# Data-assimilation based parameter estimation of bathymetry and bottom friction coefficient to improve coastal accuracy in a global tide model

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**Abstract.** Global tide and surge models play a major role in forecasting coastal flooding due to extreme events or climate change. The model performance is strongly affected by parameters such as bathymetry and bottom friction. In this study, we propose a method that estimates bathymetry globally and the bottom friction coefficient in the shallow waters for a Global Tide and Surge Model (GTSMv4.1). However, the estimation effect is limited by the scarcity of available tide gauges. We

- 5 propose to complement sparse tide gauges with tide time-series generated using FES2014. The FES2014 dataset outperforms GTSM in most areas and is used as observations for the deep ocean and some coastal areas, such as Hudson Bay/Labrador, where tide gauges are scarce but energy dissipation is large. The experiment is performed with a computation and memory efficient iterative parameter estimation scheme (Time-POD based coarse incremental parameter estimation) applied to Global Tide and Surge Model (GTSMv4.1). Estimation results show that model performance is significantly improved for deep ocean
- 10 and shallow waters, especially in the European Shelf directly using the CMEMS tide gauge data in the estimation. GTSM is also validated by comparing to tide gauges from UHSLC, CMEMS, and some Arctic stations in the year 2014.

## 1 Introduction

Accurate prediction of water levels in coastal areas is of significant importance. Coastal flooding, mainly caused by storm surges, is one of the main risks for the world's coastal (McGranahan et al., 2007; Kron, 2012). Global exposure to flooding
has had an upward trend in recent years due to climate change, and sea-level rise (Hallegatte et al., 2013; Wahl et al., 2017; Oppenheimer et al., 2019). For example, the global sea level is currently rising at 3-4mm/year, and a 10-20 cm sea-level rise would more than double the frequency of coastal flooding before 2050 (Vitousek et al., 2017). This demands global tide and surge models that can provide sea-level estimates for the large-scale assessments of the flooding risk (Ward et al., 2015).

Global tide models are often divided into three groups, empirical tide models, purely hydrodynamic forward models, and
hydrodynamic tide models with data assimilation (Stammer et al., 2014). To study the interaction of tides with other processes such as surge and sea level rise, it is very useful to model tide and surge together in one model. For example, the Global Tide and Surge Model (GTSM) is not only capable of simulating tides but also surges by adding meteorological wind and air pressure forcing (Verlaan et al., 2015). Another application is the provision of boundary conditions for regional models (Zijl et al., 2013).

The accuracy of tide and surge models has improved significantly over the past decades, through improved physical processes,

increased grid resolution and improved input datasets. For instance, (Muis et al., 2017) produced a global reanalysis of storm surges and extreme sea levels (GTSR dataset) from GTSM and estimated that between 160 million people are exposed to a 1 in a 100-year flood in 2010. With the improvement of the GTSM in version 3.0, a new dataset called the Coastal Dataset for the Evaluation of Climate Impact (CoDEC) is developed and evaluated as the successor of GTSR (Muis et al., 2020). We will show that a significant part of the remaining uncertainty is caused by uncertainties in the model parameters, such as bathymetry and friction parameters.

This parameter uncertainty can be reduced by parameter estimation. In our view, this is a form of data assimilation (Heemink et al., 2002; Zijl et al., 2013; Mayo et al., 2014). Stammer et al. (2014) reported that assimilated tide models have higher accuracy than non-assimilative models. For example, Wang et al. (2021b) developed an efficient iterative parameter estimation scheme to estimate bathymetry corrections globally for a high-resolution GTSMv3.0 and significantly improved model perfor-

- 35 mance in the deep ocean but improved the performance in shallow water only slightly. To further improve the model accuracy near the coastal regions, we propose a combined the estimation of bathymetry and bottom friction coefficient using more observations in the coastal areas. Bottom friction plays an essential role at the coasts accounting for the majority proportion of tide energy dissipation (Egbert and Ray, 2001). The total amount of global tidal energy dissipation is approximately 3.7TW, and two-thirds is generated by the bed stress. The bottom friction term is often modelled in the quadratic bed stress formula. There
- 40 are several commonly used parameterizations, such as Chézy, Manning or White-Colebrook (Manning, 1891; Colebrook et al., 1937). The coefficient is often tuned using some model tests that try to reduce the difference between model and measurements. This value is difficult to set accurately but strongly related to the water level representation in the shallow water. Moreover, the bottom friction coefficient can vary strongly between regions.
- In regional tide models, data assimilation is applied predominantly to estimate bathymetry, bottom friction and boundary variables (Navon, 1998; Edwards et al., 2015) with ensemble (Siripatana et al., 2018; Slivinski et al., 2017) or adjoint methods (Zhang et al., 2020). Ullman and Wilson (1998) estimated a drag coefficient by assimilating Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler (ADCP) data into a tidal model of the lower Hudson estuary with the adjoint method. Zijl et al. (2013) improved the water level forecast for the Northwest European Shelf and the North Sea through directly modeling and assimilating altimeter and tide gauge data to adjust bathymetry and Manning's roughness coefficient. Mayo et al. (2014) estimated a spatially varying
- 50 Manning coefficient of an Advanced Circulation (ADCIRC) model of Galveston Bay with a square root ensemble Kalman filter. The estimation of bottom friction using data-assimilation has been applied successfully to the European Continental Shelf (Heemink et al., 2002), Bohai, Yellow, and East China Seas (Wang et al., 2021a). We found only a few parameter estimation applications at a global scale. Blakely et al. (2022) adjusted the bottom friction and internal tides friction in 41 subdomains to better represent the tide in the ADCIRC model, allowing the bottom coefficient to vary with the subdomain gives a significant
- 55 improvement on model performance. Lyard et al. (2021) assimilated altimetry tides and tide gauge data into a combination of a time-stepping and a spectral tide model. The uncertainty for the model, is partly based on parameter uncertainty, such as bed friction, but the result is in the form of 34 tidal components in a gridded data collection with the resolution of 1/16°, called FES2014. It can provide accurate estimate of tide, but the result is a relatively static dataset because the underlying T-UGO tide

model is only used as a first guess or weak constraint. In contrast, we propose a different approach to calibrate GTSM in this

60 paper, using the model as a strong constraint. This results in a calibrated model that can be used as a regular non-assimilative hydrodynamic model. For example, we use the GTSM model for storm-surge forecasting and studying the impact of sea level rise; both are not possible with FES2014.

There are considerable differences between data-assimilation for tides in deep water and near the coast. In the deep ocean, bathymetry is reported as the parameter that has most influence on the tide representation (Wang et al., 2021b). The sensitivity

- 65 to bottom friction is very small in deep water, but is often the most sensitive parameter in shallow water. Zaron (2017) denoted the relative importance of the friction parameter in the momentum balance in the Sea of Okhotsk based on the sensitivity test results. The main reason for this is that the effects of both parameters interact. In this study, we combined the estimation of bathymetry and bottom friction. Bathymetry directly controls the tide propagation speed, which is proportional to the square root of the local water depth (Pugh and Woodworth, 2014). On the other hand, bottom friction controls the dissipation of
- 70 tide energy (Egbert and Ray, 2001). But bottom friction also decreases with depth, which results in a non-linear interaction. Moreover, due to the quadratic velocity in the friction term, the effect of friction is enhanced when the different tidal constituents propagate along the shallow water with the complex topography (Cai et al., 2018). Thus, water level is influenced by the co-action of bathymetry and bottom friction. This also creates an interaction between the deep ocean and the shelf. The bathymetry in the deep ocean not only affects the tidal propagation there but also in adjacent coasts. And though the dissipation
- 75 by bottom friction predominantly occurs in shallow water, this will also change the tides in the adjacent deep ocean when the tide propagates from the coastal regions to the nearby deep ocean. The range of affected areas are related to the topography and tide dissipation (Detailed analysis see Section 4). To our knowledge, this is the first study with a global model that combined the estimation of bathymetry and bottom friction in the time series approach. With this approach, we aim to improve modeled tides, both in the deep ocean as well as along the coasts.
- We use the computation and memory efficient parameter estimation schemes proposed in our previous study (Wang et al., 2021b, 2022). Bathymetry is estimated in all ocean basins, and regions with significant tidal energy dissipation are selected for the bottom friction coefficient estimation. The areas with most tidal energy dissipation are the Hudson Bay region and European Shelf(Egbert and Ray, 2001). FES2014 time-series are used as observations for the deep ocean. This dataset has higher accuracy for tides than our initial model (Stammer et al., 2014; Wang et al., 2021b) and with FES2014 time-series are generated
- 85 easily for arbitrary locations and periods. In the coastal areas, tide gauge data is included in the estimation and validation processes to increase coverage for the coastal regions. Tide gauge data was collected from the UHSLC (global coverage), CMEMS (Europe), tide gauge stations in the Arctic Ocean from (Kowalik and Proshutinsky, 1994). Since tide gauge data are scarce in some areas, we investigated the use of FES2014 also in some coastal regions. The bottom friction is estimated in the Hudson Bay region, European Shelf and often other regions with large energy dissipation using a combination of FES2014 and
- 90 tide gauge data as observations. Together, these datasets form a reliable joined parameter estimation application to correct the bathymetry globally and bottom friction coefficient in the coastal and shelf seas, resulting in an accurate hydrodynamic model that can be used for complete tide and surge forecast.

