-2 forcing in LIS with Noah3.2, Peters-Lidard et al. (2011, Hydrological Processes, submitted) showed an improvement of the RMSE of latent heat flux when using data assimilation of remotely-sensed soil moisture as compared to gridded FLUXNET ET data (Jung et al., 2010).

Contact: David.Mocko@nasa.gov
NLDAS Seasonal Hydrological Forecast System

- System jointly developed by Princeton University and U. Washington.

- Transitioned to EMC local system in November 2009, as an experimental seasonal forecast system.

- System includes three approaches: (1) CFS forecast, (2) traditional ESP forecast, and (3) CPC forecast.

- Run at the beginning of each month and forecast products are staged on NLDAS website by the 15th of each month.

- Currently uses CFSv1; will be upgraded to CFSv2.
Example based on 1 September 2011 IC

1-6 month lead Total Column Soil Moisture Percentile

CFS

1-mon

3-mon

6-mon

CPC

ESP
As drought briefing concluded, Texas drought will possibly continue one season. Here CFS shows that Texas drought will continue two seasons and the CPC and ESP do not. This will be verified from USDM and in next several months via CPC.
EMC and CPC’s participation in NLDAS Prediction Mode

Seasonal hydrological system will be extended and assessed by a CTB project (PI: Eric Wood). As collaborators,

(1) EMC (Youlong Xia) will continue to run transitioned system (CFSv1) in quasi-operational mode to support CPC’s drought briefing and seasonal drought outlook and will prepare to run its upgrade version CFSv2.

(2) EMC will collaborate with CTB PIs to move the system to CTB computer. EMC will make internal tests and evaluations of this system.

(3) EMC will collaborate with Lifeng Luo via CTB to add SAC-HT and Noah to this system.

(4) CPC (Kingtse Mo) will perform verification and assessment studies.
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• Summary/Future
HRAP-NLDAS: high resolution hydrological modeling over CONUS, HRAP grid (~4km) using operational NOAA NCEP and NOAA OHD models

The study has three main components which together provide a comprehensive suite of modeling-related improvements enabling both improved NOAA/NWS/OHD and NCEP hydrological and land surface forecasts and analyses, as well as investigations into land-atmosphere interactions:

I. Model Support-Related Improvements
   - Improved downscaling of 1/8th degree NLDAS forcing to 4km HRAP grid
   - Enhanced spin-up strategies for retrospective and real-time simulations

II. Model Component Improvements
   - Improved snow assimilation modules for Noah and SAC-HT/Snow17
   - High-resolution routing capability for Noah and SAC-HT in LIS
   - Testing of NOAA ET physics in SAC-HT
   - Testing of improved sub-surface runoff modeling in SAC-HT
   - Integration of dynamic parameter calculation module into Snow17
   - Enhanced Noah bundle upgrades including snow albedo, ground water treatment.

III. Model Output
   - Production of 31-year 4km retrospective SAC-HT/Noah simulations
   - Validation of model output
   - Operational application of retrospective simulations

Jiarui Dong, Brian Cosgrove (NWS/OHD) et al
Extension from 1/8° (NLDAS) to 4 km resolution Hydrologic Rainfall Analysis Project (HRAP) grid
HRAP-NLDAS Spinup Strategy

Step 1:
12-year recursive 1979 run
Jan. 1

Step 2:
16-year spinup run (1986-1995)
Jan. 1 00Z
Jan. 1 00Z 10 yrs average
Jan. 1 00Z
May 1 00Z
July 1 00Z
Oct. 1 00Z

Step 3:
30-year retrospective runs
Oct. 1 00Z
July 1 00Z
May 1 00Z
Jan. 1 00Z
Soil Moisture Spin-up

Run starts 2 Jan 1979
Temperature Downscaling

• High resolution land surface modeling requires high resolution forcing data.

• Long-term NLDAS forcing data sets hourly and 1/8th degree resolution.

• Standard downscaling uses -6.5K/km (std atmos).

• Actual near-surface lapse rate varies spatially and temporally due to the complex terrain.

Data evaluated from western US SNOTEL and USHCN sites
The absolute lapse rate values are found to be larger over the southern States than over the northern States, and larger in the summer than in the winter over continental regions. Differences were found for maritime regions, where lapse rates were even smaller during the summer due to the large ocean effects.

