



Climate & Global Dynamics





### Results from a transport scheme intercomparison and design of a new non-linear transport-chemistry test



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Seminar at Max–Planck–Institut für Meteorologie (MPI-M) July 23, 2013



1. Release of Spectral-Element (SE) dynamical core in CAM:

SE 1 degree CAM5 "AMIP" configuration are now scientifically supported! (SE supports mesh-refinement)



### SE supports mesh-refinement



Fig. 9.22 A schematic diagram showing the mapping between each spherical tile (element)  $\Omega_e^S$  of the physical domain (cubed-sphere)  $\mathscr{S}$  onto a planar element  $\Omega_e$  on the computational domain  $\mathscr{C}$  (cube). For a DG discretization each element on the cube is further mapped onto a unique reference element Q, which is defined by the Gauss-Lobatto-Legendre (GLL) quadrature points. The horizontal discretization of the HOMME dynamical cores relies on this grid system.

Figure from Nair et al. (2011)



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- 1. Release of Spectral-Element (SE) dynamical core in CAM:
  - SE 1 degree CAM5 "AMIP" configuration are now scientifically supported!
    - **AMIP** runs: Taylor diagram



2. New topography generation software for unstructured grids with consistent computation of sub-grid-scale variables (for turbulent mountain stress & orographic gravity wave drag): released with CAM5.3



**USGS raw data** 



2. New topography generation software for unstructured grids with consistent computation of sub-grid-scale variables (for turbulent mountain stress & orographic gravity wave drag): released with CAM5.3





3. Gone through exercise of smoothing PHIS for spectral-element dynamical core (height smoothing is only "trivial" for spectral transform dynamical cores!)





#### 4. CSLAM (Conservative Semi-Lagrangian Multi-tracer scheme) developments:





- 4. CSLAM (Conservative Semi-Lagrangian Multi-tracer scheme) developments:
- a. Implemented in spectral element (SE) dynamical core for inert transport (Erath et. al. 2012)



4. CSLAM (Conservative Semi-Lagrangian Multi-tracer scheme) developments:

a. Implemented in spectral element (SE) dynamical core for inert transport (Erath et. al. 2012)

b. CSLAM-SW: shallow water model with semi-implicit CSLAM time-stepping (consistent transport)

Wong, May, William C. Skamarock, Peter H. Lauritzen, Roland B. Stull, 2013: A Cell-Integrated Semi-Lagrangian Semi-Implicit Shallow-Water Model (CSLAM-SW) with Conservative and Consistent Transport. Mon. Wea. Rev., 141, 2545–2560.

c. CSLAM-NH: non-hydrostatic fully compressible semi-implicit solver in x-z place with consistent tracer transport

PhD thesis: M. Wong (University of British Columbia, Vancouver; UBC)PhD committee: Skamarock (NCAR), Lauritzen (NCAR), Stull (UBC)



#### Outline

#### 2. "Toy chemistry" Beyond linear transport scheme tests ...

# 1. **Results** from a collection of state-of-the-art transport scheme (including ICON) exercising new standard test case suite:

Geosci. Model Dev., 5, 887–901, 2012 www.geosci-model-dev.net/5/887/2012/ doi:10.5194/gmd-5-887-2012 © Author(s) 2012. CC Attribution 3.0 License.

NCAR Earth System Laboratory





#### A standard test case suite for two-dimensional linear transport on the sphere

P. H. Lauritzen<sup>1</sup>, W. C. Skamarock<sup>1</sup>, M. J. Prather<sup>2</sup>, and M. A. Taylor<sup>3</sup>

### Why focus on transport ?

- Almost all major modeling centers are developing new scalable dynamical cores – a transport operator is a basic building block!
- Accurate tracer transport is becoming increasingly important:
  - Microphysics: mass & number concentrations for water vapor, cloud ice & liquid (rain, snow, ..)
  - Aerosols: sulfate, black carbon, etc. accounted for in three modes
  - Chemical species
  - large gradients, features "collapse" to the grid scale, ...
- Consistent air density and tracer mass transport!
   particularly important for chemistry
- Tracer transport can account for most of the computational cost of "resolved" scale dynamics computations

   e.g., 26+ tracers to prognose in CAM5; 126+ in chemistry version

**Multi-tracer efficiency** is becoming increasingly important

Compute architectures are changing: "Multi-everything"



# Most widely used test case in the literature (global models) ?

A Standard Test Set for Numerical Approximations to the Shallow Water Equations in Spherical Geometry

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Received June 17, 1991



#### **Test 1: Solid-body advection**

# Most widely used test case in the literature (global models) ?

1. No deformation only translation:

-> Flow does not force tracer features to collapse to the grid scale (as they do in real applications)

#### 2. No forcing/physics

Experienced modelers know that schemes that may perform well in idealized settings may "fail" when adding moist physics ...!



