

OISÍN HAMILTON

✉ oisin.hamilton@meteo.be | 👤 oisinhilton.com

EDUCATION

PhD Climate modelling with a focus on climate tipping points Université catholique de Louvain & Royal Meteorological Institute of Belgium	2021 -
MSc Mathematical Modelling University College London	2018 - 2020 Distinction
BA Mathematics (Major) and Philosophy (Minor) Trinity College Dublin	2013 - 2017 1 st Hon.
Australian Schools of Isolated Distance Education Home educated while travelling aboard a sailing yacht	2003 - 2010

RESEARCH WORK

Climate Change Impact on Atmospheric Blocking

PhD Project

- Project is part of the CriticalEarth EU Horizon 2020 project researching tipping points and critical transitions in the climate.
- The link between atmospheric blockings, or decadal variability in the extratropical atmosphere, and unstable periodic orbits (UPOs) in climate models will be researched.
- Analysis of how UPOs are modified due to climate change will be undertaken to help understand how climate change will affect the low-frequency variability present in the atmosphere.
- This investigation will be performed in a hierarchy of climate models of increasing complexity and using tools of nonlinear sciences.

Quasi-Geostrophic Spectral (qgs) Model

PhD sub-project

- The temperature equations in the qgs model were modified by incorporating the non-linearised Stefan-Boltzmann radiation equation.
- The dynamics of the model were explored by running the model varying the atmosphere-ocean coupling, and simulating climate change by altering the atmosphere emissivity.
- A symbolic python version of the model was developed that allows for continuation analysis on the model.

Training Secondments

PhD sub-project

I spent three months in Utrecht University under the supervision of Henk Dijkstra where I learnt about 2D and geostrophic turbulence. I developed a new shell model for atmospheric turbulence energy transitions.

I spent three months in the University of Exeter under the supervision of Mark Holland learning about Extreme Value Theory. While here I investigated the behaviour of one dimensional maps that present switching behaviour between two persistent regions, with the aim to apply to persistence in dynamical systems.

Forest Fire Modelling

MSc Dissertation

- Forest fire behaviour was modelled by deriving an equation to simulate fire spread incorporating wind, topography, and fuel type.
- The equation was simulated using a variety of finite difference methods, which I programmed.
- This equation was used to implement a cellular automata model, which incorporated discrete spreading elements such as firebreaks and floating embers.
- The model produced realistic spreading behaviour that was verified with fire spread observations.

Automated Mapping of Transport Networks

BA Dissertation

- Bus network maps were automatically created given the location of bus stops and the ordering of the stops for each bus route.
- From a specified stop, the program identified key routes and output a well designed transit map.
- This project involved graph theory, graph embeddings, linear programming, and data analysis of similarity between bus lines.
- The project produced an accurate bus and rail map for the Dublin network, given network data.

PUBLICATIONS

Hamilton, O., Demayer, J., Vannitsem, S. and Crucifix, M. (2023) Multistability in a coupled ocean–atmosphere reduced-order model: Nonlinear temperature equations. *Quarterly Journal of the Royal Meteorological Society*, 1–17. <https://doi.org/10.1002/qj.4564>

CONFERENCES

EGU General Assembly - Vienna, Austria - 2024

I presented the findings of a bifurcation analysis on the qgs model that used continuation methods to explain persistent blocking behaviour found in previous studies. This study allowed me to showcase the use of the symbolic python version of the model that I have developed and present a new code pipeline from the qgs model to the continuation software AUTO, or BifurcationKit in the Julia programming language.

TiPES General Assembly - Benasque, Spain - 2023

I presented my work on creating a symbolic python pipeline for the qgs model. I showed how this allows for time dependant forcing to be introduced, as well as continuation methods to be applied.

IUGG General Assembly - Berlin, Germany - 2023

I presented the findings in Hamilton et al. 2023, as well as introduced a symbolic python representation of the qgs model, which allows for continuation methods to be used on the model equations.

EGU General Assembly - Vienna, Austria - 2023

I presented the findings in Hamilton et al. 2023, in the tipping point seminar.

Tipping Points in the Earth System (TiPES) - Devon, UK - 2022

TiPES workshop and general assembly. As part of this workshop I also attended the first day of the *Tipping Points: From Climate Crisis to Positive Transformation* conference, which was held in the University of Exeter.

9th International Symposium on Bifurcations and Instabilities in Fluid Dynamics (BIFD) - Groningen, Netherlands - 2022

I gave a presentation of my work on non-linear heat radiation terms in an ocean-atmosphere coupled model.

Modern Mathematics for Complex Systems - London, UK - 2022

I presented a poster on my initial results of including non-linear heat radiation terms in a coupled ocean-atmosphere model.

