ONR's Arctic S&T Program

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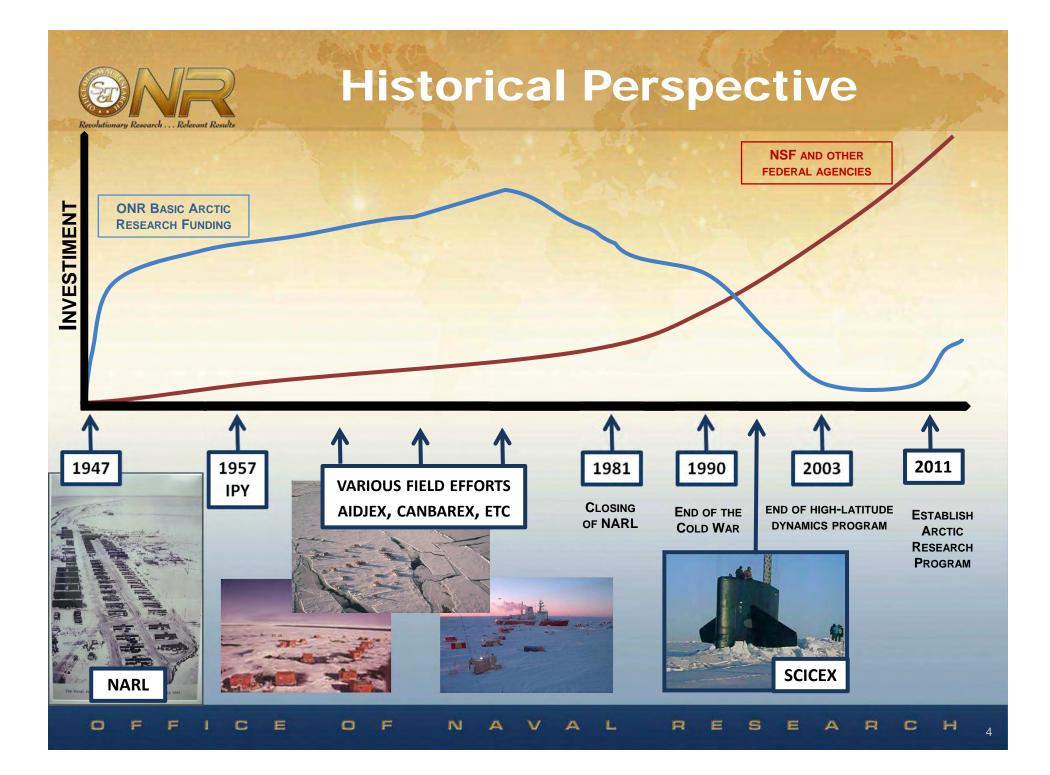




How We Execute



- 70 Countries
- 50 States
- 1,078 Companies
 - 859 small businesses
 - 1,035 Universities & Nonprofit Entities
 - 3,340 principal investigators
 - 3,000 grad students





Historical Perspective





Reduction in Summer Sea Ice Cover since 1979

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Emerging Requirements

N2N6E's Task Force Climate Change: Must have Arctic environmental information to support future operations

NORTHCOM: Must have "improved ability to observe and predict the Arctic environment"



S&T required to enable Arctic domain awareness



Arctic Questions Operational

When is the sea ice going away?



-Requires improved physical knowledge and a better prediction capability

- How is the Arctic going to be different?
 - Need comprehensive knowledge of the fully-integrated Arctic system
- What does the Navy need to know to operate in the current and future Arctic?

- Will require the ability to observe and predict the Arctic environment, and a better understanding of how platforms, sensors, and systems will be impacted

• How will the changing Arctic impact the rest of the globe?