In Section 2, the Global Tide and Surge Model (GTSM) and the parameter estimation scheme is introduced. Section 3 describes the strategies for the bottom friction coefficient subdomain specification and the selection of observations. Section

95 4 presents the parameter estimation experiment set-up and results analysis. The estimated model is evaluated with a one-year long comparison with the FES2014 dataset and tide gauge data, both in the time and frequency domains in Section 4. Finally, the discussion and conclusions follow in Section 5.

# 2 Method

#### 2.1 Global Tide and Surge Model (GTSMv4.1)

- 100 We use version 4.1 of the Global Tide and Surge Model(GTSMv4.1) in this study. It is a depth-averaged hydrodynamic model developed in the Delft3D Flexible Mesh with an unstructured grid (Verlaan et al., 2015; Kuhlmann et al., 2011). The model is forced by the tide generating potential with a full set of tide frequencies. GTSM is a combined tide and surge model to study some events such as the effect of tropical cyclones and sea-level changes on a global scale. Surge is induced by the gradients in the atmospheric surface pressure and the momentum transfer from the wind to the water.
- 105 The bathymetry used in GTSMv4.1 is a combination of the General Bathymetric Chart of the Ocean with a 15-arc second resolution globally (GEBCO 2019) and EMODnet2018 at 250m resolution in the European Shelf. For consistency between the vertical reference of the model and that of the data, all bathymetric data are corrected using the Mean Sea Level (MSL) as its vertical reference datum. GTSM has 4.9 million grid cells with a 25km resolution in the open ocean and 2.5km in the coastal zone (1.25km in Europe). We also make use of a coarser grid version of GTSM (GTSM with the fine grid and GTSM with the
- 110 coarse grid hereafter). GTSM with the coarse grid has grid cells of 50km in the deep ocean and 5km for the shallow waters, resulting in 2 million grid cells. Higher resolution results in better representation of water levels but longer computation times. The CPU time used by GTSM with the coarse grid is one-third of the fine grid. We use the coarse grid model in the estimation process to reducing the computational cost with the coarse-to-fine strategy. It will be described in more detail in Section 2.2.

GTSM uses a quadratic formulation of velocity and the bottom friction known as the Chézy formula (Manning, 1891):

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$$\tau_b = -\frac{\rho g}{C^2} ||\boldsymbol{u}|| \boldsymbol{u}$$
(1)

where  $\rho$  is the density of water, u represents the depth-averaged horizontal velocity vector. In the Chézy formulation, C is the constant coefficient with the value of C=62.5(m<sup>1/2</sup>s<sup>-1</sup>). Bottom friction term is important to determining hydrodynamic conditions and sediment transport process. Two-thirds of the tide energy dissipation, is determined by the bottom friction. When the tide propagates over steep topographies, energy is also dissipated by generation the internal tides. Internal tide friction is parameterized in the formula of the Nycander (2005) tensor scheme.

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In comparison to GTSMv3.0 that was used in our previous study (Wang et al., 2021b), GTSMv4.1 contains an updated internal tide friction term that is related to the buoyancy frequency of the stratified ocean. In the previous version of GTSM, the layer thickness variability was not taken into account properly and this was fixed in the dataset for GTSMv4.1. The correction

Туре	Model	Resolution	Parameter estimation algorithm		
Empirical tide	GOT4.8 (Ray, 2013)	1/2°			
models	DTU16 (Cheng and Andersen, 2017)	1/16°			
	EOT20 (Hart-Davis et al., 2021)	1/8°			
	HYCOM (Arbic et al., 2010)	1/12.5°	N/A		
Pure hydrodynamic models	HIM (Arbic et al., 2008)	1/8°			
	STORMTIDE (Müller et al., 2012)	1/10°			
	ADCIRCv55 (Pringle et al., 2021)	Unstructured mesh varying between 1/4° and 1/80°			
	FES2014 (Lyard et al., 2021)	Dataset: 1/16°	SpEnOI		
Hydrodynamic model	HAMTIDE (Taguchi et al., 2013))	1/8°	Variational method		
with data assimilation	TPXO9 (Egbert and Erofeeva, 2002)	1/30°	Representer-based variational method		
	GTSMV4.1	1/4° in the open ocean, 1/40° in the coastal zone, (1/90° in Europe).	Dud		

Table 1. Global tide models classification and resolution

coefficient for this improved dataset is derived again and the spatial uniform bottom friction was set to a value found more
 often in literature. GTSMv4.1 uses a full set of 484 tide potential frequencies compared to 60 constituents in GTSMv3.0 in our
 previous study (Wang et al., 2021b). These changes result in a more accurate initial model with the Standard Deviation (STD)
 reduced by 1cm compared to the FES2014 dataset.

# 2.2 Parameter Estimation Scheme

Global tide and surge models can be classified into three groups, empirical tide models, purely hydrodynamic models and models with data assimilation, as shown in Table 1. Some parameter estimation algorithms have been applied to global tide models.
FES2014 uses the Spectral Ensemble Optimal Interpolation (SpEnOI) algorithm to estimate the bottom friction coefficient, the internal tide drag coefficient, the bathymetry and the LSA (loading and gravitational self-attraction). It leads to an accurate data collection of 34 tidal components. HAMTIDE is a time stepping high-resolution tide model corrected by the variational data assimilation algorithm. TPXO9 is a spectral barotropic tide model which assimilated using a variational method. However,

135 the spectral tide model cannot exactly compute the tide components interaction, even though some methodologies such as representing the interaction through linearization of bottom friction term are presented (Provost and Lyard, 1997).

In this study, we use the Time-POD based coarse incremental parameter estimation scheme developed in our previous study (Wang et al., 2021b). The basic algorithm is called DUD (Doesn't use derivatives) in the generic data assimilation toolbox OpenDA (Ralston and Jennrich, 1978; ope, 2016). DUD is a Gauss-Newton-like algorithm but derivative-free to solve the

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non-linear least squares problems. The cost function between the model output and observations is iteratively reduced with the analyzed parameters. Compared to the variational data assimilation algorithms, the derivative-free approach in the DUD can reduce the complexity of the estimation process. The size of ensembles in DUD is equal to the number of parameters, that ensures sufficient degree of freedom for parameter estimation, while other ensemble algorithms normally use an ensemble size smaller than the number of parameters and subsequently leads to a limited estimation accuracy. However, DUD is not 145 suitable for the estimation with large number of parameters. To estimate the high-resolution global model in an efficient way for computational cost and memory usage, as well as improving estimation accuracy, three implementations were proposed based on this algorithm in our previous study (Wang et al., 2021b, 2022):

- Computational cost reduction: Coarse-to-fine strategy

A coarse-to-fine strategy with the Coarse Incremental Calibration approach is used in the estimation process. It replaces the increments between the output from the initial model and the model with modified parameters using a coarser grid, as the equation:

$$H_f(x) \approx H_f(x_b) + (H_c(x) - H_c(x_b) \tag{2}$$

where  $H_c$ ,  $H_f$  are the model outputs from the coarse and fine grid,  $x_b$  is the initial parameter set, and x is the adjusted parameter set in each analysis step. Thus, the fine model is only simulated once with the initial parameter set and is replaced by a coarse model in the iterations, leading to a reduction of 70 % CPU time for each model run.