#### **Test 1: Solid-body advection**













# THE TERMINATOR TEST



Go a step beyond inert transport testing, that is, add non-linear forcing to idealized flow problem!

At the same time keep things simple enough to be able determine/understand cause and effect

An option: simplified chemical reactions (right-hand side is products of mixing ratios)



#### Longer term motivation

Create a simple framework to investigate possible benefits/issues with "higher-order" spatial coupling between dynamics and physics:

- running physics on a different grid than dynamics
- pass sub-grid-scale variance of tracers (from dynamics) to physics







# "Inspiration" 1: Photolysis driven chemistry



# "Inspiration" 2: "Preserving sums"

#### Chlorine (in CAM-chemistry)

Total Organic Chlorine (set at the surface)

$$T_{C\ell}^{ORG} = CH_3C\ell + 3CFC\ell_3 + 2CF_2C\ell_2 + 3C\ellC\ell_2FCC\ell F_2 + HCF_2C\ell + 4CC\ell_4 + 3CH_3C\ell_3.$$
(15)

Total Inorganic Chlorine (created from break down of  $T_{Cl}^{ORG}$ )

$$T_{C\ell}^{INORG} = C\ell + C\ell O + O C\ell O + 2C\ell_2 + 2C\ell_2 O_2 + HO C\ell + C\ell O NO_2 + H C\ell,$$
(16)

(17)

**Total Chlorine** 

$$TCLY = T_{C\ell}^{ORG} + T_{C\ell}^{INORG}$$

Reactants		Products	Rate
PAN + M	$\rightarrow$	CH3CO3 + NO2 + M	k(CH3CO3+NO2+M)·1.111E28 ·exp(-14 000/T)
CH3CO3 + CH3CO3	$\rightarrow$	2·CH3O2 + 2·{CO2}	2.50E-12·exp(500/T)
GLYALD + OH	$\rightarrow$	HO2 + .2.GLYOXAL + .8.CH2O + .8.{CO2}	1.00E-11
GLYOXAL + OH	$\rightarrow$	$HO2 + CO + \{CO2\}$	1.10E-11
CH3COOH + OH	$\rightarrow$	CH3O2 + {CO2} + H2O	7.00E-13
C2H5OH + OH	$\rightarrow$	HO2 + CH3CHO	6.90E-12·exp(-230/T)
C3H6 + OH + M	$\rightarrow$	PO2 + M	$ko=8.00E-27 \cdot (300/T)^{3.50};$ ki=3.00E-11: f=0.50



# "Inspiration" 2: "Preserving sums"



(left) longitude-averaged surface TCLY as a function of time and latitude: Constant!(right) same as (left) but near tropopause: Spurious 7% deviations (near sharp gradients)!

#### Problem?

Transport scheme can not maintain the sum when transporting the species individually:

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N_{\chi}} \mathfrak{T}(\chi_{i}) \neq \mathfrak{T}\left(\sum_{i=1}^{N_{\chi}} \chi_{i}\right), \qquad (15)$$

where  $N_{\chi}$  is the number of species  $\chi_i$ .

# "Inspiration" 2: "Preserving sums"



# Beyond passive idealized transport testing: "Toy" chemistry

Two Chlorine species (Cl and Cl2) that react non-linearly: k1>>k2 - terminator Total amount of Chlorine (Cly=2\*Cl+Cl2) is conserved.



Figure shows  $k_1$  ( $k_2$  is constant)

 $Cl_2 \rightarrow Cl + Cl : k_1$  $Cl + Cl \rightarrow Cl_2 : k_2$ 



Figure illustrating Flow field









Figure 1. Distribution of the difference (in %) between  $Cl_y$  as simulated by the FV (top) and SE (bottom) dynamical cores and the value it would have under a perfectly accurate transport scheme. The thick black line indicates the position of the terminator line defined by the fast reaction rate specified to be similar to a photolysis rate. Results are shown for an instantaneous snapshot after 10 days of simulation.



#### These are the basic ideas ...

# Exact test case specification is still work-in-progress ...







### **Design objectives**

Facilitate scheme intercomparison (model development) (specific guidelines on resolution, test case configuration)

Assess important aspects of accuracy in geophysical fluid dynamics (that we believe current idealized testing does not!) using a "minimal" test case suite

#### Keep things simple !!!! Only 2 analytical wind fields and 4 initial conditions – the rest is diagnostics!

(almost any test case suite could be extended to include more tests that could provide more insights into specific aspects of accuracy particularly useful for some classes of schemes and applications)

Assume that scheme developers have already tested their scheme with simpler test cases (solid-body rotation, etc.) and we do not ask modelers to report on them



community asked to bring solutions to new test suite

### NCAR Workshop (March, 2011)

Passive & inert idealized 2D transport test cases designed to assess:

- **1. Numerical order of convergence** (C<sup>~</sup> initial conditions)  $\Delta x$  in [0.3<sup>o</sup>, 3<sup>o</sup>]
- 2. "Minimal" resolution (C<sup>1</sup> initial conditions)
- **3.** Ability of transport scheme to preserve filaments
- 4. Ability of transport scheme to transport "rough" distributions
- 5. Ability of the transport scheme to preserve pre-existing functional relations between species (e.g., N<sub>2</sub>O-NO<sub>y</sub>, family of species, ...)

under challenging flow conditions

 $\begin{array}{l} \mathsf{u}(\lambda,\,\theta\,,\mathsf{t})\,=\,\kappa\,\sin\!2(\lambda\,')\sin(2\,\theta\,)\cos(\pi\mathsf{t}/\mathsf{T}\,)+2\pi\cos(\,\theta\,)/\mathsf{T}\\ \mathsf{v}(\lambda,\,\theta\,,\mathsf{t})\,=\,\kappa\,\sin(2\,\lambda\,')\cos(\,\theta\,)\cos(\pi\mathsf{t}/\mathsf{T}\,), \end{array} \end{array}$ 

(Nair and Lauritzen, 2010, JCP).

6. Transport under divergent flow conditions (forces modelers to consider coupling between air and tracer mass; at least for finite-volume based schemes)







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#### A standard test case suite for two-dimensional linear transport on the sphere

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http://www.geosci-model-dev.net/5/887/2012/gmd-5-887-2012.pdf

Comparison/"database" manuscript:

#### Austandard test case suite for two-dimensional linear transport on the sphere: results from a collection of state-of-the-art schemes

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#### Comparison/"database" manuscript:

Table 1. A list of acronyms (first column), full names (second column), documentation (third column), implementation grid (fourth column), and formal order of accuracy (fifth column) for schemes in this paper.

	scheme acronym	full scheme name	documentation	implementation grid	formal order
	CAM-FV	Community Atmosphere Model - Finite-Volume	Lin and Rood (1996) Lin (2004)	Regular latitude-longitude	2
	CAM-SE	Community Atmosphere Model - Spectral Elements	Dennis et al. (2012) Neale et al. (2010): Guba et al. (2013)	Gnomonic cubed-sphere (quadrature grid)	4
	CCSRG	Conservative cascade scheme for the reduced grid	Nair et al. (2002) Tolstykh and Shashkin (2012)	Reduced latitude-longitude	3
	CLAW	Wave propagation algorithm on mapped grids	LeVeque (2002)	two-patch sphere grid	2
	CSLAM	Conservative Semi-LAgrangian Multi-tracer scheme	Lauritzen et al. (2010) Erath et al. (2013)	Gnomonic cubed-sphere	3
	FARSIGHT	Departure-point interpolation scheme with a global mass fixer	White and Dongarra (2011)	Gnomonic cubed-sphere	2
	HEL	Hybrid Eulerian Lagrangian	Kaas et al. (2013)	Gnomonic cubed-sphere	3
	HEL-ND	HEL - Non-Diffusive	Kaas et al. (2013)	Gnomonic cubed-sphere	3
	HOMME	High-Order Methods Modeling Environment	Dennis et al. (2012) Guba et al. (2013)	Gnomonic cubed-sphere (quadrature grid)	4&7
	ICON-FFSL	ICOsahedral Non-hydrostatic model - Flux-Form semi-Lagrangian scheme	Miura (2007)	Icosahedral-triangular	2
	LPM	Lagrangian Particle Method	Bosler (2013)	Icosahedral-triangular	2
	MPAS	Model for Prediction Across Scales	Skamarock and Gassmann (2011)	Icosahedral-hexagonal	3
	SBC	Spectral Bicubic interpolation scheme	Enomoto (2008)	Gaussian latitude-longitude	2
	SFF-CSLAM	Simplified Flux-Form CSLAM scheme	Ullrich et al. (2013)	Gnomonic cubed-sphere	3&4
	SLFV-SL	Semi-Lagrangian type Slope Limited	Miura (2007)	Icosahedral hexagonal	2
	SLFV-ML	Slope Limited Finite Volume scheme with method of lines	Dubey et al. (2012)	Icosahedral hexagonal grid	2
	TTS	Trajectory-Tracking Scheme	Dong and Wang (2013)	Spherical centroidal Voronoi tessellation	1
	UCISOM	UC Irvine Second-Order Moments scheme	Prather (1986)	Regular latitude-longitude	2
	UCISOM-CS	UC Irvine Second-Order Moments scheme	-	Gnomonic cubed-sphere	2

