

**Multi-Column Ocean Grid (MCOG) Representation  
For the Community Earth System Model**

Marika Holland, Gokhan Danabasoglu and Bruce P. Briegleb

National Center for Atmospheric Research

Meibing Jin, Jennifer K. Hutchings and Igor V. Polyakov

International Arctic Research Center

Robert W. Hallberg and Michael Winton

Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory

## Overview

- CESM Sea Ice/Ocean Exchange
- MCOG Representation
- MCOG First Results
- Summary and Future Work

# CESM Sea Ice/Ocean Exchange

$n = 1, N_{cat}$  categories       $m = 1, N_{stp}$  time steps

## Sea Ice Component

$$A_m = \sum_{n=1}^{N_{cat}} (a_{nm})$$

$$F_m = \sum_{n=1}^{N_{cat}} (a_{nm} F_{nm}) / A_m$$

## Coupler

$$A = \sum_{m=1}^{N_{stp}} (A_m) / N_{stp}$$

$$F = \sum_{m=1}^{N_{stp}} (1 - A_m)(F_{atm})_m / N_{stp} + \sum_{m=1}^{N_{stp}} (A_m F_m) / N_{stp}$$

## Grid Box Averaged Fluxes to Ocean Component

$$F_{ocn} = F_{atm} * (1 - A) + F_{ice} * A$$

Frazil Ice in Ocean Component surface layer:  $\delta T, \delta S$

# MCOG Representation

## Sea Ice Component

$\{a_{nm}, F_{nm}\}$   $n = 1, N_{cat}$  categories  $m = 1, N_{stp}$  time steps

## Coupler

$$a_n = \sum_{m=1}^{N_{stp}} (a_{nm}) / N_{stp} \quad 1 = \sum_{n=0}^{N_{cat}} a_n$$

$$F_n = \sum_{m=1}^{N_{stp}} (a_{nm} F_{nm}) / a_n N_{stp}$$

$$F_0 = \sum_{m=1}^{N_{stp}} (1 - a_{nm}) F_{nm} / (1 - A) N_{stp}$$

## Category Fluxes to Ocean Component

$a_n$   $n_{th}$  category grid box ice fraction

$F_n$   $n_{th}$  category flux

$\{n\}$   $(0, N_{cat} = 5 \text{ categories})$

Frazil Ice contribution to Open Ocean ( $n = 0$ ) buoyancy

## Applying MCOG to KPP

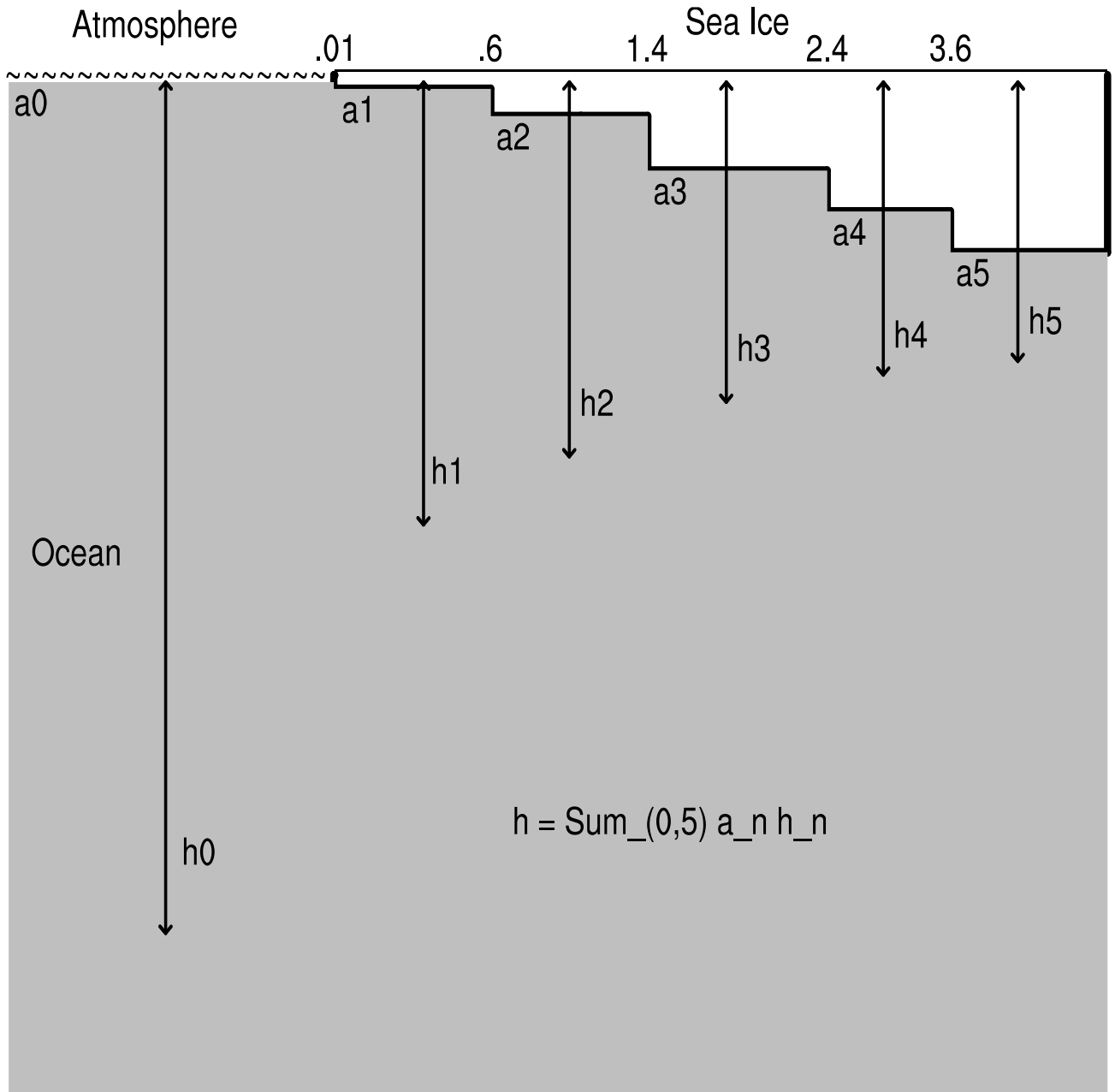
$$h = \sum_{n=0}^{N_{cat}} a_n h_n \quad \text{boundary layer depth}$$