# - Memory requirement reduction: Time-based POD order reduction

Parameter estimation benefits from a long simulation time, but the dimension of model output for all the ensembles also increases with longer time series. Model order reduction is a valuable technique to represent the high dimension system with a smaller linear subspace. We project on the empirical time patterns to reduce the dimension of model output time series. It has the advantage that the simulation length is not restricted by the Rayleigh criterion, which normally requires yearly tide simulation. As a result, the memory requirement is reduced by an order of magnitude in the parameter estimation procedure with negligible accuracy loss.

#### 165 - Outer-loop iteration for nonlinear parameter estimation

Since a coarse grid model is used for the estimation iteration, we developed an outer-loop, similar to the Incremental 4D-Var described by Trémolet (2007). The inner-loop optimizes parameters using the coarse grid GTSM with the DUD algorithm. The outer-loop updates the initial model using the optimized parameters and restarts the next inner-loop. The application of outer-loop can improve the calibration performance for this non-linear model or approximate linearization.

170 By applying these three implementations, the parameters in GTSM can be estimated in a computation-efficient and lowmemory used manner and the estimation results in a higher accuracy of tide forecast. In this approach the assimilation output is fully consistent with a forward model run that uses the estimated parameters. This allows for the use of these estimated parameters in other set-ups of the model, for example including surge or sea level rise.

## 2.3 Multiple-Parameters Estimation

## 175 2.3.1 Parameters to Estimate

An estimation for a global tide model must consider the parameters in the deep ocean and shallow waters together. In the deep ocean, bathymetry and internal tide friction are two parameters affecting the model performance. Seafloor bathymetry is of fundamental importance in many aspects of the earth, such as affecting ocean circulation and mixing. However, large parts of the global oceans remain unsurveyed. For example, Wölfl et al. (2019) reported that only about 15 % of global bathymetry datasets are based on actual data. Thus, it creates significant uncertainties and affects the sea level simulation. Internal tidal friction is a term related to tide energy dissipation in deep oceans, especially generated in the areas such as mid-ocean ridges with steep bathymetry changes. In our previous study (Wang et al., 2021b), we tested the sensitivity of bathymetry and internal tide friction term for the deep ocean by comparing the relative changes of the cost function when perturbing a specific parameter. It shows that bathymetry perturbation results in larger changes to water level than the internal tide friction term. Therefore, we only optimize the global bathymetry for the deep ocean.

In shallow water, bottom friction is also a main energy dissipative process. Figure 1a illustrates the global tide energy dissipation distribution by bottom friction term from the GTSMv4.1. The regions in Figure 1b are defined the same as in Egbert and Ray (2001). Tidal energy dissipation, with a total value of approximate 3.7TW, is determined by the bottom friction and internal tide frictions. Two-thirds of it, 2.39TW in GTSM, is generated by bottom friction. The value of tide energy dissipation are proved as the first of the same as a substant of the same with a soluble dissipation of approximate 3.7TW without the same defined the same as a substant of the same as a substant of the same as the same as a substant of the same as a subst

- 190 matches the findings of other researchers with a global dissipation of around 3.7TW either from the model simulation or measurement analysis (Egbert and Ray, 2001; Munk and Wunsch, 1998; Nycander, 2005). The top values of bottom friction dissipation are in the Hudson Bay, the North West Australian Shelf and the European Shelf, as Figure 1c shows. We propose to estimate bottom friction only in the shallow water regions with large bottom friction energy dissipation.
- It is impractical to estimate the bathymetry and the bottom friction coefficient for all the grid cells because of the limited observations and it would also computational demand, and memory requirement. To reduce the parameter dimension, we divide the global ocean into 110 subdomains for bathymetry estimation and define the correction factor for each subdomain to adjust the parameters (Wang et al., 2021b). The estimation subdomains for the bottom friction term are located in areas with high dissipation based on Figure 1c and sufficient coastal observations, as explained in more detail in Section 3.

#### 2.3.2 Observation Network

200 Global tide data from the FES2014 dataset and several global or regional tide gauge datasets were collected as observations in the calibration or model validation process.



Figure 1. Bottom friction energy dissipation in initial GTSMv4.1 (a) Global distribution  $[unit:W/m^2]$ ; (b) Area identification; (c) Areaintegrated energy dissipation [unit:TW]

- FES2014 dataset

The FES2014 dataset contains 34 tidal constituents from the FES (Finite Element Solution) tide model that assimilates altimeter time series and tide gauge data (Carrere et al., 2013; Lyard et al., 2021). FES2014 data has higher accuracy than GTSMv4.1 in the deep ocean when compared with the Deep-Ocean Bottom Pressure Recorder data (Wang et al., 2021b). Moreover, FES2014 data is distributed on a regular 1/16° grid and time-series can be derived at arbitrary locations globally. Therefore, the dataset is selected to use as observations for the deep ocean to estimate bathymetry correction.

- Tide gauge data

- UHSLC dataset: UHSLC (University of Hawaii Sea Level Center) dataset (Caldwell et al., 2010) contains water levels from 500 globally distributed tide gauges. The number of available locations varies in time. Stations in the UHSLC dataset are irregularly distributed, and most of the gauges are in coastal regions. We use the research quality controlled dataset, considered science-ready data.
- CMEMS dataset: CMEMS (Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Service) dataset has a collection of insitu tide gauges located in the Arctic Ocean, Baltic Sea, European North-West Shelf Seas, Iberian-Biscay-Ireland regional seas, Mediterranean Sea, and Black Sea. All the available data are published after data acquisition, data quality control, product validation, and product distribution. CMEMS data contains data for the European Shelf and is suitable for local bottom friction coefficient estimation.
  - Arctic tide gauge data with four major constituents: Kowalik and Proshutinsky (1994) described approximate tide stations in the Arctic Ocean and studied the tide performance. Four major tidal constituents, semidiurnal constituents M2 and S2, and diurnal constituents K1 and O1 are available. Since only four major tidal constituents cannot fully represent the tide time-series for calibration, they are used for the model validation to evaluate the model performance in the frequency domain.

We select the year 2014 for the model analysis because the available tide gauges varying in different years and year 2014 has the largest number of stations. Tide analysis is performed in the tide gauge data from CMEMS and UHSLC dataset for the year 2014 with the TIDEGUI software, a matlab implementation of approach by Schureman (1958) and we visual inspect
the tide and surge representations. After the analysis and quality control, we obtained 237 locations in the UHSLC dataset and 297 locations from the CMEMS dataset. In the deep ocean, 4000 time series are generated from the FES2014 dataset to ensure enough observations for estimating bathymetry in the year of 2014. These observations are evenly distributed and located in the deep ocean with a depth larger than 200m.

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## 3 Estimation of Bottom Friction Coefficient

235 Even though we obtained three collections of tide gauges, the observation is still quite sparse in some coastal seas. Therefore, we first investigate how to make use of the available data with the consideration of the model performance and parameter sensitivity.

#### 3.1 Model and Observation Accuracy Analysis

The FES2014 dataset is very accurate in the deep ocean (Stammer et al., 2014; Wang et al., 2021b) while along the coast, tide gauge data can be more trustworthy. However, tide gauges data are distributed irregularly. We propose to use a combination of the FES2014 dataset and tide gauge data in the shallow water. The first step is to analyze the accuracy of the FES2014 dataset and the initial GTSMv4.1 comparing with the tide gauge data. Root-mean-square (RMS) that describes the difference between model output and observations for tidal components is applied with the formula:

$$RMS = \sqrt{\left[A_m \cos(\omega t - \phi_m) - A_o \cos(\omega t - \phi_o)\right]^2} \tag{3}$$

- A<sub>m</sub> and A<sub>o</sub> are model output and observation amplitudes,  $\phi_m$ ,  $\phi_o$  are for the phase lag.  $\omega$  is the tide frequency. The overbar shows the averaging over one full cycle of the constituent ( $\omega$ t varying from 0 to  $2\pi$ ) in all locations. We also use Root-Sum-Square (RSS) to describe the Root Square Sum of RMS for the listed major tidal constituents. To facilitate comparison, we use the same formulas for RSS and RMS as in Stammer et al. (2014).
- Table 2 illustrated the Root-sum-square(RSS) and RMS of eight major tide components between FES2014 and initial GTSM with the tide gauge data. The RSS was calculated for all the eight components in all locations. Comparing with the UHSLC dataset at the globe, FES2014 is more accurate than GTSM for all of the eight components, implying generally FES2014 dataset can provide better tide representation in the shallow water than GTSM. This conclusion is also supported by the comparison with the stations in the Arctic ocean. Figure 2 shows the spatial distribution of RSS for each location, which shows that with a few exceptions FES2014 is more accurate.
- In the European Shelf, GTSM has the RSS of 19.15cm when comparing with CMEMS dataset, which is even smaller than the FES2014 dataset with the RSS of 20.42cm. This also can be observed from the RMS of the N2,M2,S2,K2 constituents. However, from the spatial distribution of RSS for each stations shown in Figure 2c,2d, FES2014 outperforms in most of the CMEMS locations but provides poor results in a few stations. These result in a larger RSS for FES2014 than GTSM. A possible reason is these tide components obtained from FES2014 is calculated by interpolating the gridded FES2014 dataset to
- 260 the observation locations, resulting in some errors. GTSM has a higher resolution in the European Shelf, contributing to better results in those locations with complex bathymetry. In general, FES2014 outperforms GTSMv4.1 in the shallow waters before calibration. It can be used as observations in the parameter estimation application for GTSM, if the 'real observations', such as tide gauges, lack in some regions.