Temperature-based regression lapse rate can be used for downscaling.
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CFS Reanalysis and Reforecast: Implementation of NASA/LIS-GLDAS

A new Global Reanalysis of the atmosphere, ocean, sea-ice and land over the 32-year period (1979-2010)

1. Analysis Systems: Operational GDAS
   - Atmospheric (GADAS/GSI)
   - Ocean-ice (GODAS)
   - Land (GLDAS/LIS)

2. Atmospheric Model: Operational GFS
   - New Noah Land Model

3. Ocean Model: New MOM4 Ocean Model
   - New Sea Ice Model

Suru Saha, NOAA/NCEP/EMC
CFS/CDAS execution (24-hr span): note daily GLDAS
NASA Land Information System

**Inputs**
- Topography, Soils (Static)
- Land Cover, Leaf Area Index (MODIS, AMSR, TRMM, SRTM)
- Meteorology: Modeled & Observed (NLDAS, DMIP II, GFS, GLDAS, TRMM GOES, Station)
- Observed States (Snow, Soil Moisture, Temperature)

**Physics**
- **Land Surface Models**
  - SAC-HT/SNOW17
  - Noah, CLM, VIC, Catchment
- **Data Assimilation Modules**
  - (DI, EKF, EnKF)

**Outputs**
- Surface Energy Fluxes ($Q_h$, $Q_le$)
- Soil Moisture Evaporation
- Surface Water Fluxes (e.g., Runoff)
- Surface States (Snowpack)

**Applications**
- Water Supply & Demand
- Agriculture Hydro-Electric Power, Water Quality
- Improved Short Term & Long Term Predictions

Christa Peters-Lidard et al., NASA/GSFC/HSB
### Comparison of Method in Assimilation of Precipitation and Snow in CFSv1 vs CFSv2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CFSv1: Precip</th>
<th>CFSv2: Precip</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Model precip, nudges soil moisture (1st layer) during the next <strong>5 days</strong> using the difference between CMAP and model precip – <strong>directly use of observed precip.</strong></td>
<td><strong>“Open loop” approach</strong>, uses observed precip to drive off-line Noah LSM and the resulting land states are used to update model’s land states <strong>daily</strong> – <strong>implicit use of observed precip.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snow</td>
<td>Snow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly snow cover, model snowdepth is used if consistent otherwise adjusted to snow cover without affecting soil moisture – <strong>directly use of snow cover.</strong></td>
<td>Observed snowcover and snowdepth are used to adjust (if more than twice or less than half of analysis) model’s snowdepth everyday otherwise untouched – <strong>implicit use of observed snow.</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Precip forcing for CFS GLDAS

CPC Unified Daily Gauge Data

- Dense gauge networks from special CPC collections over US, Mexico, and S. America;
- GTS gauge network elsewhere
- Daily reports available from ~17,000 stations

Mingyue Chen and Pingping Xie, NOAA/NCEP/CPC
A blended precip forcing is used in CFS with the heavier weights of:
CFS/GDAS – high latitudes,
Gauge – mid latitudes,
CMAP – tropics.
Snow analysis for CFS GLDAS

Snow cycled in CFSv2/GLDAS if model within 0.5x to 2.0x of observed value (IMS snow cover, and AFWA snow depth products), else adjusted to 0.5 or 2.0 of observed value.
CFSR Soil Moisture Climatology

CFSR Soil Moisture Climatology May 1980_2008

CFSR Soil Moisture Climatology Nov 1980_2008
CFSR Soil Moisture Anomaly

CFSR Soil Moisture Anomaly May 1988

CFSR Soil Moisture Anomaly May 1993

GRADS: COLA/ICES
Surface Water Budget

Snow Water Equivalent Updates (mm)

Total Soil Moisture Updates (mm)

Total Precipitation (mm)

Water Residual (% over Total Water Source)
Surface Energy Budget

Latent Heat Flux (W/m²)

Sensible Heat Flux (W/m²)

Snow Phase Change Energy (W/m²)

Energy Residual (W/m²)
All streams use the mean 2006-2007 land states from operational GDAS of each given start date as the land initial conditions.
NEW: Global Drought Monitor
One-stream GLDAS

- **Motivation:** CFSR was executed in 6 streams.
- **Solution:** Proposing a One-stream GLDAS (1979-realtime).
- **Configuration:** Same as CFSR (LIS T382).
- **Forcing:** CFSR surface forcing and blended precip.
- **Initial condition:** Spin up land states for 1 January, 1979.
- **Spin up:** 1978 went from weak warm ENSO to neutral, with a similar condition, 2003 was selected for spin up forcing. Start with CFSR land states of 1 January, 2003, execute 5-year recursive spin up with 2003 forcing.