$$k = \sum_{n=0}^{N_{cat}} a_n k_n \quad \text{vertical diffusivity}$$

$$\mu = \sum_{n=0}^{N_{cat}} a_n \mu_n \quad \text{vertical viscosity}$$

# Schematic of MCOG

## Open Ocean and Five Thickness Category Sea Ice



## MCOG First Results

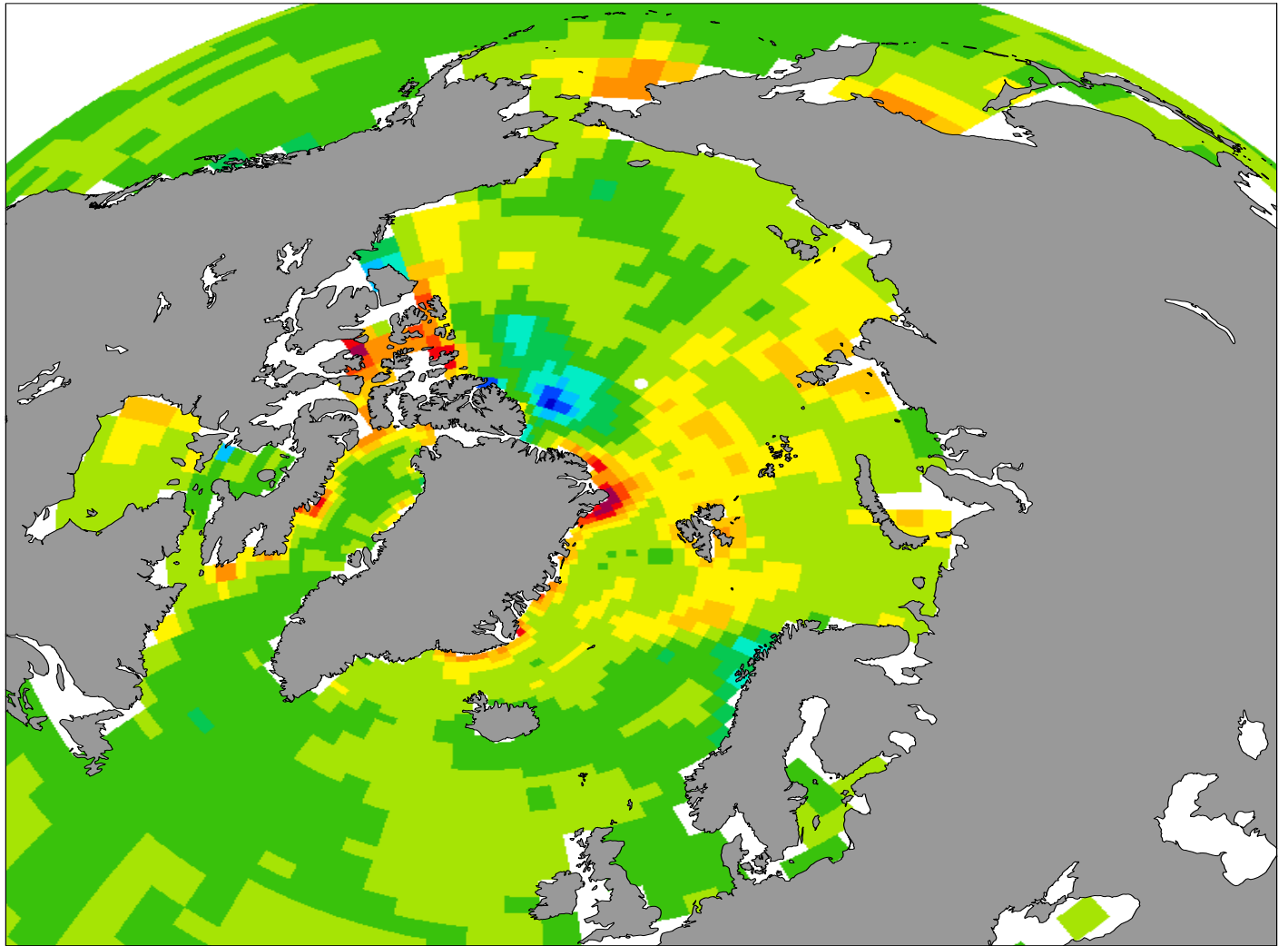
- CESM4 Release Code Base
- gx3 Ocean/Sea Ice with Normal Year Forcing
- Out-of-box 100 year Control Run
- MCOG parallel 100 year run
- Year 100 compared between MCOG and Control run