**Figure 2.** Left column: RSS between initial GTSMv4.1 and tide gauge data. Right column: RSS difference between initial GTSMv4.1 and FES2014 dataset (RSS of GTSM minus RSS of FES2014). Color blue shows better performance in FES2014 than GTSM. (a),(b) UHSLC dataset; (c),(d) CMEMS dataset; (e),(f) Arctic stations.[unit: m].

Table 2. RSS and RMS of eight major tide components between FES2014 dataset, initial GTSM and tide gauge data [unit:cm].

		RMS of all the locations								
		Q1	01	P1	K1	N2	M2	S2	K2	
UHSLC dataset	FES2014	0.37	1.79	0.83	2.49	2.66	11.75	3.49	0.97	12.98
	Initial GTSM	0.53	2.43	1.17	3.51	3.17	15.12	5.37	1.59	17.03
CMEMS dataset	FES2014	0.45	1.05	0.62	1.14	3.96	18.55	6.99	2.28	20.42
	Initial GTSM	0.68	2.17	0.68	1.55	3.22	17.99	4.66	1.70	19.15
Arctic Stations	FES2014	-	1.26	-	2.37	-	20.24	7.67	-	21.81
	Initial GTSM	-	3.03	-	5.47	-	25.27	8.63	-	27.42

#### 3.2 **Subdomains of Constant Bottom Friction Coefficient**

265 The bottom friction coefficients in the regions with large tide energy dissipation (see Figure 1c) have to be estimated. We define multiple subdomains for the European Shelf and Hudson Bay/Labrador regions and single subdomains for other coastal areas with the consideration of observation, energy dissipation and sea bed topography distributions.

#### 3.2.1 Case region 1: Hudson Bay/Labrador region

The Hudson Bay/Labrador region, in the top one of the list 1b, generates about 0.39TW energy dissipation, 16.47% of the 270 global sum. Most of the dissipation is concentrated in the Canadian archipelago, Hudson Bay, Foxe Basin, Hudson Strait, and Ungava Bat in Figure 3a. We defined three subdomains that firstly separating the Canadian archipelago outside the other areas. Secondly, Foxe Basin, Hudson Strait, and Ungava Bay are combined as one subdomain. The last subdomain is for Hudson Bay. Subdomains are shown in the red boxes of Figure 3a.

The available tide gauge observations are from the Arctic stations but only include four major tidal components. In theory, harmonic tide analysis can be performed for the model output and it is possible to estimate parameters with the model output 275 of harmonic constants for tidal constituents, but accurate tide analysis needs a time series of a year, which would increase the computation demand. For example, Wang et al. (2021b), reported that a full time series of 1 month is sufficient for an accurate parameter estimation. However, the yearly tide analysis would increase run times by a factor of 12. This is not feasible for us at the moment. Therefore, we choose to use the model output of time series covering 1 month in the estimation process and 1 year for harmonic tide analysis. The Arctic stations can be used for the model validation rather than model validation.

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We propose to generate observations from the FES2014 dataset to offset the measurements missing in the Hudson bay. Figure 2e illustrates the RSS (Root Sum Square) of four major tidal constituents between tide gauge data in the Arctic Ocean and the FES2014 dataset. The RSS difference between GTSM and FES2014 dataset (RSS between GTSM and tide gauge data - RSS between FES2014 and tide gauge data) varies for each location and FES2014 has smaller RSS than GTSM in most of the locations, especially in the Canadian archipelago regions (Figure 2f). The RSS of four major tidal constituents for all

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**Figure 3.** (a) Bottom friction energy dissipation per square meter of the Hudson Bay/Labrador in GTSMv4.1 [unit: $W/m^2$ ] and bottom friction coefficient subdomains (red boxes). (b) FES2014 observation distribution: Points with different colors means in different subdomain.

the locations in the FES2014 dataset is 21.81cm, while it is 27.82cm for GTSM. Errors are typically larger near the coast. Performance of FES2014 at the Arctic stations is better than GTSM before the calibration. We expect the accuracy of FES in open water to be even better. As a result, 61 equally distributed time series are derived from FES2014 dataset as observations on the locations in Figure 3b.

## 290 3.2.2 Case region 2: European Shelf

Bottom friction energy dissipation in the European Shelf is about 0.25TW, which is approximate 10.62% of the global total value shown in Figure 4a. Considering the dissipation distribution, we define 5 subdomains to estimate the bottom friction coefficient. Firstly, we define subdomains for the areas in and outside the North Sea and separate the Western and Eastern part of the North Sea. Secondly, the region of Scotland, the Faro Islands and Shetland have mountainous ocean bathymetry, where expect to a higher bottom friction coefficient, is set as a subdomain. Therefore, five subdomains are generated for the European Shelf for calibration.

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**Figure 4.** (a) Bottom friction energy dissipation per square meter across the European Shelf in GTSMv4.1 [unit:  $W/m^2$ ] and bottom friction coefficient subdomains (red boxes). (b) CMEMS observation distribution: points in red are data used for calibration, points in green are used for validation and points in blue not used.

The estimation for European Shelf takes advantage of a large amount of local tide gauge data (Figure 4b). About 297 tide gauge stations from CMEMS dataset are available for the year 2014, which will directly be used for parameter estimation. 132 tide gauge data stations in the Mediterranean Sea and Baltic Sea (blue points in Figure 4b) are removed because they are only weakly connected to the open ocean. The remaining stations are divided into two subsets, 70 locations for calibration (red points in Figure 4b) and 95 points for validation (green points in Figure 4b).

#### 3.2.3 Other Coastal Areas with Large Energy Dissipation

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There are many other coastal regions that generate large tide energy dissipation (Figure 1c), such as the North West of the Australian Shelf and the Yellow Sea. We defined 11 additional subdomains globally. They are in the North West Australian Shelf,
Yellow Sea, Patagonian Shelf, Okhotsk Sea, North East of Brazil, Arctic/Norwegian Sea, Antarctica, Andaman Sea, China Sea, Bering Sea, and Indonesia. Because of the limited tide gauge availability in the shallow water and limited computational resources, it is not feasible to do a detailed subdomain analysis for each of these regions. The detailed subdomain distribution is shown in the Section 4.

UHSLC dataset is a collection of global tide gauges, but these measurements are not evenly distributed and lacks data in some areas, such as the North West of Brazil and the Okhotsk Sea. To make the research on these areas feasible, we propose to use more FES2014 data in these regions for estimation and use the UHSLC dataset for validation only. Therefore, additional distance-equal distributed time series were generated from FES2014 in the location with bathymetry between 50 to 200m.

In summary, we defined 110 subdomains for bathymetry and 19 subdomains for bottom friction coefficient estimation (five in the European Shelf, three in the Hudson Bay/Labrador region and 11 for other coastal areas). In total, 4061 time series from

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5 the FES2014 dataset and 70 time series from the CMEMS dataset are included in the estimation procedure. GTSM after the estimation will be validated by comparing with time-series from the FES2014 dataset in the deep ocean and tide gauge data from the CMEMS, UHSLC and Arctic stations.