- Arctic system model must be part of global seamless prediction

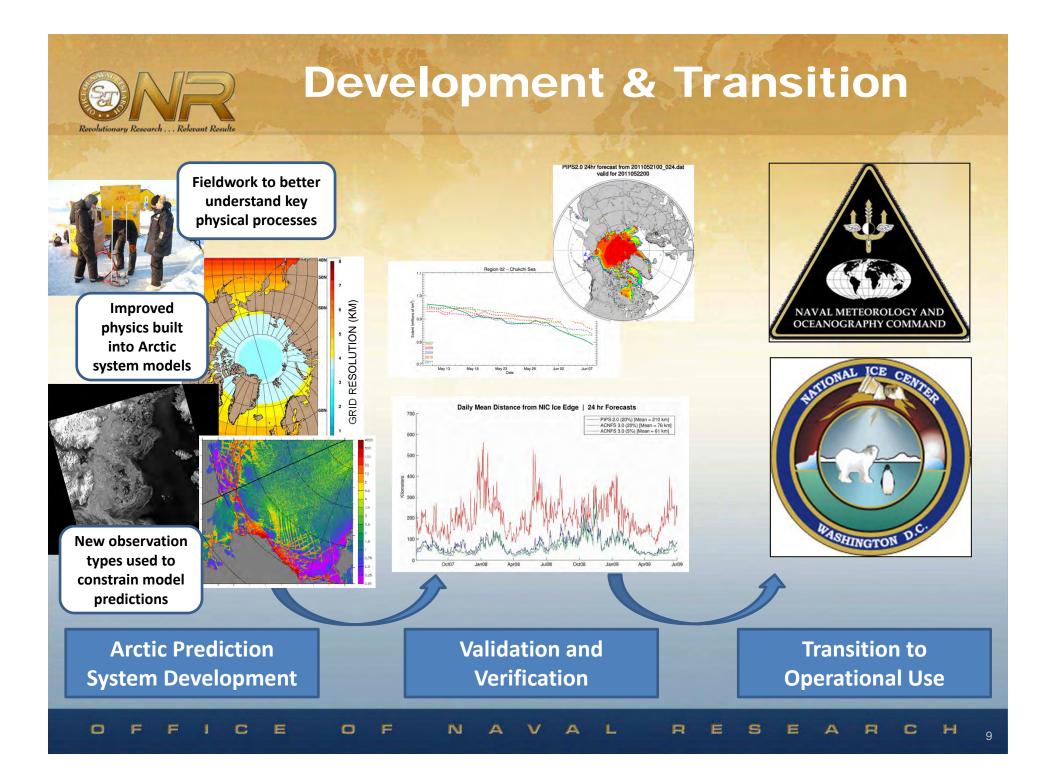


Arctic Questions Naval S&T

• If the Arctic sea ice volume continues to diminish, what are the implications of the shift from a "cold desert" to a "lake effect" climate?

- impact on waves, snowfall, surface fluxes, storm strength and frequency, etc
- Can we extend our synoptic forecast skill by using earth system models developed for climate?
- How can we capture these new processes in a model constrained by remote sensing and sparse in situ data (AUVs)?
- How can we effectively use commercial imaging radars (like SAR)?
- How is Arctic acoustic propagation and scattering changing?







ONR Arctic Research Program

MAJOR THRUSTS:

- Generation of **new technologies** (platforms, sensors, communications) that will enable **persistent observation and operation** in the Arctic
- Improved basic physical understanding of the Arctic environment and important coupled processes operating in the Arctic region
- Development of a new, dynamic, fully-integrated Arctic System Model incorporating the ocean, sea ice, waves and atmosphere for improved prediction at longer lead times, including the use of **satellite SAR data** for assimilation into integrated models