GLDAS 1979-realtime
Eastern Siberia Tundra
Soil Moisture Spinup

40-100 cm

100-200 cm
ARM Oklahoma Cropland
Soil Moisture Spinup

40-100cm

100-200cm
Alaska Needleleaf Soil Moisture Spinup

40-100 cm

100-200 cm
GLDAS SUMMARY

• CFSv2: New generation NCEP operational climate prediction/data assimilation system.
• Noah land surface model upgrades.
• NASA/LIS infrastructure for GLDAS in CFS
• Blended forcing to utilize observed precip to reduce the impact of forecast model bias.
• Optimal soil moisture fields consistent with prediction model physics; energy and water budgets closure.
• Rerun 1979-present GLDAS as one stream to avoid spin-up issues.
• GLDAS for global drought monitoring.
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Improvement of Satellite Data Utilization over Desert & Arid Regions in NCEP Operational NWP Modeling and Data Assimilation Systems

**Problem:** Satellite data (IR/MW) is rarely used over desert/arid regions in GSI/CRTM (e.g. W. CONUS and N. Africa)
- Substantial cold bias of land surface skin temperature (LST) in GFS.
- Inaccurate emissivity calculation for MW in GSI/CRTM

**Improvement of land surface skin temperature (LST) in GFS**
- New formula of thermal roughness length ($z_{ot}$) (X. Zeng et al)

\[
\ln\left(\frac{z_{om}}{z_{ot}}\right) = (1 - GVF)^2 Czil k \left(\frac{u^* z_{0g}}{\nu}\right)^{0.5}
\]

\[
\ln(z_{om}) = (1 - GVF)^2 \ln(z_{0g}) + \left[1 - (1 - GVF)^2\right] \ln(z_{om})
\]

**NCEP GFS OPS:** $z_{ot} = z_{0m}$

- New emissivity calculation for MW in GSI/CRTM
  - Empirical emissivity model over desert region (B. Yan and F. Weng).

**Tb Simulation in GSI:**

**IR**
- NOAA-17 HIRS3:
  - Ch8: 11-micron

**MW**
- NOAA-18 AMSU_A:
  - Ch1: 23.8 Ghz;
  - Ch15: 89.0 Ghz;
  - Ch4: 52.8 Ghz

Weizhong Zheng et al
Large cold bias

Improved significantly during daytime!

Aerodynamic conductance: CTR vs Zot
**Improvement of Satellite Data Utilization over Desert & Arid Regions in NCEP Operational NWP Modeling and Data Assimilation Systems summary**

- New formula of thermal roughness length (Zot) implemented in the NCEP GFS model to reduce a substantial cold bias of land surface skin temperature over arid and semi-arid regions during daytime in warm seasons.

- The new empirical MW emissivity model, developed by B. Yan and F. Weng at NESDIS, corrected unreasonable MW surface emissivity calculation over desert regions in CRTM.

- With new Zot change and new emissivity MW model together, obvious reduction of large bias in calculated brightness temperatures was found for infrared and microwave satellite sensors for surface channels, so many more satellite measurements can be utilized in GSI data assimilation system.
Microwave Land Emissivity Upgrades, Calculations in CRTM

Experiments:

GSI/CRTM off-line run: July 2010

Control run: Operational microwave (MW) land emissivity model;

Sensitivity test 1: Land surface types (soil & vegetation types);

Sensitivity test 2: (test 1) + Upwelling radiance from the ground.

Weizhong Zheng et al
Radiative transfer process for microwave scattering and emission material on the land surface.

The radiative transfer equation is

\[ \mu \frac{dI(\tau, \mu)}{d\tau} = I(\tau, \mu) - \frac{\omega(\tau)}{2} \int_{-1}^{1} Ps(\tau, \mu, \mu') d\mu' - [1 - \omega(\tau)]B(T) \]