# 4 Numerical Experiment and Results

# 4.1 Parameter estimation

# 320 4.1.1 Experiment Design

In the parameter estimation procedure, GTSM is simulated with tide only because the surge is not sensitive to small random perturbations of the bathymetry (Wang et al., 2021b) but strongly affected by the meteorological condition. We selected a period of one month, September 2014 for the estimation runs. We found that it is sufficient for tide calibration when using high-frequency time series with 10 minutes sampling (Wang et al., 2021b). In addition, sea ice in the Arctic Ocean is not

325 modeled in the GTSM, but it has seasonal changes to the tides (Bij de Vaate et al., 2021). Performing the experiment in the September can minimize the impact of sea ice to the model because of no ice coverage in the September. To ensure the one month estimation realistic, meteorological and long-period signals have to be reduced as much as possible. We made model runs without atmospheric forcing and removed the SA and SSA tidal potential to avoid the seasonal changes to the time series because long-term constituents show large variation between years. These constituents were also removed from the FES2014 and tide gauge tide series to keep the comparison consistent.

The time step for the model output and observation is 10 minutes, leading to the time number in a one-month simulation equal to  $N_t$ =4321. The number of observation locations from FES2014 and CMEMS together is  $N_s$ =4131. Moreover, parameters are corrected for the 110 bathymetry subdomains and 19 bottom friction subdomains. In this case, the data size refers to observation, and model output for all the ensembles (perturbed parameters) in the estimated process is about 17.3GB. With the implementation of POD-based time pattern order reduction, a truncation size of 200 represents the model output and observation in a smaller subspace of time patterns. The memory requirement is reduced by a factor of 22 after the POD application.

Several constraints are defined in the optimization process to ensure that the adjusted parameters are realistic. The uncertainty for bathymetry correction factor is set to 5% and for bottom friction coefficient to 20%. Bathymetry uncertainty is defined as 5% from the knowledge that only a fraction of the ocean seabed has been surveyed, and the remaining errors are significant

(Tozer et al., 2019). We empirically defined the uncertainty by investigating its varying range. Initially, each parameter is perturbed one by one with the uncertainty value to obtain the model output for each ensemble. The same values are also

used for a weak constraint adding to the cost function as the background term. It defines the difference between the initial and adjusted parameters. The background term can avoid changes to the parameter far away from the initial values than only

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achieve an insignificant improvement. In addition, hard constraints are also defined as the upper and lower boundary for the parameters. They are twice the uncertainty with the value of [-10%, 10%] to bathymetry and [-40%, 40%] to the bottom friction coefficient. Finally, there is a transition zone between each subdomain to avoid a sudden change in the correction factor from one subdomain to another. The correction factor in the transition zone is generated by automatic linear interpolation.

#### 4.1.2 Parameter estimation results

- 350 Before the performance of parameter estimation, the sensitivities of each subdomain for bottom friction and bathymetry are analyzed in Figure 5. Bathymetry and bottom friction have comparable sensitivities (Figure 5a-5b). The sensitivity values of bathymetry vary between -0.06 to 0.02 (Figure 5a). The sensitivity of the bottom friction coefficient changes between -0.01 to 0.05 (Figure 5b), with the largest value up to approximate 0.05 in the North West of the Australian Shelf. As we discussed in the Introduction, bottom friction impacts the model performance not only in the local shallow waters but also in the nearby
- 355 deep ocean. It can be observed in the Figure 5c-5f when perturbing the bottom friction in the subdomains of European Shelf and Hudson bay. Standard Deviation (STD) is large in the nearby oceans around the perturbing subdomain and smaller when the location is far away, and the largest STD values are located around the Coastline (Figure 5d). Bottom friction in Hudson bay subdomain has a larger effect on the surrounding deep oceans (Figure 5c) than the European Shelf (Figure 5e). It is consistent with that the largest tide energy dissipation is in Hudson Bay.
- Figure 6a illustrates the cost function changes for each iteration in these four outer loops. The first 130 iterations in each loop perturb parameter one by one; parameters are iteratively updated after that until reaching the stop criteria. Optimized parameters in this outer loop will be used as the initial parameters to start the next loop. The estimation experiment was performed with 200 cores, 9 cluster nodes, running for about 16 days, with a total cost of approximately 76800 CPU core hours.
- The cost function in the experiment started from the value of  $1.96 \times 10^7$ . It is sharply reduced in the first outer loop to the value of  $6.40 \times 10^6$ , resulting in a reduction by 67.3%. The decrease of the cost function in the second to fourth outer loop is slight and converged in the fourth loop with the value of  $5.58 \times 10^6$ . Finally, the cost function is reduced by 71.5%. The relative changes of bathymetry and bottom friction coefficient are shown in Figure 6b, 6c. After the estimation, the total tide energy dissipation is reasonable with a value of 3.77TW.
- The average spatial STD between model output and observation in September 2014 is summarised in Table 3. Compared with the FES2014 dataset, the spatial average STD is sharply reduced by 52.4% after the estimation, from 5.19cm to 2.47cm. The total reduction is significant in the first outer loop and slight in the second to fourth outer loops. It is observed that in the Arctic Ocean, the initial STD with the value of 11.03cm is larger than other regions. It is expected because we added more observation points in the Hudson Bay/Labrador. This area is more shallow with large tide amplitudes, resulting in larger STD than other regions. Therefore, the comparison here includes the observations located in the deep ocean and shallow water together.



**Figure 5.** (a) Sensitivity for bathymetry. Sensitivity is the relative changes of the cost function, describing the difference between the model output and the observations when perturbing each parameter; (b) Sensitivity for bottom friction coefficient; (c-f) STD between initial model output and model output with perturbed bottom friction coefficient [unit: m]. (c)(d) illustrate the STD with the perturbation of the subdomain 5 of the European Shelf in Figure 4a; (e)(f) show the perturbation of the subdomain 3 of Hudson Bay in Figure 3a. (c)(e) show the 4061 evenly distributed locations, which are the same locations as the FES2014 dataset used in the parameter estimation. (d) shows the STD in the tide gauge locations around the EU. (f) shows the observation points from FES2014 dataset in detail in the Hudson Bay.



**Figure 6.** (a) Value of the cost function for each model run during the estimation; (b) Relative changes of bathymetry (bathymetry correction factor) after the estimation; (c) Relative changes of bottom friction coefficient (bottom friction coefficient correction factor) after estimation.

The outer loop iterations provide more improvement in the Arctic Ocean than in other regions. A possible explanation is that parameter estimation impacts areas with large disagreement against observations most because they still have room to improve, and non-linear effects become more likely. In Europe, GTSM shows significant improvement compared to CMEMS tide gauge data for calibration and validation, reduced by 36.1% and 30.5%, respectively. The difference between model and

380 UHSLC data is significantly reduced in the first outer loop and finally decreased by 24.3%. This decline is smaller than that in CMEMS data for two reasons. One is the UHSLC data is not included in the estimation process. Secondly, many shallow waters where the UHSLC tide gauges located are not defined for the bettern friction coefficient estimation. For example, only

waters where the UHSLC tide gauges located are not defined for the bottom friction coefficient estimation. For example, only two tide gauges are available in the Arctic Ocean, and no stations are in the Hudson Bay area.

The spatial distribution of STD for estimated GTSM and the STD difference between the initial and estimated model in September 2014 is shown in Figure 7. STD between estimated model and FES2014 dataset is larger in the shallow water, such as the North West of the Australian Shelf, Hudson Bay/Labrador, than in the deep ocean (Figure 7a). It can be observed that the estimated model is significantly improved with the STD reduced by about 2cm for most of the regions in the deep ocean (Figure 7b).Using more time series from the FES2014 dataset in the Hudson Bay/Labrador plays a role in the estimation process since the model is excellently agreed with the FES2014 dataset for most observation points. Several locations in the middle area of Hudson Pay are a bit worse

390 Hudson Bay are a bit worse.

Compared with the CMEMS dataset in Figure 7g and 7h, the parameter estimation brings a large improvement to the European Shelf, with the STD reduced from 17.60 cm to 11.25cm. This demonstrates that the direct use of tide gauge data in the estimation can improve model performance in shallow waters. Figure 7c and 7d also illustrates that STD between the model and the UHSLC dataset is decreased by a small amount. Figure 7e and 7f reports the comparison with the UHSLC dataset for the Australian shelf, where we defined several subdomains for bottom friction estimation. Even though the subdomains here are not as detailed as in the Hudson Bay and the European Shelf, the STD is also greatly reduced after the calibration in most of the tide gauges.