## Summary of MCOG Impact

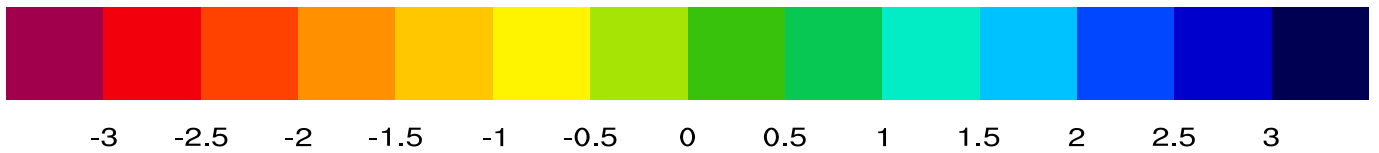
- Minimal
- IFRAC: Arctic  $< \pm.005$  and Antarctic mostly  $< \pm.02$
- hi: Typical regional values from  $-0.01\ m$  to  $+0.02\ m$
- TEMP: Polar values mostly less than  $\pm.03\ ^\circ C$
- SALT: Polar values mostly less than  $\pm.03\ \text{psu}$
- HBLT: Typical regional values from  $-2.0\ m$  to  $+1.0\ m$
- HBLT: Systematic decrease  $-2\ m$  to  $-10\ m$  for polar coastlines

# Boundary Layer Depth MCOG - CONTROL

## ARCTIC Annual Mean



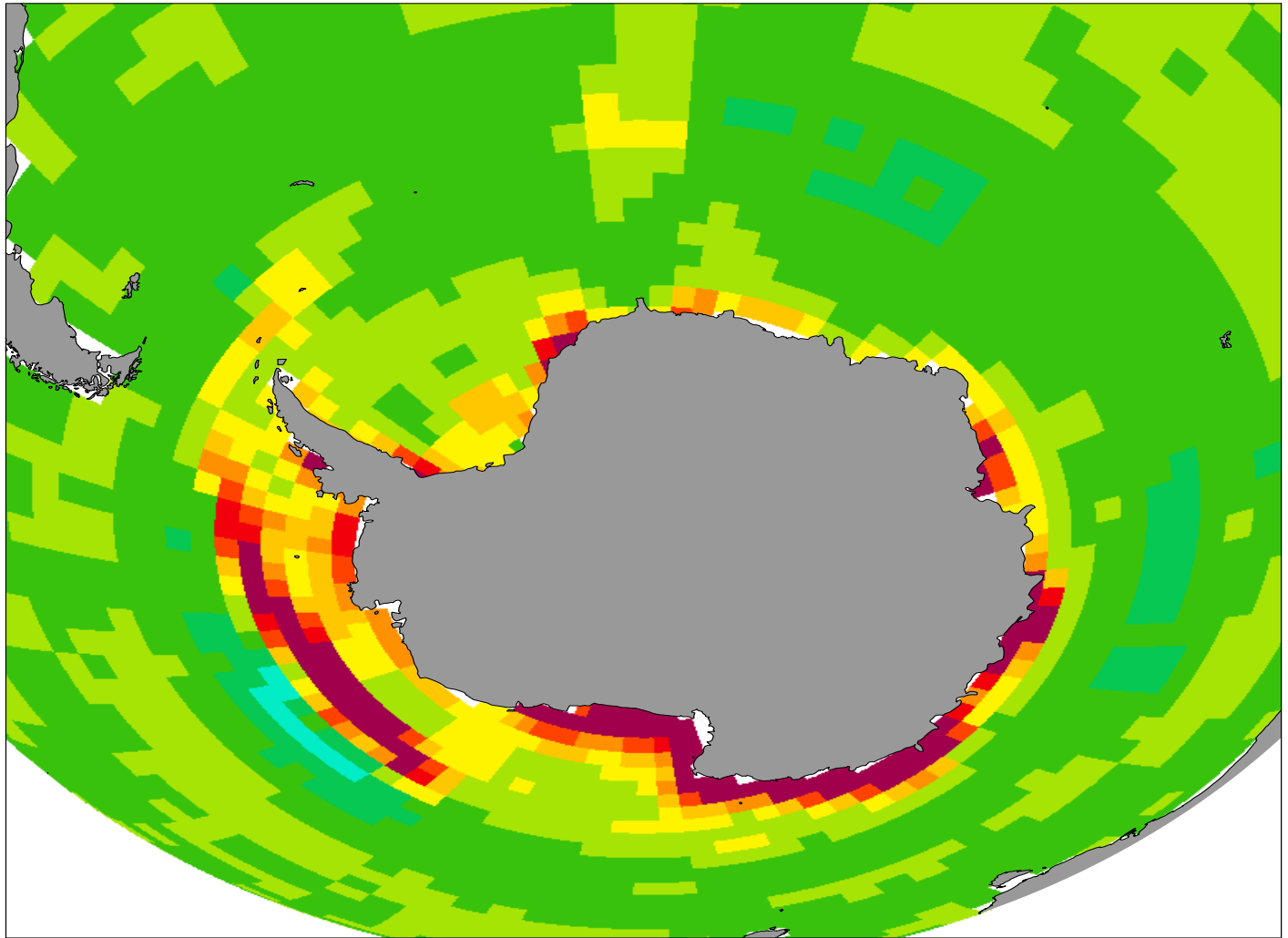
Annual Difference Boundary Layer Depth (m)  
MCOG minus Control



