



SURF-SHYFEM User Guide

Versione 1.00

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Table of contents

1. Welcome to the SURF-SHYFEM User Guide	3
2. Getting Started with SURF-SHYFEM	4
2.1 Get the Surf Virtual Machine	4
2.2 Installing SHYFEM	4
2.3 Run the Surf-SHYFEM Testcase (Madagascar coastal area)	5
2.4 Known issues	7
3. APPENDIX	9
3.1 Release Notes	9

1. Welcome to the SURF-SHYFEM User Guide

Welcome to the user guide for the unstructured grid component of the **Structured and Unstructured Grid Relocatable Ocean Platform for Forecasting (SURF)**, release version 1.00. This guide provides comprehensive information and instructions to help you make the most of the SURF-SHYFEM platform.

For details on updates and changes in this version, please refer to the [release notes](#).

Note

PDF Documentation: The full user guide is also available for download in PDF format:

[surf_shyfem_1.00.pdf](#).

For the latest SURF-SHYFEM release, you can access and download it directly from the official website:

<https://www.surf-platform.org>

License Information

SURF is distributed as a free and open-source software package under the terms of the GNU General Public License ([GPLv3](#)).

2. Getting Started with SURF-SHYFEM

This guide provides instructions for downloading, installing, and running SURF-SHYFEM in a virtual machine (VM) environment. It complements the [video tutorials](#) available on the SURF website and the instructions provided in the [SURF-NEMO manual](#).

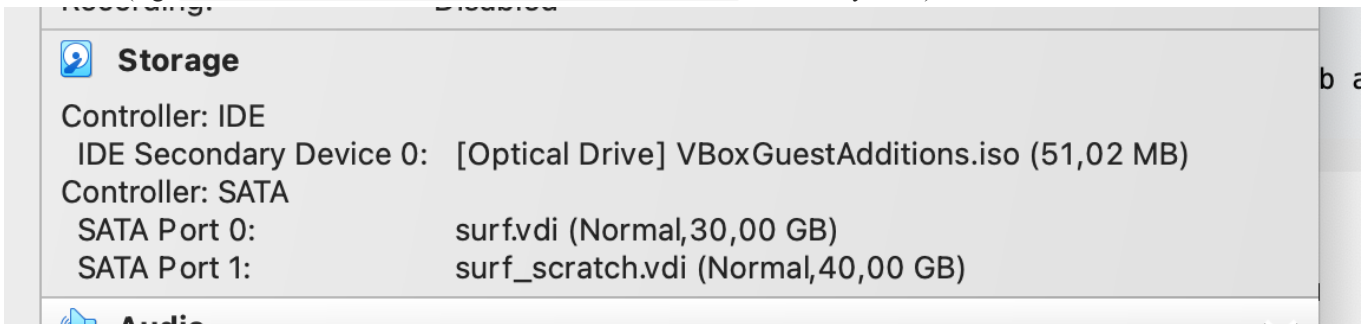
2.1 Get the Surf Virtual Machine

1. Download VirtualBox following the [SURF-NEMO manual](#)
2. Download the SURF VM from the [SURF webpage](#).
3. Refer to the [SURF-NEMO manual](#) to correctly setup the VM. Some additional notes:
 - The login username and passwords are surf and surf2020 respectively.
 - If you use a AZERTY keyboard, you should type the password as if you were using a QWERTY keyboard (i.e. don't press shift when entering the numbers). You'll be able to switch to AZERTY once inside the VM, from the system settings.
 - To run the Madagascar test case, you must resize the virtual machine. To do that: shut down the virtual machine, go to the folder containing the `.vdi` file and type in a Terminal:

```
VBoxManage modifyhd surf_scratch.vdi --resize 60000
```

Then start the virtual machine, go to `administration` → `GParted` → `devsdb` and resize.

- You may need to modify the VM storage unit. By default, it points to `/Users/Franz/VirtualBox VMs/Surf/VBoxGuestAdditions.iso`. You should redirect it to the `VBoxGuestAdditions.iso` disk image available from your VirtualBox installation (e.g. `usr/share/VirtualBox/VBoxGuestAdditions.iso` for linux systems).



2.2 Installing SHYFEM

1. Start the virtual machine.
2. To download `surf_dataset` and `surf_shyfem` zip files, open a Terminal and type:

```
cd /scratch/surf/surf_install/releases/

echo "Downloading SURF-Datasets..."
wget https://www.surf-platform.org/repository/surf_datasets/surf_datasets_1.01/
surf_datasets_1.01.tar.gz
wait
```

```
echo "Downloading SURF-SHYFEM..."
wget https://www.surf-platform.org/repository/surf_shyfem/surf_shyfem_1.00/surf_shyfem_1.00.tar.gz
wait
```

3. From the same location, install the datasets and SHYFEM:

```
install.sh surf_dataset_1.01
install.sh surf_shyfem
```

These commands install the surf static datasets and SURF-Shyfem under `/scratch/surf/surf_datasets/` and `/scratch/surf/surf_shyfem/`, respectively.