To evaluate the model forecast ability, we firstly validate the time-series water level (tide and surge) from GTSM in the year 2014 with the comparison of FES2014 and tide gauge data, after that following with the major tidal components analysis.

#### 4.2.1 Monthly Time-series Comparison

Figure 8 shows the average STD between the GTSM and FES2014 time-series for each month of year 2014 in seven ocean regions (8a-8g). Most of the observations are located in the deep ocean. Compared to the initial GTSM, results in the calibration period and the other month of 2014 have reached similar accuracy, implying that the estimation is not over-fitting the observations we used. STD in the Arctic Ocean is larger than other regions, which coincides with the results in Table 3.

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Model derived tide representation is compared with the CMEMS and UHSLC tide gauge data in Figure 9. CMEMS data in Figure 9a includes all the stations for calibration and validation. The average spatial STD for the year 2014 in the initial model is 16.7cm. After the first outer loop estimation, a large reduction is achieved to a value of 12.38cm. Accuracy is further



**Figure 7.** Left column: spatial distribution of STD of estimated GTSM. Right column: The STD difference between initial model and estimated model from September 1 to 30 2014. STD difference is defined as the RMSE of initial model minus STD of estimated GTSMv4.1. Color blue in Right column shows improvements in the estimated model [unit: m]. Observation dataset used to compare with GTSMv4.1:(a) (b) FES2014 dataset; (c)(d) UHSLC dataset; (e)(f) UHSLC dataset around the Australian Shelf; (g)(h) CMEMS dataset.



Figure 8. Regional averaged STD between GTSMv4.1 and FES2014 dataset in 2014 for tide simulation [unit:cm].

Data		Number	Initial	Es_1ª	Es_2	Es_3	Es_4
	Arctic Ocean	196	11.03	6.85	6.09	5.61	5.61
	Indian Ocean	784	5.31	2.45	2.38	Es_3         Es_           5.61         5.6           2.39         2.3           2.34         2.3           2.17         2.1           2.55         2.5           2.01         2.0           2.72         2.6           2.48         2.4           11.36         11.2           11.31         11.1           6.92         6.6           10.54         10.5           11.76         11.6           8.62         8.6           8.27         8.2           5.62         5.6           -         -           9.10         9.0	2.38
	North Atlantic	437	4.89	2.46	2.40	2.34	2.38
EE\$2014	South Atlantic	472	3.75	2.49	2.33	2.17	2.16
FE32014	North Pacific	923	5.05	2.74	2.61	2.55	2.53
	South Pacific	1008	4.96	2.18	2.06	2.01	2.01
	Southern Ocean	241	4.96	3.05	2.87	2.72	2.65
Total 4061	5.19	2.70	2.56	2.48	2.47		
CMEMS for cali	bration	70	17.60	12.77	12.15	11.36	11.25
CMEMS for vali	dation	90	16.06	12.47	11.89	11.21	11.15
	Arctic Ocean	2	13.18	9.19	8.34	6.92	6.63
	Indian Ocean	37	13.94	10.56	10.45	10.54	10.53
	North Atlantic	52	13.96	11.71	11.64	11.76	11.68
LIUSI C datasat	South Atlantic	15	12.22	9.00	8.73	8.62	8.67
UHSLC dataset	North Pacific	85	10.52	8.42	8.33	8.27	8.22
	South Pacific	43	8.67	5.80	$E_{3}^{-2}$ $E_{3}^{-3}$ $E_{3}^{-4}$ 5       6.09       5.61       5.61         5       2.38       2.39       2.38         5       2.40       2.34       2.38         5       2.40       2.34       2.38         6       2.40       2.34       2.38         9       2.33       2.17       2.16         4       2.61       2.55       2.53         3       2.06       2.01       2.01         5       2.87       2.72       2.65         9       2.56       2.48       2.47         7       12.15       11.36       11.25         7       12.15       11.36       11.25         7       11.89       11.21       11.15         9       8.34       6.92       6.63         6       10.45       10.54       10.53         1       11.64       11.76       11.68         9       8.73       8.62       8.67         2       8.33       8.27       8.22         9       5.67       5.62       5.62         5       9.07       9.10       9.07     <	5.62	
	$\begin{array}{c} \text{North Atlantic} & 1374 & 3.31 & 2.43 & 2.36 \\ \text{North Atlantic} & 437 & 4.89 & 2.46 & 2.40 \\ \text{South Atlantic} & 472 & 3.75 & 2.49 & 2.33 \\ \text{North Pacific} & 923 & 5.05 & 2.74 & 2.61 \\ \text{South Pacific} & 1008 & 4.96 & 2.18 & 2.06 \\ \text{South Pacific} & 1008 & 4.96 & 2.18 & 2.06 \\ \text{South Pacific} & 1008 & 4.96 & 3.05 & 2.87 \\ \hline \text{Total} & 4061 & 5.19 & 2.70 & 2.56 \\ \hline \text{MEMS for calibration} & 70 & 17.60 & 12.77 & 12.1 \\ \hline \text{MEMS for validation} & 90 & 16.06 & 12.47 & 11.8 \\ \hline \text{Arctic Ocean} & 2 & 13.18 & 9.19 & 8.34 \\ \hline \text{Indian Ocean} & 37 & 13.94 & 10.56 & 10.4 \\ \hline \text{North Atlantic} & 52 & 13.96 & 11.71 & 11.6 \\ \hline \text{North Atlantic} & 15 & 12.22 & 9.00 & 8.73 \\ \hline \text{North Pacific} & 85 & 10.52 & 8.42 & 8.33 \\ \hline \text{South Pacific} & 43 & 8.67 & 5.80 & 5.67 \\ \hline \text{South Pacific} & 43 & 8.67 & 5.80 & 5.67 \\ \hline \text{Southern Ocean} & - & - & - \\ \hline \text{total} & 234 & 11.98 & 9.16 & 9.07 \\ \end{array}$	-	-	-			
	total	234	11.98	9.16	9.07	9.10	9.07

Table 3. Average	STD between	GTSM and	observations i	in the p	period of Se	ptember, 2014	[unit: cm].
							L

<sup>a</sup> Es\_1, Es\_2, Es\_3, Es\_4 means estiamted GTSM in the  $1^{st}$ ,  $2^{nd}$ ,  $3^{rd}$ ,  $4^{th}$  outer loop.

improved due to the outer loop iteration. Finally, the STD is reduced to 66.5%. The direct use of CMEMS tide gauge data forcalibration of bottom friction coefficient effectively reduces the model error that came from parameter uncertainty and results in high accuracy tide representation in the shallow waters.

In this study, UHSLC tide gauge dataset is only used for validation (Figure 9b). It shows that the calibration also has better agreements in shallow waters outside Europe. But because many of the stations from UHSLC dataset are not in the estimation subdomains we defined, the improvement is limited.

The standard deviation of surge simulation before and after the estimation show minor difference in Figure 10. It is consistent with findings in our previous research to estimate bathymetry for GTSM (Wang et al., 2021b). The error are generally larger in the areas with stronger tide in the shallow waters. This makes the absolute value of the STD very dependent on the tide gauges that are used. In the UHSLC dataset, the locations are spread over the planet. The CMEMS dataset focuses on the European Shelf with stronger winds in winter.



**Figure 9.** Spatial average STD between GTSMv4.1 and tide gauges in 2014 for tide simulation[unit:cm]; (a) CMEMS dataset; (b) UHSLC dataset.

In general, these comparison shows that surge is not sensitive to the bathymetry and bottom friction but strongly affected by the wind and air pressure conditions. This conclusion is also supported by (Chu et al., 2019) to access the sensitivity of surge in the east China Sea (their Figure 13). In our study, even though surge simulation keeps the same accuracy after the estimation, the water level forecast accuracy is improved because of the improvement of tide representations, which is significantly demonstrated in the Figure 10b. Therefore, the bottom friction and bathymetry estimation improves the model derived water level forecast ability in the coastal areas. Moreover, we are expected to research on the impact on the surge and the nonlinear interaction between surge and tide for higher-resolution in more complex estuarine and river regions in the future.