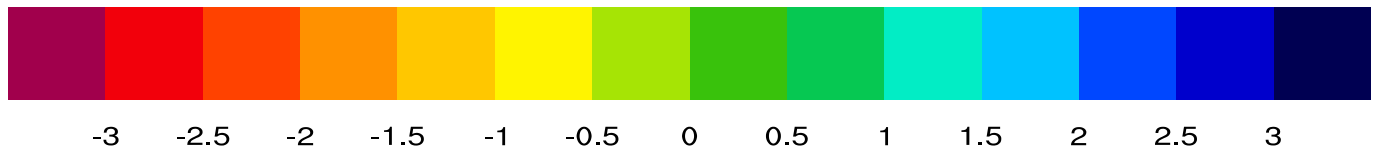


# Boundary Layer Depth MCOG - CONTROL

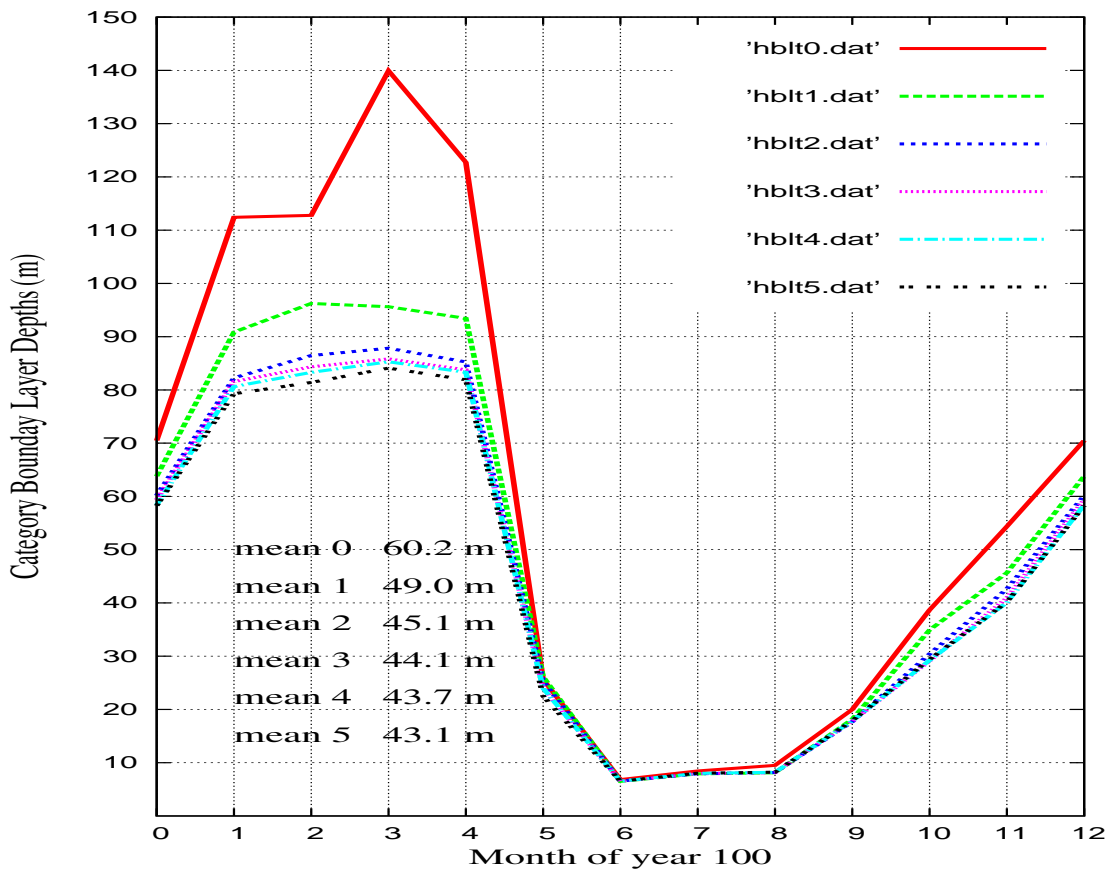
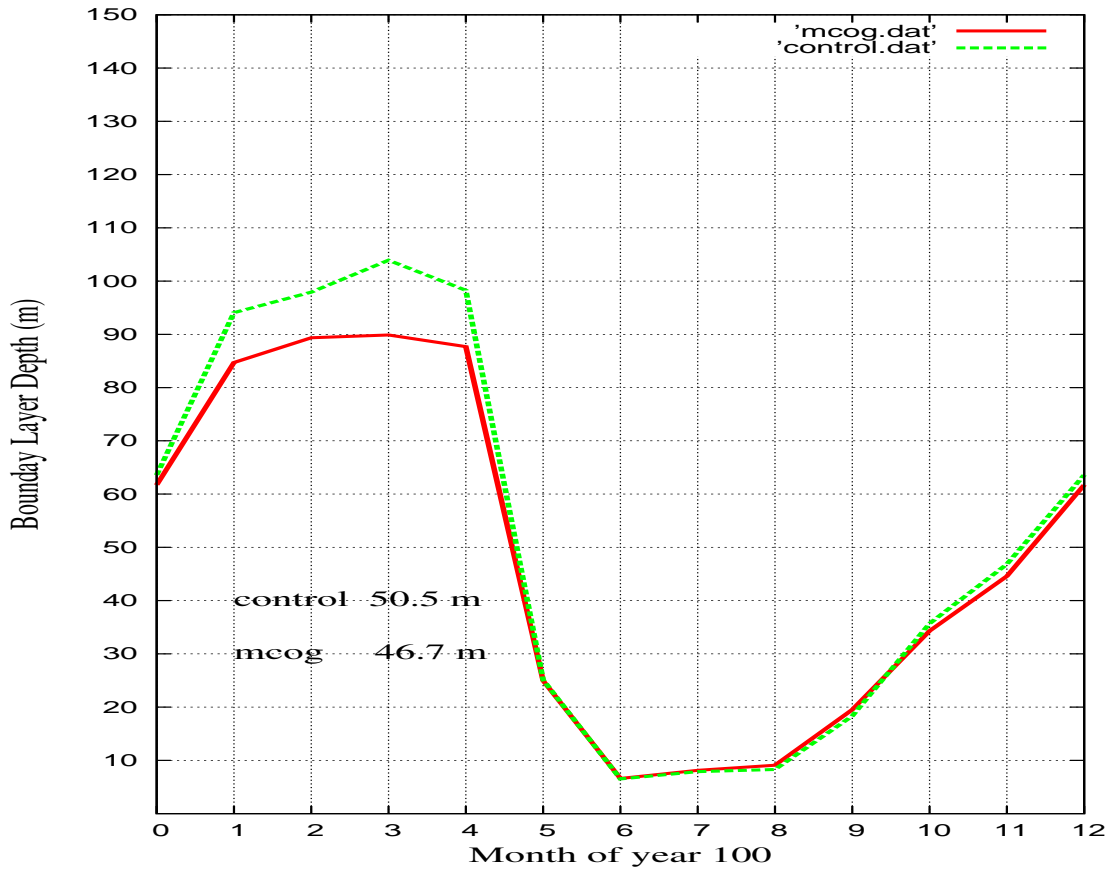
## ANTARCTIC Annual Mean



