





Separating physics, dynamics and tracer grids in CAM-SE

(Community Atmosphere model - Spectral Elements)

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Getting away from the lat-lon grid ...

CAM=NCAR's Community Atmosphere Model



CAM-FV (finite volume)

Lin (2004)

CAM-SE (spectral elements)

Taylor et al., (1997) Dennis et al., (2012)

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CAM-SE: NCAR Community Atmosphere Model with Spectral Elements dynamical core

Continuous Galerkin finite-element method (Taylor et al., 1997) on a cubed-sphere:



Discretization is mimetic => mass-conservation & total energy conservation
 Conserves axial angular momentum very well (Lauritzen et al., 2014)
 Support static mesh-refinement and retains formal order of accuracy!
 Highly scalable to at least O(100K) processors (Dennis et al., 2012)
 Competitive "AMIP-climate" (Evans et al., 2012)
 Lower computational throughput for many-tracer applications
 Tracer transport accuracy?



MPAS



CAM-FV



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CAM-SE· NCAR Community Atmosphere



NCAR

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- Computational grid: 3 elements, 4 quadrature points in each element (np=4)
- This quadrature will integrate polynomials of degree 3 exactly
- Note: quadrature points are duplicated on element edges







• Let the initial condition for GLL point values be a degree 3 polynomial







- Let the initial condition for GLL point values be a degree 3 polynomial
- The polynomial basis exactly represents initial condition







- Within each element the dynamical core advances one Runga-Kutta step
- Note each element advances the solution in time independently







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- Discontinuities may develop at element edges averaging at element edges







- This process is repeated for every Runga-Kutta stage (currently 5 times per dynamics time-step)
- Physics is "run on GLL grid"







• Physics update: say it perturbs one point value







- Physics update: say it perturbs one point value
- Polynomial basis changed in element 2
- Basis functions only C⁰ at element edges



Topography smoothing in CAM

30 year AMIP simulations



OMEGA, JJA, model level 16 (approximately 323 hPa)

Notation: $2.5xdiv = 2.5^2$ times more divergence damping than vorticity damping 4x, 8x, ..., 32x = smoothing of surface geopotential height

Topography smoothing in CAM



Mean sea level pressure differences, DJF, diff

Lauritzen et al., (2015): NCAR Global Model Topography Generation Software for Unstructured Grids

How do we (/should we?) couple the dynamical core with sub-grid scale parameterizations (physics)?



Traditionally physics and dynamics grids are collocated



- smoothly varying grid in terms of grid size
- Much higher resolution near poles, however, dynamical core usually has filter in the polar regions to filter out small scales
- Aside: Lat-lon grid is "optimal" for minimizing zonal flow errors! ... when grid is no longer zonally aligned errors get rather large

Traditionally physics and dynamics grids are collocated



Np=4

If you construct control volumes around the quadrature points so that the area of the control volumes equals the Gaussian quadrature weight (times metric term) then a very anisotropic grid results

Gets "worse" with:

- mesh-refined grids
- increasing polynomial order













Separate physics-dynamics grids?

Current physics/"coupler" grid

Finite-volume equi-angular gnomonic grid





CAM-SE default configuration



Dynamics: Spectral-element dynamics on Gauss-Lobatto-Legendre (GLL) nodal values

(4x4 GLL point in each element; degree 3 Lagrange polynomials)

Tracer advection: Spectralelement method that is element-wise conservative and shape-preserving at the node level

Physics: Physics columns computed at GLL nodal values

CAM-SE-CSLAM configuration



Dynamics: Spectral-element dynamics on Gauss-Lobatto-Legendre (GLL) nodal values

(4x4 GLL point in each element; degree 3 Lagrange polynomials)

Tracer advection: Conservative Semi-Lagrangian Multi-tracer transport scheme (CSLAM)

Physics: Physics columns using cell-averaged state of atmosphere



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Tracer advection: Spectralelement method



Should we run physics and dynamics on the same resolution grids? Coarser? Finer?



Dynamics: Spectral-element dynamics on Gauss-Lobatto-Legendre (GLL) nodal values

(4x4 GLL point in each element; degree 3 Lagrange polynomials)

We need to transfer data to and from dynamicsphysics grids!!! **Tracer advection**: Spectralelement method





Notation

- NE*NE elements on each cubed-sphere panel
- NP*NP quadrature points in each element (note quadrature points are duplicated on the element boundary)
- NC*NC physics grid columns in each element

Tracer advection: Spectralelement method







Separating physics and dynamics grids was a major software engineering task in CAM – affected many parts of the code:

ne

- history (output)
- initialization/restart
- Some parameterizations assumed grids were collocated

Interpolator properties: passing state to physics and returning tendencies to dynamics

- Conservation (coupled climate modeling)
- Shape-preservation (in particular, no negatives)
- Preserve tracer correlations (important for coupling with chemistry)
- Consistent (preserves a constant)
- Other? Total energy?

