Meltwater routing in GEOS: current activities and plans

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Meltwater routing in GEOS: current activities and plans

Current representation in GEOS

The glacial hydrologic system (in short)





Near-term plans*



Ongoing work and relevant projects

GIObal Modeling and Assimilation Office gmao.gsfc.nasa.gov



The glacial hydrologic system



Response to current climate conditions

Dynamic impacts on glacier and ice sheet mass loss

Location and routing delay of glacier and ice sheet runoff

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Important surface characteristics: Bare ice routing delays





Modified from https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/images/80677/greenland-melt-ponds

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Important surface characteristics: Firn routing modifications



Longitude (°)

-80 -70 -60 -50 -40 -30 -20 -10

Firn processes and local conditions can accelerate or delay meltwater delivery to the ocean.



10001

1,230 k

(6)



Important subglacial characteristics



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Glacier and ice sheet representation in GEOS



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Glacier and ice sheet representation in GEOS: surface routing improvements

Previous surface routing



What GEOS can do now (GEOS-S2S v3)



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Glacier and ice sheet representation in GEOS: surface routing improvements

Previous surface routing



What GEOS can do now (GEOS-S2S v3)





Glacier and ice sheet representation in GEOS: near term improvements

Improved ice surface catchment representation





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Glacier and ice sheet representation in GEOS: near term improvements

Improved ice surface catchment representation





ArcticDEM Mosaic v7 (Polar Geospatial Center)

National Aeronautics and Space Administration



Glacier and ice sheet representation in GEOS: routing delay implementation



Related work: parameterizing surface to bed connections

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Andrews & Poinar (2019)

Related work: parameterizing surface to bed connections

Andrews & Poinar

Related work: snow data assimilation

Toure et al. (2018)

Land–climate interactions, including snow–atmosphere coupling, are important sources of weather and climate predictability.

High Mountain Asia Program Project (M. Girotto & L. Andrews) will develop a coupled Land- Atmosphere- and Ocean- S2S framework with a primary goal of snow observation assimilation.

Expected issues and final thoughts

Goals

- Development of physically consistent ice catchments
- Implementation of time delayed routing scheme
 - 'seamless integration' with current land routing scheme
- Firn model/processes
- Aerosol snow/ice darkening
- Reanalysis integration

Thoughts

 Subglacial hydrology is not relevant for the current versions of GEOS, but this structure and a stochastic model for englacial drainage features should readily allow its treatment within GEOS-ISSM coupled framework.

Likely issues

- Calibration and validation of k and ice sheet/glacier runoff
- Differences between model ice extent and natural ice extent
- Runoff and calving integration with ocean model