#### 4.2.2 Tidal Constituents Analysis

To further study the global tides, we performed a one-year harmonic analysis in 2014 to the model derived tide representation before and after the estimation and compared the major eight components with observations.





(b) Standard Deviation between GTSM and Tide Gauges for Total Water Level Simulation



**Figure 10.** (a) Spatial average STD between GTSMv4.1 and tide gauges for surge simulation in 2014; (b)Spatial average STD between GTSMv4.1 and tide gauges for total water level simulation in 2014 [unit:cm]; CMEMS data includes 165 points (70 points are used in the calibration process and 95 points are for validation).

- Table 4 compares the tidal analysis results of GTSM and FES2014 before and after the estimation. Estimated GTSM has higher accuracy for all eight major tide components, with the RSS reduced by 47.7%. The largest RMS is in the M2 tidal constituent. RMS of tidal constituents M2, S2, K1, and O1 in the Arctic Ocean are greatly larger than other regions before and after the estimation. This can also be observed from the spatial distribution of the amplitude and phase of the M2 tide component in Figure 11. We observed large tide amplitudes in the shallow waters, such as in the Hudson Bay, European Shelf, and the Australian Shelf, and small in the deep ocean (Figure 11a). It results in large amplitude differences between the GTSM
- and observations in the Hudson Bay/Labrador regions (Figure 11b), as well as the higher STD for the Arctic Ocean. After the estimation, amplitude and phase differences are reduced in most regions (Figure 11c, 11f). The largest amplitude differences in Figure 11c are still in the areas around the Hudson Bay, Foxe Basin, Hudson Strait, and Ungava Bay, even though the difference is significantly reduced compared with the initial model.

				RM	S of all	the loca	ations	RMS of all the locations								
		Q1	01	P1	K1	N2	M2	S2	K2							
Anotia Occan	Initial GTSM	0.34	2.88	1.54	5.00	2.78	15.37	4.29	1.50	17.33						
	Estimated GTSM	0.27	1.46	0.72	2.40	1.69	8.18	2.67	0.76	9.27						
Indian Occan	Initial GTSM	0.24	0.88	0.62	1.02	1.16	5.14	2.32	0.86	6.01						
	Estimated GTSM	0.17	0.65	0.54	0.89	0.42	1.76	1.62	0.31	2.75						
Nauth Atlantia	Initial GTSM	0.25	0.97	0.40	1.14	0.81	4.92	1.45	0.28	5.44						
North Atlantic	Estimated GTSM	0.17	0.40	0.25	0.77	0.39	2.56	1.39	0.21	3.08						
South Atlantic	Initial GTSM	0.26	0.84	0.42	1.01	0.84	3.71	1.72	0.52	4.44						
	Estimated GTSM	0.20	0.42	0.22	0.67	0.51	1.66	1.06	0.28	2.22						
N. 1. D. 10	Initial GTSM	0.36	1.96	1.00	2.94	0.95	4.66	2.18	0.50	6.42						
North Pacific	Estimated GTSM	0.29	1.21	0.76	2.12	0.52	1.79	1.34	0.28	3.46						
South Desife	Initial GTSM	0.29	1.16	0.50	1.27	0.96	4.22	2.44	0.57	5.32						
South Pacific	Estimated GTSM	0.29	1.06	0.46	1.21	0.58	1.71	1.05	0.27	2.70						
	Initial GTSM	0.27	1.09	0.55	1.54	1.28	3.01	3.40	1.17	5.25						
Southern Ocean	Estimated GTSM	0.24	0.99	0.48	1.44	0.95	1.88	1.13	0.61	3.07						
T-4-1	Initial GTSM	0.29	1.42	0.73	2.04	1.15	5.53	2.39	0.72	6.71						
Total	Estimated GTSM	0.25	0.94	0.54	1.44	0.64	2.55	1.40	0.35	3.51						

Table 4. RSS and RMS of eight major tide components between GTSM and FES2014 dataset [unit:cm].

- In Table 5, we compared the tide components with the Deep-Ocean Bottom Pressure Recorder (BPR) data in the deep ocean to assess the model performance with other tide models described by Stammer et al. (2014). BPR data is available from the Supplement of Ray (2013). Compared with the non-assimilative tide models, Initial GTSM has the RMS of 4.77cm in the M2 component that outperforms the purely hydrodynamic tide models described in Table 12 of Stammer et al. (2014). In the estimation process, we select the FES2014 dataset as observations for the deep ocean with a smaller RSS than the initial GTSM.
- 445 FES2014 dataset is also the successor of FES2012. For example, RSS of FES2014 is 0.58cm while it is 1.12cm in FES2012 dataset (Table 3 in Stammer et al. (2014)). After the estimation, the RSS of GTSM is reduced to 2.83cm. Even though it is still not as accurate as FES2014 or other assimilative tide models (Table 3 in Stammer et al. (2014)), but it is excellent compared to the non-assimilative models. In addition, GTSM, like the non-assimilative models, can be used in scenario studies, such as studying climate change.
- In the shallow water, we summarized the RMS of major tide components with the comparison of tide gauge data in Table 6. After the estimation, the RSS of GTSM is reduced by 16% of the initial GTSM, from 17.03cm to 14.36cm. The error is still larger than in the FES2014 dataset with the value of 12.98cm in Table 2.



**Figure 11.** Spatial distribution of M2 amplitudes and phases from GTSMv4.1 and FES2014 dataset. (a) Amplitudes of M2 for FES2014 dataset; (b) (c): Amplitudes difference between FES2014 and initial GTSM, estimated model, respectively [unit: m]. (d) Phases of M2 for FES2014 dataset; (e) (f): Phases difference between FES2014 and initial GTSM, estimated model, respectively [unit: degree].

Table 5. RSS and RMS of eight major tide components between GTSM and Deep-Ocean Bottom Pressure Recorder (BPR) data<sup>1</sup> [unit:cm].

	RMS of all the locations									
	Q1	01	P1	K1	N2	M2	S2	K2	-	
FES2012 <sup>2</sup>	0.22	0.31	0.36	0.47	0.34	0.66	0.41	0.22	1.12	
NSWC	0.29	0.87	0.64	1.29	1.15	4.27	1.78	0.66	5.11	
FES2014	0.14	0.18	0.14	0.23	0.19	0.30	0.27	0.15	0.58	
Initial	0.29	1.20	0.55	1.71	0.98	4.77	1.97	0.53	5.71	
Estimated GTSM	0.25	0.68	0.41	1.41	0.54	1.79	1.33	0.24	2.83	

<sup>1</sup> BPR data is available from the Supplement of Ray (2013).

<sup>2</sup> Results of NSWC and FES2012 are from Stammer et al. (2014) Table 3.

Compared with the CMEMS dataset (all locations in the calibration and validation subsets), the RSS of all eight components is reduced from 19.15cm to 12.74cm. After the estimation, model errors have the largest reduction in the European Shelf than other regions. These results also demonstrate directly assimilating tide gauge data can significantly improve the accuracy of tide representation in models.

In the Arctic Ocean, we analyze the four major tide components from Arctic stations and GTSM. As a special area that has different performance in the outer iterations of estimation process than other regions, we reported results with the comparison of Arctic stations in four outer-loops in Table 6. RMS is reduced after the first outer loop, especially for the M2 component, resulting in the value of 22.24cm. It is close to the accuracy of the FES2014 shown in Table 2. However, the total accuracy in the second to fourth outer loop is not further improved. M2 constituent becomes a bit worse, but other tide frequencies are improved. This is contrasted with the results in Table 3 and Figure 8a of the comparison with FES2014 data in Arctic Ocean. An explanation is most of the Arctic stations are located in the Canadian archipelago, not the Hudson Bay. In addition, there are still observation errors in FES2014 even though FES2014 provides higher accuracy than the initial GTSM. Estimation leads

- 465 the results closer to the FES2014 but does not mean constantly closer to the Arctic Stations because of the observation error in FES2014 and the uncertainties with the Arctic stations. The spatial distribution of RSS for each station is illustrated in Figure 12. We can observe that error of GTSM after estimation is smaller than before (Figure 12a-c). However, the estimated GTSM does not surpass the accuracy of the FES2014 dataset (Figure 12d), which we also did not expect. Therefore, it is concluded that the observation error significantly influences the estimation accuracy. Moreover, stations in Norway seem to get worse
- 470 (Figure 12c), which is inconsistent with CMEMS data.