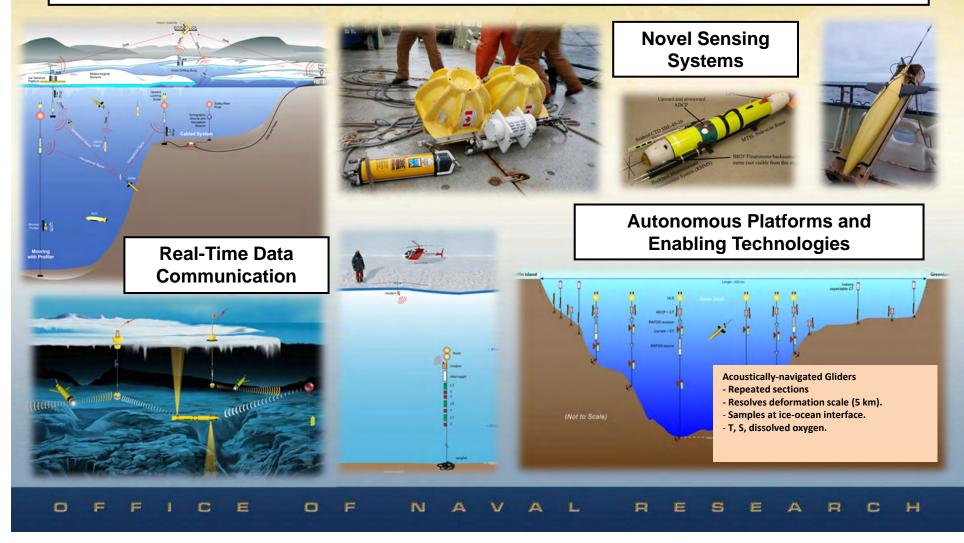






Technology Development

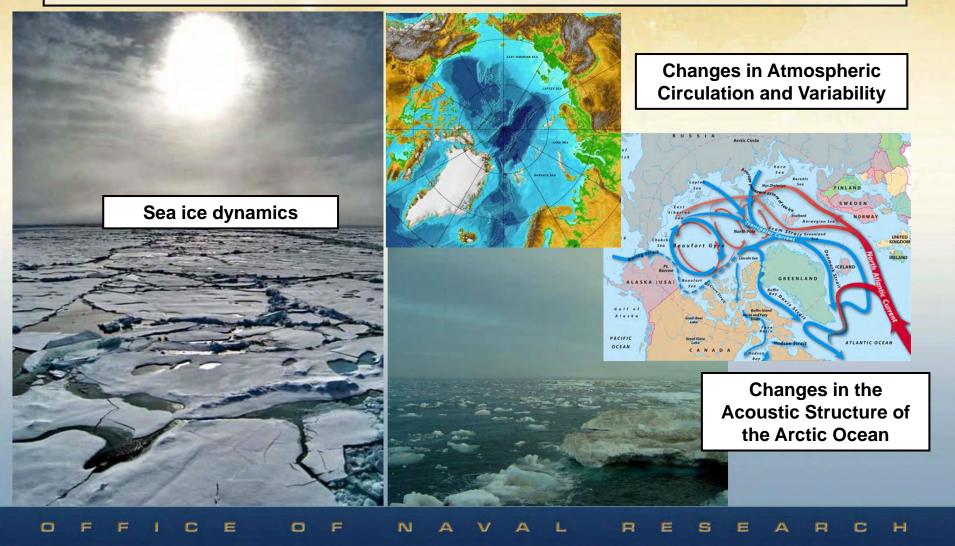
A sensing system must be developed to provide persistent observations that can further scientific understanding, provide long-term monitoring, and constrain the predictive models. Autonomous platforms – Robust Sensors – Real-time Data Delivery – Key Environmental Variables





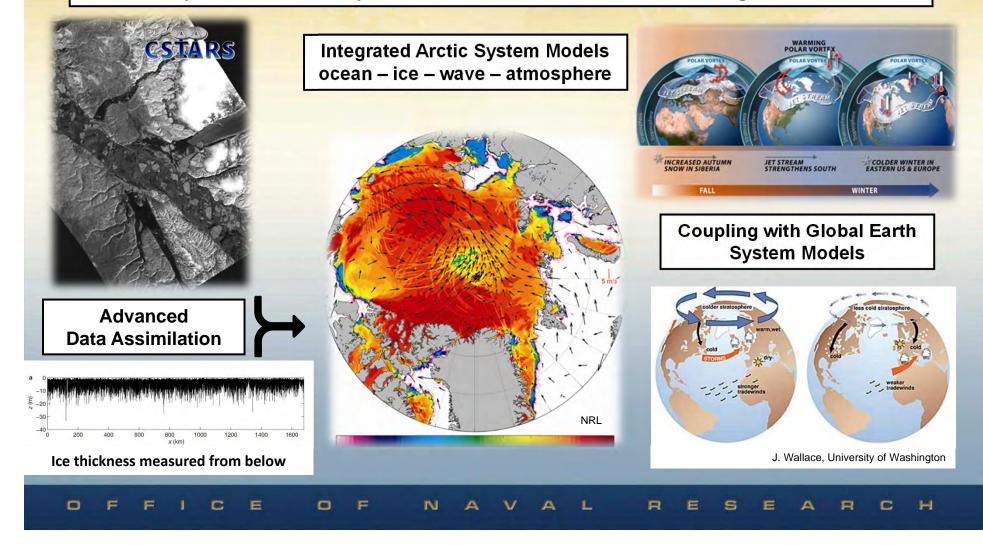
Improved Physical Understanding

A better understanding of the integrated physics and dynamics in the Arctic will enable more accurate representation of these processes in the models, leading to improved predictions