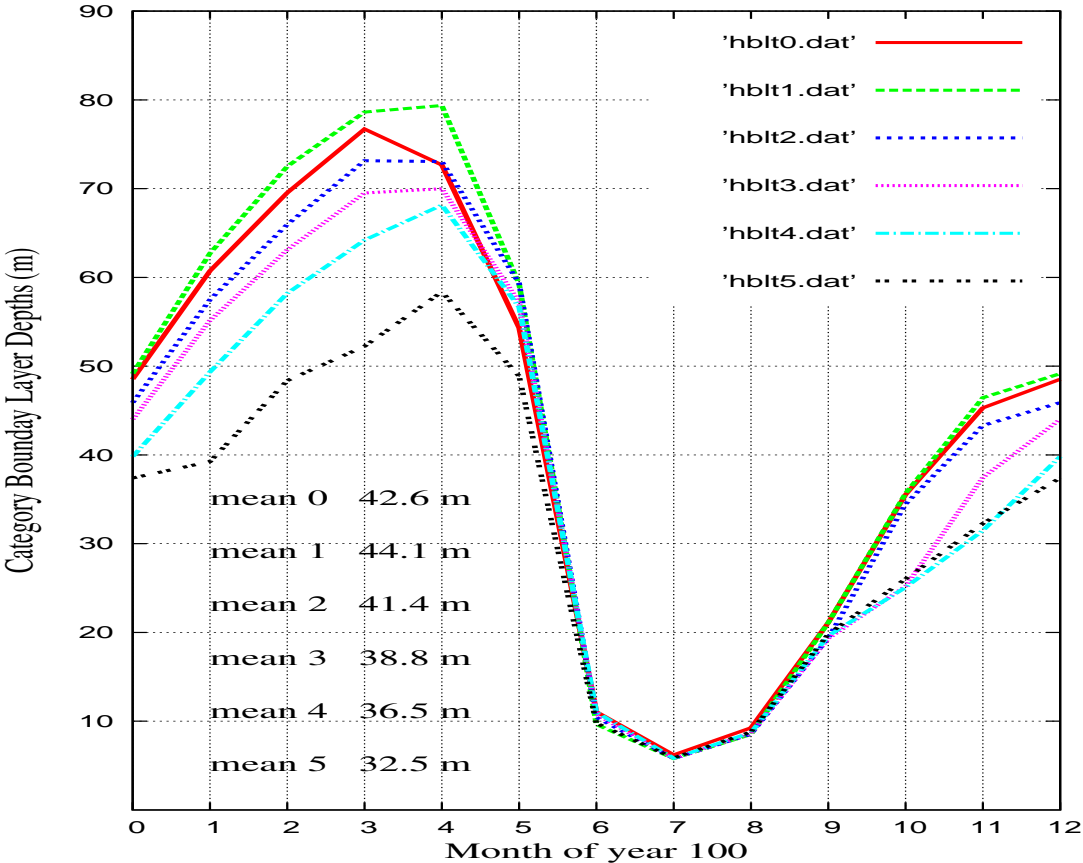
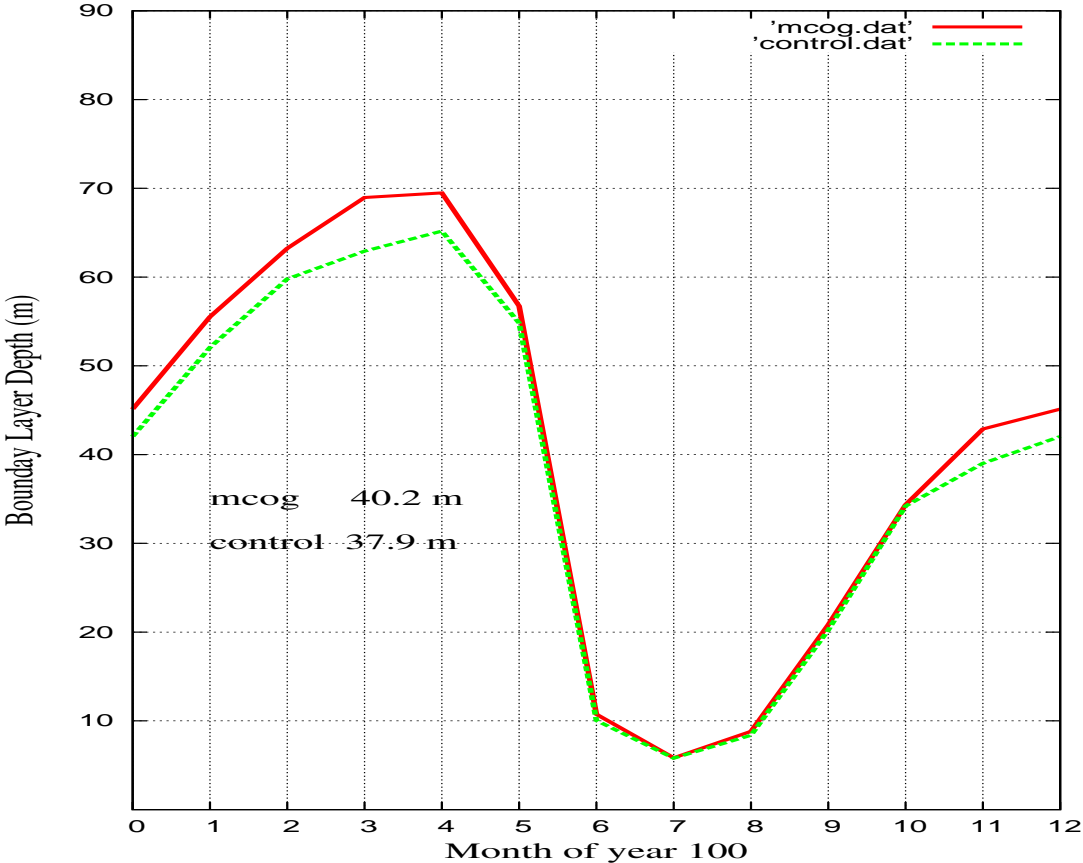
Annual Difference Boundary Layer Depth (m)  
MCOG minus Control