TRAINING COURSES

CriticalEarth Training Event - Munich, Germany - 2024

Topics covered: Linear response theory, climate services workshop, climate model intercomparison project overview.

CriticalEarth Training Event - Exeter, UK - 2023

Topics covered: Atmospheric turbulence with the use of simple models to capture key energy transfers.

Science Communications - Exeter, UK - 2023

I attended a two day science communications workshop and training event, conducted by David Trads. The topic covered blog post and article writing, aiming scientific literature for a more general audience, and how to interact with journalists and interview techniques.

TUM Dynamical Systems Winter School - Munich, Germany - 2023

Topics covered: fast-slow dynamical systems, machine learning, stochastic systems. I gave a presentation on finding multistability in an ocean-atmosphere coupled model.

CriticalEarth Training Event - Nijmegen, Netherlands - 2022

Event for the CriticalEarth PhD students where we had workshops on using machine learning in climate science, and using rare event algorithms.

Time Series Analysis - Germany - 2022

I attended a course on time series analysis conducted by Manfred Mudelsee, which covered topics such as: bootstrapping, regression methods, and correlation of bivariate time series.

CriticalEarth Training Event - Hornbæk, Denmark, 2021

The startup event for the CriticalEarth project with introduction to dynamical systems and bifurcation analysis.

EMPLOYMENT

Climate Researcher, Royal Meteorological Institute, Brussels Oct 2021 -

Researcher of climate dynamics as part of my PhD studies.

My main tasks include analysing climate models, modifying climate models in python, and implementing new diagnostic tools to analyse results.

Transport Planner and Economist, WSP, London Oct 2017 - Apr 2021

Analyst and model builder for forecasting and analysing a wide range of transport systems.

Responsibilities involve model building and auditing, data analysis, and project management.

Key Projects:

Train Loadings During COVID-19 (2020): Using ticket gate-data I developed a process to provide daily reports to Chiltern Railways on the number of people on each train. This process helped ensure social distancing could be maintained and to aid in passenger demand forecasting.

Overground Service Reporting (2020): I created a process for Arriva Rail London (ARL) which incorporated different datasets on timetable, performance, and planned engineering work to output a forecast

for capacity for the London Overground. I also managed this project and was responsible for liaising with stakeholders within ARL and TfL.

Journeys per Ticket (2019): Research project for the Department of Transport, calculating the number of journeys taken on season tickets. I created a program to search over 200 million ticket entries to identify trip rates. I also created a process to find and edit missing entries in the ticket data. Results from this project are included in the government transport guidance.

Carbon Emission Modelling (2018): I built a model to forecast the emissions of rail services as part of the West Coast franchise. This involved incorporating timetable information, rolling stock types, and researching the forecast carbon emissions of the UK power grid.

Senior Sailing Instructor, Howth Yacht Club

May 2015 - Apr 2017

HYC Instructor of the year 2015

I was the team leader of up to eleven instructors during summer sailing courses. I was responsible for on the water safety and maintaining the high teaching standards expected at one of Ireland's most successful sailing clubs. I also had final say on the suitability of weather conditions and forecasts for teaching. I was in charge of handling customer feedback and administration for the courses and over three summers the club enrolled 500 students.

As well as leading sailing instructors I taught sailing for five years, during which time I taught all age groups and sailing abilities.

TECHNICAL STRENGTHS

Programming & Skills

Python, VBA, Julia, Excel Best Practice

Other Software & IT

L^AT_EX, Excel, Word, QGIS, PowerPoint.

SELF-EMPLOYED WORK

Boat Maintenance, Irish Sailing

May 2014 - Aug 2016

I acted as bosun of Irish Sailing Association's eight J80s, where I was responsible for maintaining and refitting the boats for two years. I was responsible maintaining the yachts at racing standard, including for the 2015 European match racing finals.

Private Yacht Maintenance, Port Vell, Barcelona

Nov 2004 - Apr 2006

At a young age, I set up and ran a business that looked after and cleaned yachts. I was responsible for up to six yachts, worth a combined value of almost one million euro, over two winter seasons. I also took responsibility for ensuring the yachts were secured adequately for winter storms.

INTERESTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Sailing

From the age of ten I lived on a yacht with my family and kept day and night watch. This required me to plan routes based on weather forecasts, navigate, and select sail plans for the given conditions. Together, we covered a total distance of over 20,000 N-miles and visited 15 countries. My travels have allowed me to experience working with people from many different cultures.

I have also skippered a 36ft keelboat for a two week voyage in the Mediterranean. Competitively I have raced J80, J24, SB20 keelboats and 420 dinghies.

Cycling

I have planned and completed three different cycling trips across Europe, together lasting a total of nine weeks. As part of the trips I have travelled through 13 countries and covered a total distance of over 7,000km.

I also completed a charity cycle for Amnesty Int. of over 300km in less than 24 hours.