Implementation constraints/limitations (not "physical" limitations):

- Physics-grid must be a sub-grid of the element
 With some extra software engineering we can relax this constraint! (example application: mesh-refinement)
- To reduce MPI communication no halo exchange for physics-dynamics coupling except for boundary exchange at end of interpolation

(could also be relaxed at the expense of computational cost)





Passing state (v,T,q,...) to physics: For conservation we interpolate dp*u, dp*T, dp*q



Passing state (v,T,q,...) to physics: For conservation we interpolate dp*u, dp*T, dp*q



Passing state (v,T,q,...) to physics: For conservation we interpolate dp*u, dp*T, dp*q



- Interpolation matrix can be pre-computed (it is a linear map)!!!
- After application of interpolation matrix there is a boundary exchange that averages point values on the element boundaries!
Passing state (v,T,q,...) to physics: basis functions oscillatory!

Given GLL point values, $U_{j,k}(t) = \{0,0,1,0\}$ for k=0,...,3, the Lagrange "reconstruction" is shown on the Figure below:



Monotone linear map



Monotonicity is enforced via a two-step procedure.

- instead of the regular FEM basis functions we use a set of monotone basis functions (ones whose range is [0,1]).
- This would be sufficient except for the fact that the least squares projection onto conservative/consistent maps could produce some (small) negative values in the mapping coefficients. To fix that problem we then "linearly interpolate" between the conservative/consistent map and the simplest first-order conservative/ consistent/monotone map. This has roughly the effect of "borrowing mass" from other GLL nodes within the element.

Monotone linear map



Potential problem: a monotone linear map that does not have any knowledge of the GLL values (i.e. not flow dependent) can at most be 1st order!

Modification to Ullrich-Taylor algorithm:

Since any linear combination of linear maps is

onotonic conservative and consistent one may "optimally" instead functic blend the maps for shape-preservation

This we ("FCT-like method")

mapping c the conservative/consistent map and the simplest first-order conservative/ consistent/monotone map. This has roughly the effect of "borrowing mass" from other GLL nodes within the element.



"FCT" version of Ullrich-Taylor algorithm



 $A_{non-mono}^{*}GLL = PHYS_{non-mono}$

A_{mono}*GLL = PHYS_{mono}

$$[\alpha A_{mono} + (1-\alpha) A_{non-mono} GLL] = PHYS_{mono}$$

where $\alpha = (max(GLL)-PHYS_{non-mono})/(PHYS_{mono} - PHYS_{non-mono})$ or
 $\alpha = (min(GLL)-PHYS_{non-mono})/(PHYS_{mono} - PHYS_{non-mono})$

Dynamics to physics grid mapping



Properties we are looking for: Preserve smooth fields and at the same time not generate new extrema for rough distributions (and be mass-conservative and consistent)

Smooth field ("spherical harmonic")

mono

1st order monotone map (not flow dependent): see grid

Smooth field ("spherical harmonic")

default

Optimally blend conservative and monotone map

Rough field ("slotted cylinder")

Non-monotone conservative

Rough field ("slotted cylinder")

Optimally blend conservative and monotone map

Passing tendencies (fv,fT,fq,...) to dynamics: Use a 1st-order, shape-preserving, conservative linear map

CAM4 forcing: Aqua-planet

Atmospheric model with complete parameterization suite Idealized surface: no land (or mountains), no sea ice specified global sea surface temperatures everywhere

=> Free motions, no forced component

Why CAM4? More resolution sensitivity than CAM5 (and it is cheaper!)

Configurations

Data mapped to 3° lat-lon grid for analysis

Length of simulations: 30 months

Min/max moisture forcing

Zonal-time averaged T

Q = Specific humidity

Zonal-time averaged RELHUM

RELHUM = Relative humidity

Zonal-time averaged CLOUD

Zonal-time averaged total precipitation rate

Data mapped to 3° lat-lon grid

Longitude

Longitude

Longitude

Longitude

Longitude

Longitude

Stationary grid scale forcing

Held-Suarez with topography

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The terminator 'toy'-chemistry test: A simple tool to assess errors in transport schemes

(Lauritzen et al., 2015, GMD)

See: http://www.cgd.ucar.edu/cms/pel/terminator.html

caused by the limiter/filter and/or physics-dynamics coupling!