- \( I \): radiance,
- \( \Omega(\tau) \): single-scattering albedo,
- \( Ps(\tau, \mu, \mu') \): phase function,
- \( B(T) \): Planck function,
- \( T \): thermal temperature,
- \( \tau \): optical thickness,
- \( \mu \): cosine of incident zenith angle,
- \( \mu' \): cosine of scattering zenith angle.
Total upwelling radiance from the surface:

\[
I_t(\tau_0, \mu) = \frac{B(T_g)(1-\beta)[1+\gamma e^{-2\kappa(\tau_1-\tau_0)}]}{(1-\beta R_{21})-(\beta - R_{21})\gamma e^{-2\kappa(\tau_1-\tau_0)}} + \frac{[I_0(1-R_{12})][\beta - \gamma e^{-2\kappa(\tau_1-\tau_0)}]}{(1-\beta R_{21})-(\beta - R_{21})\gamma e^{-2\kappa(\tau_1-\tau_0)}} + \frac{(1 - R_{23})[B(T_g) - B(T_s)]\gamma e^{-\kappa(\tau_1-\tau_0)}}{(1 - \beta R_{21})-(\beta - R_{21})\gamma e^{-2\kappa(\tau_1-\tau_0)}}
\]

Downwelling radiance at \(\tau_0\)  
Upwelling radiance at \(\tau_1\)

\[
\begin{align*}
I_{\text{middle}} & \\
I_{\text{top}} & \\
I_{\text{bottom}} &
\end{align*}
\]

Daytime:  \(T_g < T_s\), so \(I_{\text{bottom}} < 0\), \(I_t(\tau_0, \mu)\) decreases;

Nighttime:  \(T_g > T_s\), so \(I_{\text{bottom}} > 0\), \(I_t(\tau_0, \mu)\) increases.
Operational Monitoring Plots: NOAA-18 AMSU-A, Ch1, 06 July 2010

platform: amsua n18
variable: channel 1 ges (w/bias cor) - obs (K)
frequency: 23.80 GHz
wavelength: 12595.88 μm
cnt,avg,svd = 8227, -0.00181, 1.99045

06Z VTS 06206 JUN 2010
cnt,avg,svd = 7910, -0.04889, 1.97954

12Z VTS 12206 JUN 2010
cnt,avg,svd = 7874, 0.02658, 2.05348

18Z VTS 18206 JUN 2010
cnt,avg,svd = 7281, 0.01280, 2.06855

00Z VTS 00207 JUN 2010
Operational Monitoring Plots: NOAA-18 AMSU-A, Ch3, 06 July 2010

platform: amsua n18
variable: channel 3 ges_(w/bias cor) - obs (K)
cnt,avg,sdv = 9073, 0.16642, 1.41778

frequency: 50.30 GHz
wavelength: 5960.12 \mu m

cnt,avg,sdv = 8675, -0.09433, 1.43328

cnt,avg,sdv = 8620, 0.18567, 1.42472

18Z

cnt,avg,sdv = 8172, 0.18356, 1.50463

00Z
Comparison of Tb Bias (assimilated pixels): CTL & Sensitivity Tests

ctl

sen1

sen2
Comparison of Tb Bias (assimilated pixels): CTL & Sensitivity Tests

ctl AMSU-A Ch 3

sen1

sen2
Microwave Land Emissivity Calculation in CRTM summary

• The microwave land surface emissivity model updated with more accurate land surface parameters, canopy optical parameters and alternative dielectric constant calculation.

• Based on the three-layer medium model, the more accurate formula of total upwelling radiance emanating from the surface was derived, considering impact of ground upwelling radiance which is important for low microwave frequency channels, especially for the desert and semi-arid regions.

• The sensitivity experiments with GSI/CRTM show a reduction of errors in simulated brightness temperature, as well as an increase in the number observations assimilated in the GSI, compared to the results using a previous land surface emissivity scheme.

• Bias correction needs to further consideration after updated MW land emissivity model. How to consider it?
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Recent Land Data Assimilation Results with the Land Information System

Christa Peters-Lidard
Chief, Hydrological Sciences Laboratory, NASA/GSFC
20-MAR-2012

Acknowledgements:
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Jim Geiger – Advanced Data Management & Analysis Branch, NASA/GSFC
Ken Harrison, Anil Kumar, Soni Yatheendradas – Earth System Science Interdisciplinary Center, U. of Maryland
Developing Land Data Assimilation Capabilities

Figure 1: Snow water equivalent (SWE) based on Terra/MODIS and Aqua/AMSR-E. Future observations will be provided by JPSS/VIIRS and DWSS/MIS.

Figure 2: Annual average precipitation from 1998 to 2009 based on TRMM satellite observations. Future observations will be provided by GPM.

Figure 3: Daily soil moisture based on Aqua/AMSR-E. Future observations will be provided by SMAP.

