

Identifying Climate Model Deficiencies in Simulation of Tropical Intraseasonal Variability Under the CCPP-ARM Parameterization Testbed (CAPT) Framework

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Introduction

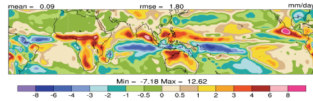
Identifying specific model deficiencies that contribute to the problem in simulating tropical intraseasonal variability is difficult in climate simulations since results usually depend on all aspects of the model and the compensation of multiple errors can mask real model problems. To help address this issue, in this study we attempt to examine model deficiencies in simulating tropical intraseasonal variability by running climate model in numerical weather forecast (NWP) mode under the U. S. Department of Energy (DOE)'s Climate Change Prediction Program (CCPP) - Atmospheric Radiation Measurement Program (ARM) Parameterization Testbed (CAPT) framework.

We believe that diagnosis of drifts from and differences with observations in short-range (<10 days) integrations of a climate model initialized with NWP analyses can reveal much about the character of model errors and potentially be an insightful way to interpret the errors in a model's climate. This is because the errors are so large that they can only be ascribed to errors in the climate model (and generally the parameterized physics) rather than to errors in the analyses we use or our omission of data assimilation techniques in the production of our initial conditions.

Weather Forecasts vs. Climate Simulations

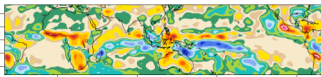
CAM3.1

DJF Climatological Error



Similar error pattern is seen in CAM3 weather forecasts and climate simulations

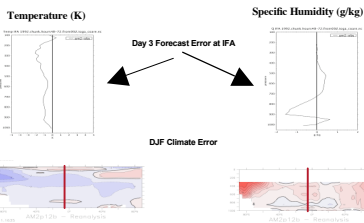
Day 3 Precipitation Error for DJF 1992-93



AM2

Day 3 Forecast for DJF 92-93

DJF Climatological Error



Models and Experiments

Two major U. S. climate models are examined:

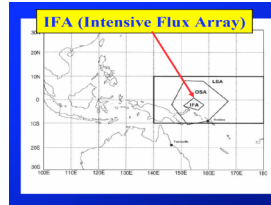
- NCAR CAM3 and GFDL AM2

A new closure for the CAM3 deep convection scheme is tested:

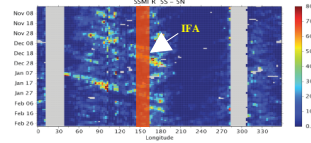
- Original closure: CAPE
- New closure: CAPE change rate due to the large-scale forcing in the troposphere (Zhang 2002)

For the TOGA-COARE period from November 1992 to February 1993:

- We have performed a series of 10 day integrations with CAM3 and AM2 starting every day at 00Z from the ECMWF ERA-40 reanalysis data

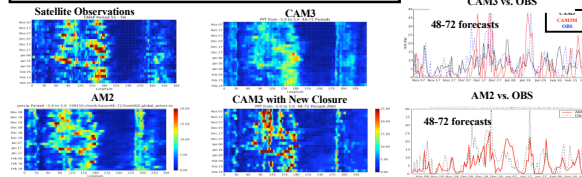


Time-longitude daily SSM/I rainfall 5N-5S shows two MJO events

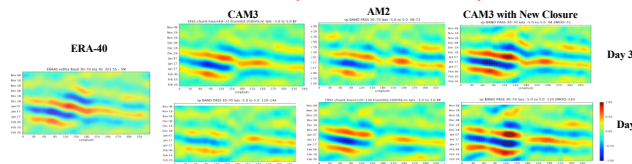


Tropical Precipitation Variability

Precipitation averaged over 5-day intervals and averaged from 5N to 5S between Nov. 92 and Feb. 93

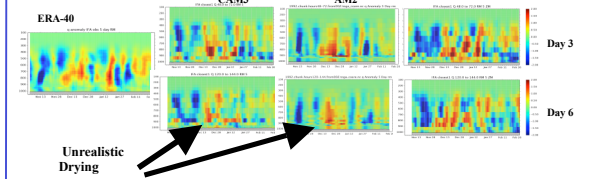


Intraseasonal Variability in 200 hPa Velocity Potential



CAM3 shows a much weaker intraseasonal variability than the observations and ERA40. This problem is reduced in the CAM3 with the modified convection scheme. AM2 sustains intraseasonal variability present in the observations and ERA40

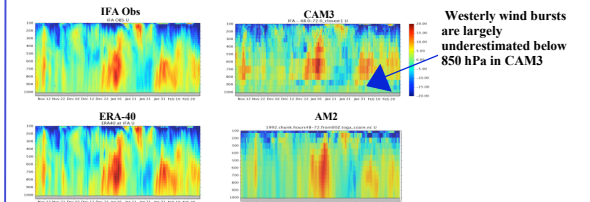
Moisture Variability at IFA



Issues to Address

- Are short-range weather forecasts relevant for climate?
- Are there any systematically developing trends of weather forecast errors over longer timescales?
- What is impact of cumulus parameterizations on the model simulated tropical intraseasonal variability?

Zonal Wind Variability at IFA



Results

- Some model climate errors develop at a very early stage: e.g., precipitation errors in CAM3 and vertical errors in T & q in AM2
- Intraseasonal variability in CAM3 weather forecasts is much weaker than that present in the observations and in the ERA40
- Intraseasonal variability is significantly enhanced when a modified deep convection scheme is used in CAM3
- AM2 is able to sustain intraseasonal variability present in the observations and ERA40
- Both CAM3 and AM2 show a lack of moisture build-up prior to deep convection over a longer timescale (day 6 forecasts) but this problem is not shown in the CAM3 with the modified convection scheme
- Significant errors are present in CAM3 surface wind anomalies

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