# Boundary Layer Depth Annual Cycle: Northeast Greenland Coast



# Boundary Layer Depth Annual Cycle: North of Greenland



## Summary

- Deeper boundary layer depths in open ocean than sea ice
- Small decreases in polar coastal regions, 2 – 5 *m*
- Deepening/shallowing mostly in winter
- Very small changes in sea ice thickness and concentration
- Minimal impact on ocean T,S
- Overall, MCOG impact on mean state small

## Future Work

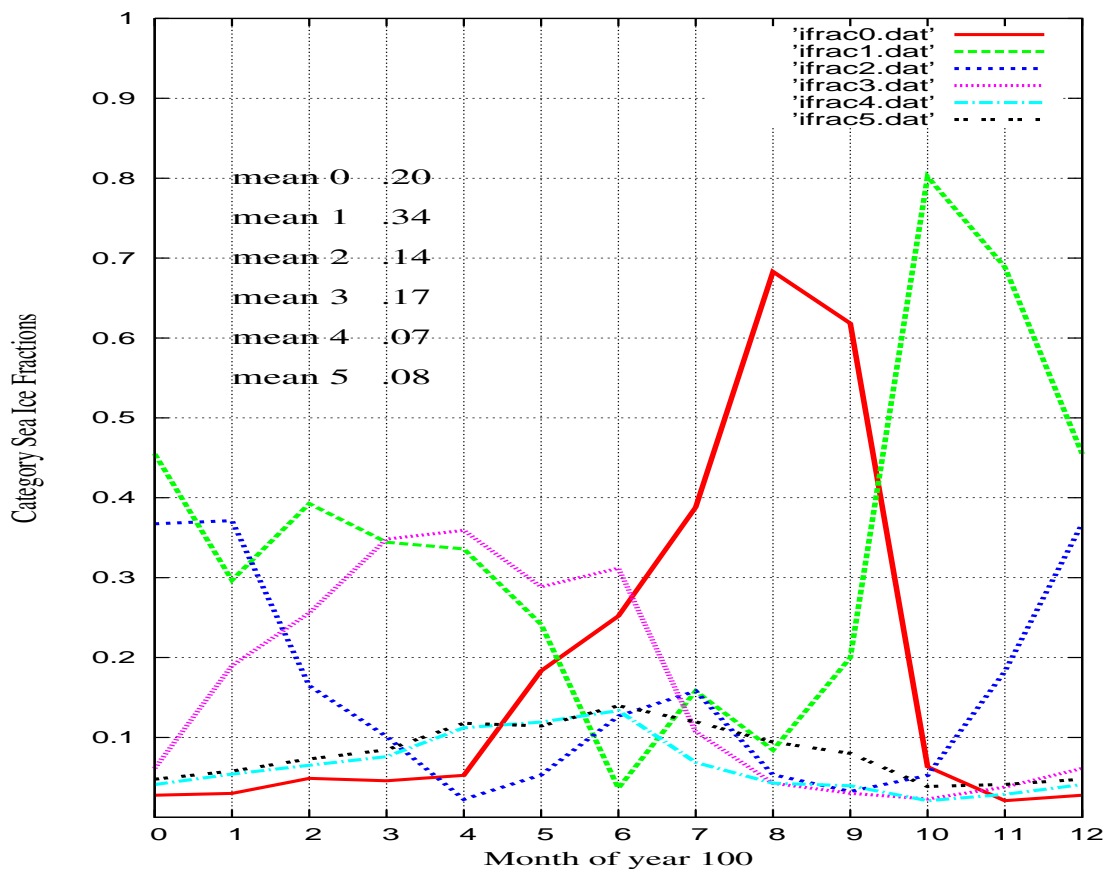
- Fully coupled MCOG; more response?
- Simplified representation? Alternate parameterization?
- Combine with Ecosystem Model. How?