Figure 4: Changes in annual-average terrestrial water storage (the sum of groundwater, soil water, surface water, snow, and ice, as an equivalent height of water in cm) between 2009 and 2010, based on GRACE satellite observations. Future observations will be provided by GRACE-II.

Figure 5: Current lakes and reservoirs monitored by OSTM/Jason-2. Shown are current height variations relative to 10-year average levels. Future observations will be provided by SWOT.
Soil Moisture Data Assimilation

Data Assimilated:
• AMSR-E LPRM soil moisture
• AMSR-E NASA soil moisture

Variables Analyzed:
• Soil Moisture
• Evapotranspiration
• Steamflow

Experimental Setup:
• Domain: CONUS, NLDAS
• Resolution: 0.125 deg.
• Period: 2002-01 to 2010-01
• Forcing: NLDASII
• LSM: Noah 2.7.1,3.2

Figure 3: Daily soil moisture based on Aqua/AMSR-E. Future observations will be provided by SMAP.

Soil moisture Assimilation -> soil moisture
(Evaluation vs SCAN)

### ALL available stations (179)

#### Anomaly correlation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>OL</th>
<th>NASA-DA</th>
<th>LPRM-DA</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Surface soil moisture (10cm)</td>
<td>0.55 +/- 0.01</td>
<td>0.49 +/- 0.01</td>
<td>0.56 +/- 0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Root zone soil moisture (1m)</td>
<td>0.17 +/- 0.01</td>
<td>0.13 +/- 0.01</td>
<td>0.19 +/- 0.01</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### (21) Stations listed in Reichle et al. (2007)

#### Anomaly correlation

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<th>LPRM-DA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Surface soil moisture (10cm)</td>
<td>0.62 +/- 0.05</td>
<td>0.53 +/- 0.05</td>
<td>0.62 +/- 0.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Root zone soil moisture (1m)</td>
<td>0.16 +/- 0.05</td>
<td>0.13 +/- 0.05</td>
<td>0.19 +/- 0.05</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Latent Heat Flux (Qle) Estimates over CONUS (“Observed” vs. Modeled Open Loop (OL))

Soil Moisture Assimilation -> Evapotranspiration (Qle)

**FLUXNET**

**MOD16**

RMSE

Bias

Where Does Soil Moisture Assimilation Help Improve Qle (i.e. Reduce RMSE)?

Where Does Soil Moisture Assimilation Help Improve Qle (i.e. Reduce RMSE) ?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Landcover type</th>
<th>FLUXNET</th>
<th>MOD16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NASA-DA (Wm⁻²)</td>
<td>LPRM-DA (Wm⁻²)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evergreen needleleaf forest</td>
<td>17.6</td>
<td>7.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deciduous broadleaf forest</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>12.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed forest</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>8.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodlands</td>
<td>16.4</td>
<td>18.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wooded grassland</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>-0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closed shrubland</td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open shrubland</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>7.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grassland</td>
<td>23.9</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cropland</td>
<td>12.3</td>
<td>34.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bare soil</td>
<td>-0.1</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>-0.1</td>
<td>-0.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Soil Moisture Assimilation -> Streamflow Evaluation vs. USGS gauges – by major basins
Soil Moisture Assimilation -> Streamflow
(average seasonal cycles of RMSE– using Xia et al. (2011) stations)
Soil Moisture Assimilation -> Streamflow
(average seasonal cycles of RMSE– using Xia et al. (2011) stations)
SMOS soil moisture assimilation tests in the GFS

The simplified ensemble Kalman Filter (EnKF) was embedded in the GFS latest version to assimilate soil moisture observation

Case: 00Z July 6, 2011. (GFS free forecast)

Experiments:

CTL: Control run

EnKF: Sensitivity run

(PRT: 0.20, 0.15, 0.10, 0.05)

and precipitation perturbation.

PRT: Perturbation size for each layer soil moisture.

