

RAPID Project: The Role of Air-Sea Fluxes in Causing Changes to the North Atlantic Thermohaline Circulation.
Grant NER/T/S/2002/00427 (PI: Simon Josey).

FORTE Model data

The data is from a series of experiments initiated after 160 years of a pre-existing control run of the FORTE coupled model (Sinha and Smith, 2002).

The data files represent 7 experiments and a control run, which all start in the December of year 160.

The experiments had different magnitudes of oceanic heat loss prescribed over the Nordic Seas (67°N-79°N, 19°W-9°E) for the first 4 months (DJFM) of the integration. More details are found in Grist et al. (2008).

The prescribed heat loss values in the 7 runs are 100, 300, 400, 475, 550, 625 and 700 Wm⁻². The files from these runs start with *ps100wm2_001*, *ps300wm2_001*, *ps400wm2_001*, *ps475wm2_001*, *ps550wm2_001*, *ps625wm2_001* and *ps700wm2_001* respectively.

The files of the control runs start with *contr_10yr001*.

There are twelve months of data (from December to November) in each file. The first year of the experiments have names like *ps100wm2_001.001.atm.nc*, *ps300wm2_001.001.atm.nc*, *ps400wm2_001.001.atm.nc*, etc.

Where *atm* delineates atmospheric fields (*oc* is for the oceanic fields).

The experiments were designed to run for 10 years. Not all of the experiments completed 10 years. Details of the completed years are below.

| Type of Run | Start of filenames | Length of run |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| Control. | <i>contr_10yr001</i> . | 10 years |
| 100 Wm ⁻² heat flux | <i>ps100wm2_001</i> . | 10 years |
| 300 Wm ⁻² heat flux | <i>ps300wm2_001</i> . | 9 years 7 months |
| 400 Wm ⁻² heat flux | <i>ps400wm2_001</i> . | 10 years |
| 475 Wm ⁻² heat flux | <i>ps470wm2_001</i> . | 5 years |
| 550 Wm ⁻² heat flux | <i>ps550wm2_001</i> . | 10 years |
| 625 Wm ⁻² heat flux | <i>ps625wm2_001</i> . | 3 years |
| 700 Wm ⁻² heat flux | <i>ps700wm2_001</i> . | 10 years |

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References:

Grist J. P., S. A. Josey, B. Sinha and A. T. Blaker, 2008: Response of the Denmark Strait Overflow to Nordic Seas Heat Loss. *J. Geophys. Res.*, (accepted subject to minor revisions).

Sinha, B. and R. Smith, 2002: Development of a fast coupled general circulation model (FORTE) for climate studies, implemented using the OASIS coupler, *National Oceanography Centre, Southampton, Tech. Rep. 81*, 67pp & figures.