## Category Fields for Northeast Greenland Coast, February

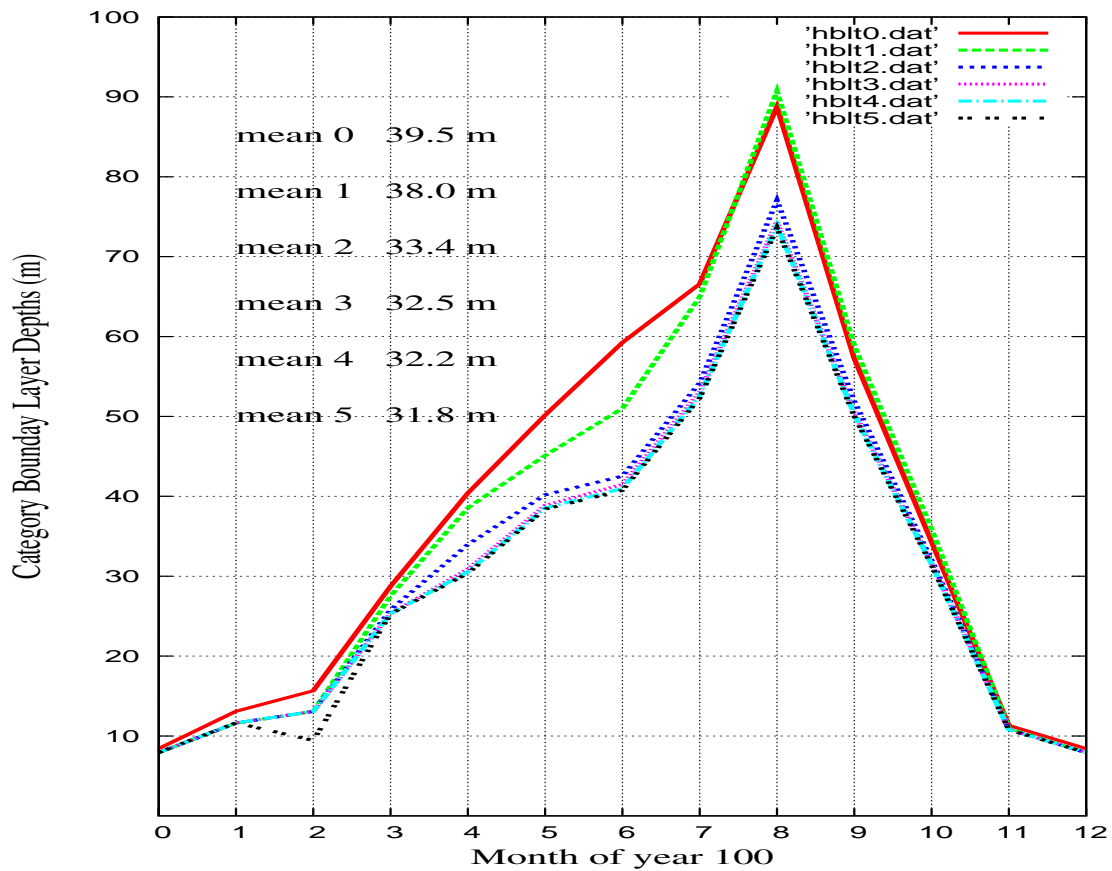
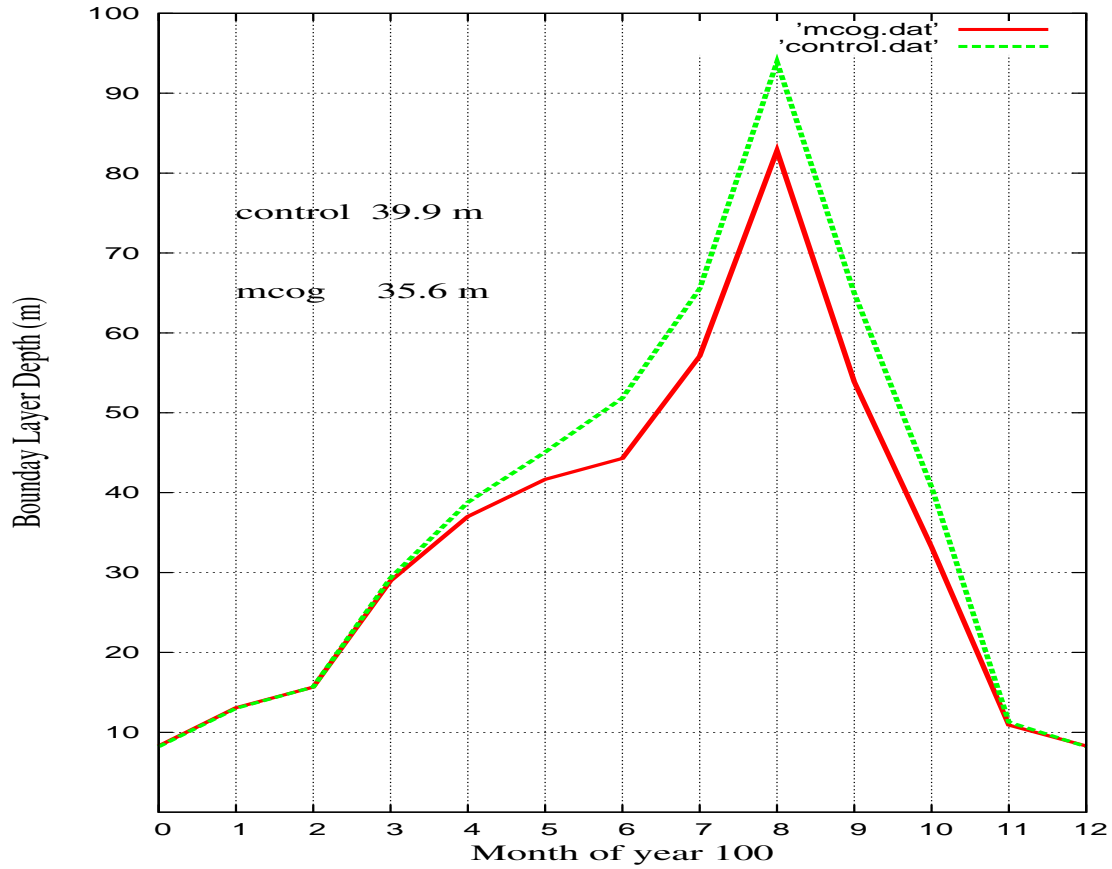
Field	0	1	2	3	4	5
Ice Frac	.05	.39	.16	.26	.07	.07
Heat		-.079	-.079	-.079	-.079	-.079
Frazil	17.0					
Salt		-1.6E-06	-2.9E-07	-1.6E-07	-1.0E-07	-2.3E-08
Fresh		-3.9E-04	-7.3E-05	-3.9E-05	-2.4E-05	-5.6E-06
STF(T)	-1.2E-02	-1.9E-06	-1.9E-06	-1.9E-06	-1.9E-06	-1.9E-06
STF(S)	3.4E-06	1.2E-06	2.2E-07	1.2E-07	7.3E-08	1.5E-08
Ustar	1.24	1.11	1.11	1.11	1.11	1.11

$$Ri = g'h / \{ (\Delta u^2 + \Delta v^2) + w_m \}$$

## Sea Ice Fraction Annual Cycle: Northeast Greenland Coast



# Boundary Layer Depth Annual Cycle: Antarctic Coast



**CPT: Ocean Mixing Processes Associated with  
High Spatial Heterogeneity in Sea Ice and  
the Implications for Climate Models**

**Questions**

1. How does MCOG work during the ice growth period?
2. How can MCOG be implemented in 3-D climate models?
3. How does MCOG influence physical and biogeochemical tracers that have fluxes between ice and ocean?
4. How much can MCOG reduce uncertainties in climate models?
5. What is the importance of explicitly representing the high ice/ocean flux spatial heterogeneity in climate processes and feedbacks?