# SICE: simple sea ice scheme

Possibilities and limitations

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## Sea ice in SURFEX v7



Sea ice as seen by SURFEX ICEFLUX scheme

- Assuming SURFEX in coupled mode within HARMONIE
- SEA tile is handled by SEAFLUX scheme, 'ECUME' option
- Only two states of SEA grid cell
  - open sea
  - fully covered by ice
- Ice areas are determined through surface temperature

## Drawbacks

#### Kemi I station (№ 02863) April 2013



- Forecast depends on external data
- Harmonie in NWP mode updates ice surface temperature once per cycle
- Sharp temperature gradients over ice edge
- Unrealistic 2 meter temperatures

#### SICE: simple sea ice scheme



Sea ice as seen by SURFEX with SICE scheme

- Uses SURFEX' standard routines for heat diffusion
- Ice thickness is uniform and fixed
- Ice covered areas are defined by ice concentration field
- Scheme solves heat diffusion in a thick layer of sea ice
- Snow on ice is modeled through calls to ISBA ES

## SICE: simple sea ice scheme

$$\begin{cases} C_t \frac{\partial T_i}{\partial t} = F - \lambda \left. \frac{\partial T_i}{\partial z} \right|_{z=0} & \text{if } z = 0, \\ C_i \frac{\partial T_i}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \lambda \frac{\partial T_i}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial z} & \text{if } 0 < z < H, \\ T_i = T_{frz} & \text{if } z = H, \end{cases}$$

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- Linearized w.r.t. *T<sub>i</sub>* version of surface heat balance is used
- Temperature is resolved through implicit finite difference scheme
- Diagnostics are taken from the ICEFLUX scheme
- For ice albedo a simple temperature based parameterization is used
- Thermal properties of ice layer are defined by set of empirical formulations

## SICE: implementation

```
! . . .
MODEL_FIELD(
                                       &
   'TICE',
                                       &
   'Ice temperature',
                                       &
   'K'.
                                       &
   [M%NUM_POINTS, M%NUM_LAYERS, 0],&
   P2 = M\%T
                                       &
             ).
                                       &
MODEL FIELD(
                                       &
1 . . .
```

- Minimal changes of the existing code
- Model-specific data stored locally
- Model IO is controlled by a descriptor-based list

#### SICE uses OO approach and Fortran 2003

```
select case(CSCHEME)
  case('SCHEME_A')
   call scheme_a(...)
  case('SCHEME_B')
   call scheme_b(...)
end select
```

call scheme%run(...)

## SICE: implementation



/\*...\*/

#### SICE: impact on forecast





- Improved 2 meter temperature forecast
- Almost no impact on mean sea level pressure
- SICE-enabled HARMONIE tends to produce higher 10 meter wind speeds over ice covered areas

## Limitations of the simple ice scheme

- 1D model without any parameterization of ice dynamics
- Prescribed uniform ice thickness
- Scheme is driven by the external ice fraction field, thus depends on its quality
- Snow-free setup is not realistic and often causes too warm ice surface
  - but snow-enabled configuration has several problems
- Simplistic initialization procedure
- No assimilation
  - ice scheme runs freely from cycle to cycle

#### External ice fraction data

#### Examples of erroneous external ice fraction



- SICE uses ice concentration data from an external source to define ice covered grid cells
- Sometimes these data contain errors
- Areas with unrealistic amounts of ice should be filtered, but for some cases it's a tricky task

## External ice fraction data

1.0

Ice concentration, 21MAR2016



- Ice concentration fields in HARMONIE provided by boundary files
- Resolution of boundary data does not allow to reproduce small elements of coastline
- Ice fraction in fjords is result of filling and extrapolation

## Initialization of new ice

#### Ice concentration, 09-10FEB2017



- Two options for initial ice temperature in off-line mode
  - Ice temperature is uniform
  - Ice surface temperature is defined by the composite SST field, internal – via linear interpolation
- In coupled mode temperature of new ice is derived from temperature of existing ice

#### Initialization of new ice



$$\Pi = \frac{1}{6}H(T_1 + 4T_2 + T_3)$$

- New ice is not set to freezing temperature
- Information from the nearest edge of old ice is used
- Shape function is introduced to minimize differences of thermal profiles between old and new ice

#### 10 meter wind speed over ice

#### 10 meter wind speed ME [m/s] 01-31MAR2013



Average drag over ice



- SICE introduces additional amounts of open sea in areas that not fully covered by ice
- Increased amount of open sea causes decrease of average drag over ice

#### 10 meter wind speed over ice

#### 10 meter wind speed ME [m/s] 01-31MAR2013



- Introduced additional term in averaging procedure reduces 10 meter wind speed bias
- This additional term uses ice concentration as one of its parameters, thus depends on quality of external ice fraction field

#### SICE: current status

#### SICE in operational HARMONIE

- AROME Arctic
- AROME MetCoOp

SICE operational setup

- snow block is switched off
- 4 ice layers
- ice thickness 0.75 meters
- ice concentration
  - Baltic sea HIROMB data
  - Atlantic and Arctic ocean data by ECMWF boundary files

#### SICE: current status





SICE: current status

#### Surface temperature [°C] 17MAR2016



## Future plans

- Improve handling of snow on ice.
- Port ice mass balance parameterizations from HIGHTSI
- Sea ice analysis

## Questions?