Weizhong Zheng and Xiwu Zhan (NESDIS/STAR)
Comparison of Soil Moisture between GFS & SMOS

SMOS: SOILM  **SMOS**  2011-07-06

GFS: SOILM1 [Fraction]  **CTL**  00Z 2011-07-06, fhour = 00h

EnKF: GFS EnKf: SOILM1  00Z 2011-07-06, fhour = 00h
Comparison of Soil Moisture between GFS & SMOS

SMOS: SOILM  

GFS: SOILM

EnKF

CTL
Comparison of Precipitation between CTL and EnKF

GFS_EnKf: 24h Prec. [mm]  fhour = 12h–36h

CTL

EnKF

OBS

EnKF-CTL
Difference of T2m, q2m and Tsfc between CTL and EnKF at 90h (daytime in central US)
Difference of latent heat flux (LHF) and sensible heat flux (SHF) between CTL and EnKF at 90h (daytime in central US)
Outline

• Motivation
• Applications:
  - North American Land Data Assimilation System (NLDAS) -- “Flagship” LDAS project at NCEP
  - “HRAP”-NLDAS
  - Global LDAS (GLDAS)
• Methods/examples:
  - Surface emissivity/Tb assimilation
  - Soil moisture
  - Snow
• Summary/Future
Assimilation of MODIS snow

Motivation

• In the western United States, over half of the water supply is derived from mountain snowmelt.
• In many mid latitude and high altitude regions, the snow delays runoff and provides water in the spring and summer when it is needed most.
• Both the passive microwave snow water equivalent (SWE) observations and model predictions contain large errors due to land surface complexities.
• Accurate knowledge of snowpack properties is important for short-term weather forecasts, climate change prediction, and hydrologic forecasting.
Models

Sacramento Soil Moisture Accounting Model

SNOW17 Snow Model Schematic

SAC-HT
In each grid and in each time step, transform conceptual soil water content to physically-based water content

Source: U. Arizona
Simulation of Soil Moisture

LIS

Source: U. Arizona
Simulation of Soil Moisture

Sacramento
Model Storages

Physically-based
Soil Layers and
Soil Moisture

Sacramento
Model Storages

UZTWC  UZFWC
UZFWC  UZTWC
LZPC  LZFC  LTWC
LZPC  LZFC  LTWC
SMC1  SMC2  SMC3  SMC4  SMC5

2. MELT = QN+QE+QH+RAINM
QN: Net radiation transfer
QE: Latent heat transfer
QH: Sensible heat transfer
RAINM=0.0125*P+H+T
PLUSES — DMIP2 Sierra-Nevada Basin in HRAP grid (48×39 grids)
TRIANGLES – East Fork Carson River Basin grid (9×13 grids)
DOTS — SNOTEL & USHCN in-situ sites.
The snow cover fraction data were derived from Terra-MODIS Level 3 500m Daily Snow Cover Area Data onto a HRAP grid at 4.7625KM resolution. The HRAP grid is treated as cloud cover when the cloud cover fraction is above 50%.
We perform two runs in parallel. One without assimilation (left), the other applying data assimilation (right). We just apply the direct insertion algorithm in our assimilation. LIS SAC-HT/SNOW17 model operates 1 Oct 2001 to 30 Sep 2002.
Data Assimilation (temporal comp.)

Snow Cover Fraction
Comparison of snow cover fraction between the MODIS (blue circles), the open loop simulation (black line) and the assimilation simulation (green line).

Snow Water Equivalent
Comparison of snow water equivalent between the open loop simulation (green), the assimilation simulation (red) and the in-situ measurement (black) averaged over all SNOTEL sites in the study region.
Snow Assimilation Summary and Future Plans

• This study has investigated remotely-sensed MODIS snow cover estimation uncertainty. For cloud-free pixels, the MODIS SCA retrieval errors can be quantitatively predicted by temperature with regional calibrated parameters.

• The preliminary experiments show that the snow cover fraction after assimilation shows close agreement to the MODIS SCF observations.

• Comparison at an individual grid between open loop and assimilation simulations shows that the snow water equivalent is also modified through assimilation of MODIS SCF.

• We will apply the derived statistical regression equation to prescribe the error in MODIS snow cover fraction, and further apply into the EnKF assimilation.
Outline

- Motivation
- Applications:
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  - Snow
- Summary/Future
NCEP/EMC Land Modeling and Data Assimilation: Future – Big Picture

- Unified Noah LSM in all NCEP NWP and climate systems, plus in NLDAS/GLDAS.

- Noah land model run in GLDAS under NASA/LIS as part of the NOAA Environmental Modeling System (NEMS). Currently LIS used in CFS/GLDAS, and in uncoupled NLDAS & HRAP-NLDAS.

- Assimilation of land states, e.g. snow, soil moisture, skin temperature, vegetation.

- Multi-land model ensemble under NEMS/LIS.

- What we learn here will help improve model physics in Noah (and other land models) and ancillary codes (e.g. surface-layer); use LIS LVT.
Thank you!