In summary, model assessments from the time and frequency fields demonstrate that the parameter estimation of bathymetry and bottom friction coefficient can significantly improve the tide representation in the deep ocean and shallow waters. GTSM benefits from estimating the bottom friction coefficient, especially in the Hudson Bay/Labrador and the European Shelf. The combination use of FES2014 and tide gauge data offsets the scarce supplies of observations in the shallow water and improves

475 model skills after the parameter estimation. The direct use of tide gauge data provides excellent agreements between the

observation and model output after the estimation. The estimated GTSM can provide high accuracy total water level forecast in the shallow waters, which is useful to assess the risk from coastal flooding, study the sea level rise and the interaction between tide and surge.

			RMS of all the locations								
		Q1	01	P1	K1	N2	M2	S2	K2	-	
	Initial	0.53	2.43	1.17	3.51	3.17	15.12	5.37	1.59	17.03	
UHSLC uataset	Estimated GTSM <sup>1</sup>	0.51	2.21	1.05	3.24	2.71	12.63	4.56	1.29	14.36	
CMEMC Laterat	Initial	0.68	2.17	0.68	1.55	3.22	17.99	4.66	1.70	19.15	
CIVILIVIS dataset	Estimated GTSM	0.51	0.85	0.57	1.48	2.45	11.19	5.12	1.23	12.74	
Arctic Stations	Initial	-	3.03	-	5.47	-	25.27	8.63	-	27.42	
	Es_1 <sup>2</sup>	-	2.22	-	3.74	-	20.39	7.73	-	22.24	
	Es_2	-	2.11	-	3.51	-	20.68	7.52	-	22.38	
	Es_3	-	1.98	-	3.24	-	20.65	7.27	-	22.22	
	Es_4	-	1.95	-	3.24	-	20.46	7.21	-	22.02	

Table 6. RSS and RMS of eight major tide components between GTSM and CMEMS, UHSLC and Arctic Stations [unit:cm].

<sup>1</sup> Estimated GTSM is the estimated GTSM in the fourth outer loop.

<sup>2</sup> Es\_1, Es\_2, Es\_3, Es\_4 means estimated GTSM in the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> outer loop.

# 5 Conclusions

- 480 This study presents a study about the joint estimation of bathymetry and bottom friction coefficient, for a Global Tide and Surge Model (GTSM), which effectively improves the global tide representation, especially in shallow waters. Bathymetry is the main parameter affecting model performance at the worldwide scale (Wang et al., 2021b), and the bottom friction term influences the tide representation in areas with significant tide energy dissipation (shallow/coastal areas). The FES2014 dataset, with higher accuracy than the initial GTSM in the deep ocean, is used for calibration in this paper. It plays a vital role in correcting the
- 485 bathymetry factor in the oceans domain we defined. To ensure that the estimation for bottom friction coefficient is feasible, we propose a combination of FES2014 and tide gauge data for the estimation of bottom friction in shallower coastal waters. Applying this parameter estimation significantly improves the tide representation of GTSM almost everywhere around the globe.

The Hudson Bay/Labrador Sea and European Shelf are the regions with the largest tide energy dissipation. The bottom friction coefficient in the European Shelf is optimized with the tide gauge data from the CMEMS dataset. This results in the largest improvements of tide accuracy for shallow waters. We refined the observation locations from the FES2014 dataset in the Hudson Bay and Labrador sea. This approach is based on the condition that data of Arctic stations only have four major tide



**Figure 12.** RSS of four major tide components between the Arctic station and initial GTSMv4.1 (a), estimated GTSMv4.1 (b); (c) RSS difference between initial model and estimated model (RSS of initial model minus RSS of estimated model); (d) RSS of estimated model minus RSS between FES2014 and Arctic Stations [unit: m]. (color blue shows better performance in estimated GTSM than initial model (c) or FES2014 dataset (d).

components that cannot be used for calibration, and FES2014 has higher accuracy than initial GTSM when comparing against these stations. After estimation the accuracy of GTSM is close to that of FES here. Moreover, some other coastal areas with

- 495 large energy dissipation are estimated by including more observation located in the depth between 50-200m from FES2014 dataset because the numbered UHSLC tide gauges are too few to be used for calibration directly in many regions. After calibration, GTSM has smaller disagreements than initial model but not as accurate as the FES2014 dataset when comparing with UHSLC dataset. RSS of eight tide components between FES2014 and UHSLC tide gauge data is 12.98cm, which is smaller than the estimated GTSM with the value of 14.36cm. However, the purpose of the calibration of GTSM is different
- 500 from that of FES2014. GTSM is used as a strong constraint. A consequence of it is that this dramatically reduces the number of degrees of freedom for the assimilation, leading in general to larger differences with the observations. It is likely that the calibrated GTSM produce less accurate tides but can be used for a wider range of applications. These remarks discuss the assimilation aspect only, but other factors, such as the resolution, quality of the input data and the physics included in the model, also contribute to the accuracy of the final result. Finally, also the amount and quality of the assimilated observations
- 505 influences the accuracy. FES2014 assimilates a large number of observations, both from remote sensing and in-situ achieving a very high accuracy in deep waters, which is why we have selected it as a data-source for our calibration.

In summary, the accuracy of GTSM is significantly improved with the combined parameter estimation of bathymetry and bottom friction coefficient. Tide representation in shallow waters benefits from the optimization of bottom friction coefficient, contributing to a more accurate water level forecast when including wind and air pressure conditions for surge simulation.

- 510 Accurate parameter estimation for global tide models needs sufficient observations and a proper determination of parameter subdomains. Direct utilization of tide gauge data provides the most significant reduction of model error. Some areas such as the Hudson Bay with insufficient tide gauge measurements, the use of other data with higher accuracy than the model can also improve the model performance to a certain extent. The one-year model validation demonstrates the estimated GTSM can provide long-term high accuracy tide forecasts. Thanks to the efforts of communities like GLOSS, UHSLC, CMEMS,
- 515 EMODnet and GESLA, more and more tide gauge data is becoming available. However, the spatial scales in shallow coastal waters are much smaller than in deep water, so that the number of available tide gauge is not yet sufficient for calibration of tide models at the moment. Satellite altimetry has the potential to add much more information about tides in shallow waters. However, compound tides, overtides and tide-surge interaction will make this more complicated than in deeper waters.
- To further reduce tide errors using the presented parameter estimation technique, some major obstacles remain (1) When 520 we include satellite altimetry data especially in the shallow water to the estimation process, the accuracy of harmonic tidal analysis to the satellite altimetry has to be assessed, which would require complex preprocessing. (2) The influence of sea ice on the tide is currently not yet included into the model. However, the seasonal modulation from sea ice can affect the model performance (Kagan and Sofina, 2010; Müller et al., 2014), because sea ice exerts additional frictional stress on the surface. In our parameter estimation experiment, we observed that in the Canadian archipelago, higher bottom friction coefficients are
- 525 estimated. This is probably caused by a lack of dissipation by sea ice. However, the estimated bottom friction coefficients do not result in a good agreement with the seasonal dynamics. A possible solution is to include the sea ice modeling in the GTSM, and the sea ice coefficient will also become an uncertain source to estimate. This will also require measurements that properly

represent modulation of the tides over the seasons. Preliminary products of this type are starting to appear (Bij de Vaate et al., 2021).

- 530 Code and data availability. The Delft3D Flexible Mesh software can be obtained from Deltares (https://oss.deltares.nl/web/delft3dfm). The OpenDA software can be obtained from https://www.openda.org/. The FES2014 dataset is acquired from https://www.aviso.altimetry.fr/. Research Quality Data of UHSLC is made available at the University of Hawaii Sea Level Centre with the link ftp://ftp.soest.hawaii.edu/uhslc/rqds. The CMEMS data can be obtained from https://marine.copernicus.eu/. Bathymetry data is available from https://www.gebco.net/data\_and\_products/gridded\_bathymetry\_data/ (GEBCO 2019) and https://emodnet.ec.europa.eu/en/bathymetry (EMODnet).
- 535 *Author contributions*. XW and MV conceived the study and designed the parameter estimation scheme. JV prepared the GTSMv4.1. XW performed the estimation experiments and carried out the data analysis. MV, HL, and JV provided useful comments on the paper. XW prepared the manuscript with contributions from MV and all other co-authors.

Competing interests. The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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