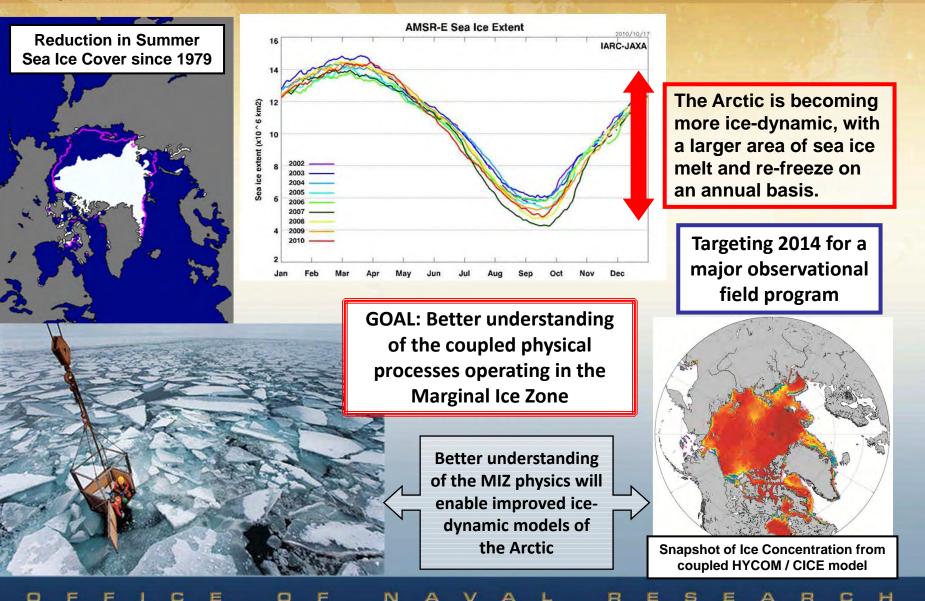
Integrated Arctic Modeling and Prediction

Fully-coupled ocean-wave-ice-atmosphere models with sufficient resolution to represent the relevant processes, and that assimilate in situ and remotely-sensed observations to create useful predictions of the operational Arctic environment at a wide range of lead times





First Field Effort: Emerging Dynamics of the Marginal Ice Zone









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Questions?













Backup Slides





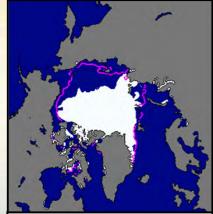


Establishment of an Arctic Research Program

In response to priorities identified by N2/N6 Task Force Climate Change



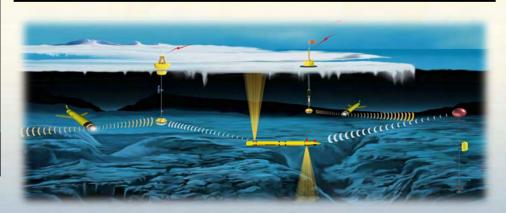
FY12-start DRI: Dynamics of the Marginal Ice Zone



Reduction in Summer Sea Ice Cover since 1979

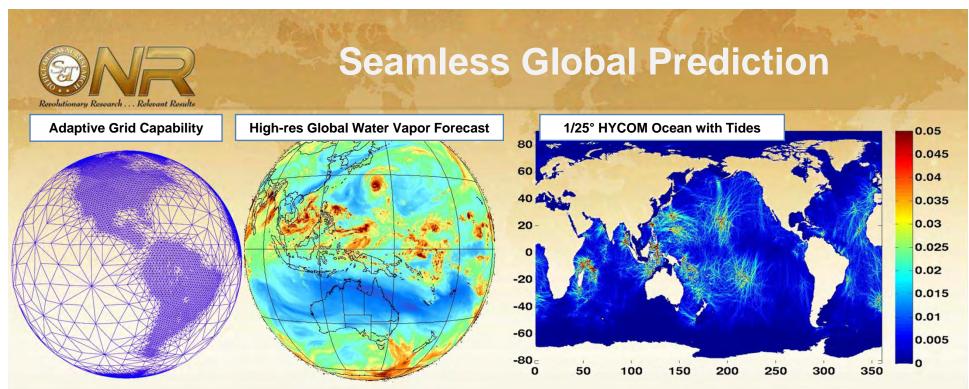
Program Goals:

- Improved basic understanding of the physical environment and relevant processes in the Arctic region
- Development of integrated (ocean-ice-wave-atmosphere) earth system models for improved prediction of the Arctic operational environment at longer lead times
- Exploration of new technologies (platforms, sensors, communications) required for persistent observation and operation in the harsh Arctic environment



<u>FY11 Activities</u>: Begin fund realignment by supporting observations related to the Arctic Submarine Lab's SCICEX Program (<u>SC</u>ience <u>IC</u>e <u>EX</u>ercise) and 2011 ICEX Ice Camp

- Funding NRL-DC to make airborne measurements of sea ice thickness
- Testing new submarine-launched XCTD system
- Enabling calibration of on-board biogeochemical sampling equipment
- Processing ice draft information from sub-based Upward Looking Sonar (ULS) data



ONR's new effort will focus on building the next-generation integrated global prediction system to support the needs of the US Navy in 2020:

- Fully-integrated ocean-wave-ice-atmosphere model
- Appropriately coupled across a wide range of space and time scales
- Provide improved short-term (< 7 days) predictions of the physical environment in support of safe, efficient, and effective naval operations
- Provide extended-range predictions for Navy strategic resource decisions
- Understand relevant physics to inform and enable longer (decadal+) predictions
- Define the limits of predictability for different physical variables and processes

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