4. Once done, you must grant execution permissions to script files:

```
chmod -R a+x /scratch/surf/surf_shyfem/surf_shyfem_1.00/
```

2.3 Run the Surf-SHYFEM Testcase (Madagascar coastal area)

1. Download the testcase input datasets from the [SURF webpage](#):

```
cd /scratch/surf/indata_offline/
wget https://www.surf-platform.org/repository/surf_shyfem/surf_shyfem_1.00/case_studies/
madagascar_20210402_indata.tar.gz
tar -zxvf madagascar_20210402_indata.tar.gz
```

2. Create the experiment directory and move the data in it:

```
mkdir -p /scratch/surf/experiments/mdg_etoofs/data/indata/
cp -r /scratch/surf/indata_offline/madagascar_20210402_indata/madagascar_20210402/* /scratch/surf/
experiments/mdg_etoofs/data/indata/
```

3. Activate virtual environment:

```
conda activate surf_shyfem
```

4. You're all set.

Unstructured grid generation

The first step to the execution of a downscaling experiment is the creation of the unstructured grid in the downscaled domain (please refer to the [video tutorials](#) for a comprehensive introduction on the subject).

1. Generate the grid with the embedded tool (based on Gmsh):

```
cd /scratch/surf/surf_shyfem/current/grid-tool/
python create_grid.py @ci osm @cb 49.4682 -12.0557 49.3572 -12.1062 49.2196 -12.1272 49.1467 -12.3619
49.3724 -12.4503 49.5137 -12.3577 @ob 49.5652,-11.9743 49.7047,-12.1988
```

Note:

- The commas are only in the @ob section. The syntax is:

```
python create_grid.py @ci osm @cb lon1 lat1 lon2 lat2 ... @ob lon1,lat1 lon2,lat2 ...
```

- Coordinates must be written in decimal notation
- Both @cb and @ob coordinates must be in an anticlockwise sense

2. Follow on-screen prompts to set the grid parameters (for their description please refer to the video tutorials):

```
Insert L_open: 0.05
Insert L_coast: 0.01
Insert Delta_open: 0.015
Insert Delta_coast: 0.002
```

You can play a bit with the grid parameters and bounding coordinates, but at first we advise to stick with these values to get the first experiment done.

3. Move the grid to the correct directory and rename it:

```
mkdir /scratch/madagascar
cp /scratch/surf/surf_shyfem/current/grid-tool/output/* /scratch/madagascar
mv /scratch/madagascar/new.grd /scratch/madagascar/madagascar_final.grd
```

Manually edit `/scratch/madagascar/madagascar_final.grd` to remove the first blank line.

Run the downscaling experiment

1. Create a new folder in the directory `/scratch/from_GUI/` and let's call it `mdg_etoofs` (this is the Experiment ID), and copy to it the input configuration files:

```
mkdir /scratch/from_GUI/mdg_etoofs
cp /scratch/surf/surf_shyfem/surf_shyfem_1.00/input_param* /scratch/from_GUI/mdg_etoofs/
```

2. Copy the `surf_shyfem` source code to the experiment directory:

```
ln -s /scratch/surf/surf_shyfem/current/* /scratch/surf/experiments/mdg_etoofs
```

3. Run the experiment:

```
cd /scratch/surf/surf_shyfem/current/scripts; python create_exp.py mdg_etoofs
```

2.4 Known issues

- File `"/scratch/surf/experiments/mdg_etoofs_ext/code/ocean/scripts/bathyI nterp/shyfem.py"`, line 28, in `inBox`
`idNodes = self.nodes[:, 1].astype(int)`
 IndexError: too many indices for array: array is 1-dimensional, but 2 were indexed

You have to remove the first blank line from the file `new.grd`.

- ````bash`
`warning : nodes in element *** are in clockwise sense`
`````  
 Apply ````/scratch/surf/surf_shyfem/current/shyfem/fembin/exgrd -a```` to your input ``new.grd`` file. If it does not work, change the order of nodes in the ``new.grd`` file by hand.

- ````bash`  
`FileNotFoundError: [Errno 2] No such file or directory: b'/scratch/surf/experiments/mdg_proval/data/indata/ocean/20210402_d -MERCATOR--RFVL--MDG-b20210413_an-fv01.nc'`  
`````  
 Manually insert in ``/scratch/surf/experiments/{experiment_name}/indata/`` the input data for ocean atmosphere and observations needed for your experiment.

- ````bash`
`STOP error stop adjust_levels: hlv too low`
`````  
 Select correctly the levels in ``input_param_basic.json``. Your modeled ocean is not deep enough.

- STOP error stop (<something about boundaries>)

Did you correctly select the path in `boundariesPath` of `input_param_basic.json` files?

- STOP error stop `iff_init`

If the simulation breaks when reading the initial conditions files, check if there is a blank line somewhere. E.g., for `uvin.dat`, there may be one before “v-velocity”. You cannot remove it, since SURF will create the file again when launching the simulation. A workaround (ninja skills required) is to manually stop ( `ctrl+Z` ) the `create_exp.py` execution right after the creation of the problematic file (say `uvin.dat`), manually remove the blank line that is causing the error and then resume the process execution ( `fg %[job ID]` )

- `mv: cannot stat 'out.nc': No such file or directory`

Good question. There should be a previous error, so you should look above in the error traceback to fix it.

- `fatal:MapRGDHDDrawMapList: MDRGSF/MDRGOF - ERROR OPENING RANGS/GSHHS CAT FILE`  
`fatal:PlotManagerPreDraw: error in plot pre-draw`

There is a failure in the final plots generation. This is expected, since the postprocessing tools are not yet stable. If the files `.nos.nc` and `.ous.nc` have been produced, the experiment has correctly concluded.



## 3. APPENDIX

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### 3.1 Release Notes

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In this section, you'll find documentation of all significant updates to the surf\_shyfem package

#### 3.1.1 Version 1.00 "What's New"

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Released on 2021-24-06

This is the first release of surf\_shyfem package.