THE TERMIN

TEST

A way to accelerate tracer transport: 🕸

Basic formulation

Lauritzen et al. (2010), Erath et al. (2013), Erath et al. (2012)

Conservative Semi-LAgrangian Multi-tracer (CSLAM)

Finite-volume Lagrangian form of continuity equation for air (pressure level thickness, Δp), and tracer (mixing ratio, q):

$$\int_{\mathcal{A}_k} \psi_k^{n+1} \, dA = \int_{a_k} \psi_k^n \, dA = \sum_{\ell=1}^{L_k} \left[\sum_{i+j \leq 2} c_\ell^{(i,j)} w_{k\ell}^{(i,j)} \right], \quad \psi = \Delta p, \, \Delta p \, q,$$

where *n* time-level, $a_{k\ell}$ overlap areas, L_k #overlap areas, $c^{(i,j)}$ reconstruction coefficients for ψ_k^n , and $w_{k\ell}^{(i,j)}$ weights.

A way to accelerate tracer transport: 🎄

Basic formulation

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Conservative Semi-LAgrangian Multi-tracer (CSLAM)

CSLAM time-step restriction: flow deformation (upstream area must be simply connected)

Current implementation in CAM-SE: CN < 1, where Courant number.

Spectral-element advection: RK2 with CN<0.3

=> 3 times longer time-step with CSLAM compared to SE advection scheme

Basic formulation

Lauritzen et al. (2010), Erath et al. (2013), Erath et al. (2012)

Conservative Semi-LAgrangian Multi-tracer (CSLAM)

MPI communication

For every 30 minute physics time-step:

- SE performs 6 tracer time-steps with 2 Runga-Kutta stages => 12 MPI calls
- CSLAM performs 2 tracer time-steps (CN<1) => 2 MPI calls

That said, CSLAM needs a much larger halo than SE.



Basic formulation Harris et al. (2010)

Flux-form CSLAM = Lagrangian CSLAM



$$\int_{A_k} \psi_k^{n+1} \, dA = \int_{A_k} \psi_k^n \, dA - \sum_{\epsilon=1}^4 s_{k\ell}^\epsilon \int_{a_k^\epsilon} \psi \, dA, \quad \psi = \Delta p, \, \Delta p \, q.$$

where

- $a_k^{\epsilon} = \text{`flux-area'} (\text{yellow area}) = \text{area swept through face } \epsilon$
- $s_{k\ell}^{\epsilon} = 1$ for outflow and -1 for inflow.

Flux-form and Lagrangian forms of CSLAM are equivalent (Lauritzen et al., 2011).

Coupling finite-volume semi-Lagrangian transport with spectral element dynamics

4. Consistency

The continuity equations for air and tracers are coupled:

$$\int_{\mathcal{A}_k} \Delta p_k^{n+1} \, dA = \int_{\mathbf{a}_k} \delta p_k^n \, dA, \qquad (2)$$

$$\int_{A_k} (\Delta p q)_k^{n+1} dA = \int_{a_k} (\delta p_k q)^n dA.$$
(3)

If q = 1 then (3) should reduce to (2).





4. Consistency

Find upstream area, a_k , so that CSLAM predicted mass field is equal to CAM-SE predicted mass field:

$$\Delta p_k^{n+1}(\text{CAM-SE}) = \frac{1}{\Delta A} \int_{a_k} \delta p_k^n \, dA \, (\text{CSLAM}) \, , . \tag{4}$$







Solution: Cast problem in flux-form

Given $\mathcal{F}^{(SE)}$ find swept areas, $\delta\Omega$, so that:

$$\mathcal{F}^{(CSLAM)} = \int_{\delta\Omega} \Delta p(x, y) \, dA = \mathcal{F}^{(SE)} \quad \forall \ \delta\Omega.$$

The sum of all the swept areas, $\delta\Omega$, span the domain without cracks 2 or overlaps





4

F

ð

Solution: Cast problem in flux-form

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Solution: Cast problem in flux-form

Consistent SE-CSLAM algorithm: flow cases

4

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4. Consistency

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CAM-SE-CSLAM

A new model configuration based on CAM-SE:

• SE: Spectral-element dynamical core solving for \vec{v} , T, p_s

(Dennis et al., 2012; Evans et al., 2012; Taylor and Fournier, 2010; Taylor et al., 1997)

- **CSLAM**: Semi-Lagrangian finite-volume transport scheme for tracers (Lauritzen et al., 2010; Erath et al., 2013, 2012; Harris et al., 2010)
- **Phys-grid**: Separating physics and dynamics grids, i.e. ability to compute physics tendencies based on cell-averaged values within each element instead of quadrature points





Lauritzen, Taylor, Overfelt, Ullrich and Goldhaber (2016, IN PREP)











CAM-SE-CSLAM

CAM-SE reference

CAM-SE



CAM-SE

CAM-SE-CSLAM

CAM-SE reference



CAM-SE

CAM-SE-CSLAM

CAM-SE reference



CAM-SE





day 9



CAM-SE-CSLAM





day 9



Performance

ntask 256, 1 degree (NE30NP4NC3), Yellowstone computer



Performance

1 degree configuration (NE30NP4NC3), 40 tracers



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