Journée d'Information SONEL

Réchauffement anthropique des océans et montée du niveau des mers

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MEDITERRANEAN INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES With contributions from: S. Dangendorf F. M. Calafat A. Amores

Global sea level rise



Regional sea level rise



1870 1890 1910 1930 1950 1970 1990 2010 Time [yr]

Dangendorf et al 2014

Challenge

Detection of anthropogenic signals in sea level records

Are the observed trends larger than the distribution derived from natural variability only?



What is natural variability??

Natural variability is derived from the noise of the series, i. e., the energy distribution at different frequency bands, i.e. the autocorrelation of the observations

Natural variability may differ from one site to another

Characterising natural variability ...

Detrended Fluctuation Analysis [*Peng et al.*, 1995; *Bunde et al.*, 2001; *Dangendorf et al*, 2014; *Becker et al.*, 2014]





Credits: S. Dangendorf

External sea level trends

Minima anthropogenic sea level trends in the North Sea



Ongoing work...



A step further: <u>Attribution</u> of observed changes in sea level to anthropogenic forcing

Climate models and simulations





Global thermosteric sea level rise



Basin scale thermosteric sea level rise









Attributing observed changes to human activity...

Signal-to-Noise (S/N) maximising EOFs [Venzke et al., 1999; Chang et al., 2000; Kelley et al., 2011; Marcos and Amores, 2014]

Characterizes the time-varying response to a time-varying forcing in a system with internal variability.

Allows identification of the "common" response to the external forcing from an ensemble of numerical integrations (dominant **forced response**)



Marcos and Amores, 2014

Ensemble average vs. "Forced response"

Externally-forced global thermosteric sea level rise



Global thermosteric sea level of anthropogenic origin



Trends in global average (mm/yr)	
Observations	0.46±0.03
Ensemble-mean	0.55±0.08
Historically-forced	0.43±0.03
Anthropogenic	0.40±0.07

~87% (with 95% confidence interval of 72-100%) of the observed warming-related sea level rise in the 0-700 m of the global ocean is of anthropogenic origin

'Take away' messages



There is long term correlation in sea level observations. It is sometimes masked by short term high energy processes



Characterizing the variability is essential to estimate anthropogenic impacts. It is a local issue for sea level



Observed sea level trends are larger than those expected from natural variability only



Thermosteric sea level rise since 1970 has a clear anthropogenic impact



Globally, human activity is reponsible for 87% of the oceans warming for the top 700 m and its derived sea level rise

Merci de votre attention