

RORY LAIHO

University of Colorado

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UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

Ph.D. student in Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences at University of Colorado Boulder, since 2015.
Research Advisor: Alexandra Jahn.

Master of Computer Information Systems, University of Denver, 1994.

B.S. Electrical Engineering, University of Colorado Boulder, 1981.

B.S. Mathematics, University of Wisconsin Madison, 1971.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant at INSTAAR at University of Colorado Boulder since 01/2016
As a PhD student and research assistant in the Polar and Paleoclimate Modeling Research Group, am working on an NSF-funded Arctic freshwater research project that is focused on the assessment of the simulated Arctic freshwater system in the Community Earth System Model (CESM) Large Ensemble (LE), in CMIP5 models, and in forced simulations. Supervisor: Alexandra Jahn.

Director of IT Solutions and Services at PPS InfoTech 2013 to 2014
Managed IT infrastructure and security remediation program for network of hospitals, clinics, and healthcare providers. Delivered new Network Operations and Security Operations Centers.

Program Manager at EMC 2012 to 2013
Managed design and delivery of IT infrastructure and endpoint computing solutions for organizations in the insurance/financial, healthcare, and public sectors.

Services Delivery Manager at Microsoft 2010 to 2012
Managed design and delivery of IT infrastructure solutions in the areas of desktop computing migration, database server migration, and collaborative applications.

President, Program Management Services at Ascendera 2008 to 2010
Focused on technology program management, business analysis, and Project Management Office (PMO) models.

Global Portfolio/Product Line Manager and Technical Services Manager at Sun Microsystems

1999 to 2008

- Managed global portfolio of commercial IT service offerings related to Sun software.
- In company's Education Division, managed global services organization that developed and implemented customized web-based learning management systems. Focused on teaching methods, education content development and delivery, and technology platforms for education.
- For national and regional territories, managed delivery of web infrastructure and application solutions.

Executive Program Manager and other technology / management roles at IBM

1981 to 1999

- Developed IT strategies; managed data centers and related IT services
- Managed development of assigned hardware components and software products

Varied Software Developer roles

1971 to 1981

Developed software in Fortran and other programming languages for technical and business applications.

RESEARCH, PROJECT, AND PRESENTATION ACTIVITIES

Research assistant at INSTAAR at University of Colorado - work in progress

since 01/2016

Initial research has utilized CESM Large Ensemble simulations to examine internal variability in Arctic ocean freshwater budget terms. The research plan includes analysis and comparison of freshwater flux output and related variables among selected CMIP5 modeling simulations. Research activities will entail comparison with observational and reanalysis datasets. In addition, as research progresses, efforts will include use of freshwater tracers for more detailed study of internal variability of freshwater for selected sources in the Arctic region.

2016 CESM Workshop poster presentation

June 2016

“Internal Variability in the Arctic freshwater budget as simulated by the CESM Large Ensemble”

This poster at the CESM workshop in Breckenridge, Colorado, USA, presented a sampling of initial results regarding the internal variability of freshwater budget terms estimated from multiple CESM LE simulation runs.

Clouds and Aerosols course review project and presentation

Spring 2016

“Arctic Mixed-Phase Clouds: Properties, Processes, and Persistence”

Mixed-phase clouds in the Arctic region are considered important in the modeling and analysis of radiative fluxes and energy balance. This literature review project included examination of topics related to mixed-phase cloud structure, processes, system feedbacks, and persistence.

Physical Oceanography and Climate course project and presentation Fall 2015
“Arctic Freshwater System in CMIP5 Models, the CESM Large Ensemble, and Forced Simulations”
This project consisted of making MATLAB updates to existing code for use in the post-processing of freshwater flux values obtained from CESM Large Ensemble simulation. These activities served as preparation for current research pertaining to Arctic freshwater budget.

Physical and Chemical Oceanography course project and research proposal Fall 2014
“Freshwater Melt Model Intercomparison Project (MIP)”
This oceanography course project included a literature review and generation of a draft research proposal regarding potential CMIP5 model enhancements to address freshwater impacts from ice sheet melting.

Global corporate engineering conference presentation 2008
“Identity Management Software Solution Accelerator”
Session speaker on the design and usage of a new software solution that enabled greatly reduced implementation time for enterprise-scale identity management solution deployment.

Corporate national project management conference presentation 2003
“Project Management Framework and Methods”
Session speaker on project management structure and methodology being used in a business technology solutions and services organization.

COMPUTER SKILLS

Operating systems:

Linux, Mac, and Microsoft Windows

Programming languages / scientific data analysis software:

MATLAB, Python, NCL, Fortran

Other relevant software:

Microsoft Office Suite, Microsoft SharePoint

Apple productivity apps: Pages, Numbers, Keynote

SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Member of American Meteorological Society since 2016

Member of Project Management Institute (PMI) professional society since 2002

- Director of Knowledge Management for global PMI Program Management Office (PMO) SIG (Special Interest Group) 2009-2010
 - PMI PMO SIG conference knowledge management working session chair/speaker 2009
- Member of Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) professional society since 1981
- Chairperson and other volunteer roles - IEEE Computer Society - Denver Chapter 1980s-1990
 - Vice chair - members services - Denver chapter of IEEE 1991-1992
 - Speaker on professional society topic at IEEE Regional Meeting 1991
- Colorado State Science Fair judge 1991-1992

CERTIFICATIONS

- Project Management Professional (PMP) since 1999
- Certified Professional in Healthcare Information and Management Systems (CPHIMS) since 2009

AWARDS / RECOGNITION

- Tau Beta Pi engineering honor society at University of Colorado 1981
- Eta Kappa Nu electrical engineering honor society at University of Colorado 1981
- Phi Kappa Phi general undergraduate honor society at University of Wisconsin 1971
- National Merit Program-based scholarship 1967-1971
- Wisconsin Honor scholarship 1967

TRAVEL GRANTS

- International Arctic Research Center (IARC) program travel grant to attend the 2016 IARC Summer School in Fairbanks, Alaska, USA 2016
- The Forum for Arctic Modeling and Observational Synthesis (FAMOS) program travel grant to attend the FAMOS 2016 School for New Arctic Investigators and the FAMOS 2016 workshop at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Massachusetts, USA 2016