#### Lauritzen et al., 2013, "almost done")



CSLAM = Conservative Semi-LAgrangian Multi-tracer scheme Lauritzen et al. (2010, JCP), Harris et al. (2011), Lauritzen et al. (2011, JCP)



in the resolution range approximately 3° to 0.3° (i.e. from paleo to high resolution climate modeling)



Lauritzen et al. (2013, "almost done"),

in the resolution range approximately 3° to 0.3° (i.e. from paleo to high resolution climate modeling)

Gaussian surfaces, unlimited

Gaussian surfaces, shape-preserving

- Initial condition and flow (except the poles) is infinitely smooth: Hence schemes should (at high enough resolution) converge at their formal order of accuracy!
- Slope: Schemes differ significantly in when asymptotic convergence is achieved
- Absolute values: test diagnostic 2



in the resolution range approximately 3° to 0.3° (i.e. from paleo to high resolution climate modeling)

un = unlimited scheme sp = shape-preserving version of scheme

In scheme acronym labels: CN = Courant Number



 $K_2$  = Least-squares regression to I2 in range [0.2°,3°]

Note: resolution range was deliberately chosen to challenge schemes (for a resolution range with finer resolutions features would be well-resolved)



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in the resolution range approximately 3° to 0.3° (i.e. from paleo to high resolution climate modeling)



For some schemes convergence rates are affected by time-step





(absolute error)

At what resolution is a certain level of accuracy reached?

Level of accuracy is defined in terms of RMS type error norm

Now initial conditions are C<sup>1</sup> continuous



### 2. "Minimal" resolution



**Fig. 5.** Convergence plot for  $\ell_2$  computed with CSLAM with cosine bells initial conditions. The keys are as in Fig. 4. The heavy line is  $\ell_2 = 0.033$  and is used to define "minimal" resolution.

Somewhat subjective choice: the threshold error norm is based on CSLAM

I2-error norm for which CSLAM starts to converge asymptotically (filaments are in some sense resolved!)

Lauritzen et al. (2012, GMD)



### 2. "Minimal" resolution

(absolute error)



### "Minimal" resolution and optimal convergence rates



Fig. 4. 'Scatter-like' plot of the data shown as histograms on Figure 3 upper and middle rows. Each scheme is represented by a point on the plot with (x,y) coordinates ( $\Delta \lambda_m, \mathcal{K}_2$ ). For clarity each point is not labeled with scheme acronym. The purpose of this Figure is to show that there is not necessary a correlation between 'optimal' convergence rate and 'minimal' resolution.



### 3. Filament diagnostic (Prather)



The "filament" preservation diagnostic is formulated as follows. Define  $A(\tau,t)$  as the spherical area for which the spatial distribution of the tracer  $\phi(\lambda,\theta)$  satisfies

$$b(\lambda,\theta) \ge \tau, \tag{27}$$

at time *t*, where  $\tau$  is the threshold value. For a non-divergent flow field and a passive and inert tracer  $\phi$ , the area  $A(\tau, t)$  is invariant in time.

The discrete definition of  $A(\tau, t)$  is

$$A(\tau,t) = \sum_{k \in \mathcal{G}} \Delta A_k,$$
(28)

where  $\Delta A_k$  is the spherical area for which  $\phi_k$  is representative, K is the number of grid cells, and G is the set of indices

$$\mathcal{G} = \{k \in (1, \dots, K) | \phi_k \ge \tau\}.$$
<sup>(29)</sup>

For Eulerian finite-volume schemes  $\Delta A_k$  is the area of the *k*-th control volume. For Eulerian grid-point schemes a control volume for which the grid-point value is representative must be defined. Similarly for fully Lagrangian schemes based on point values (parcels) control volumes for which the point values are representative must be defined. Note that the "control volumes" should span the entire domain without overlaps or "cracks" between them.

Define the filament preservation diagnostic

$$\ell_{\rm f}(\tau,t) = \begin{cases} 100.0 \times \frac{A(\tau,t)}{A(\tau,t=0)} & \text{if } A(\tau,t=0) \neq 0, \\ 0.0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$
(30)

For infinite resolution (continuous case) and a non-divergent flow,  $\ell_f(\tau, t)$  is invariant in time:  $\ell_f(\tau, t = 0) = \ell_f(\tau, t) = 100$  for all  $\tau$ . At finite resolution, however, the filament

#### This diagnostic does not rely on an analytical solution!



### 3. Filament diagnostic

Diffusive schemes will tend to decrease  $I_f$  for higher values of tau and increase  $I_f$  for low values of tau:



Fig. 6. Filament diagnostics  $\ell_f(t=T/2)$  as a function of threshold value  $\tau$  for different configurations of the CSLAM scheme with Courant number 5.5. (a) 1<sup>st</sup>-order version of CSLAM at  $\Delta \lambda = 1.5^{\circ}$  and  $\Delta \lambda = 0.75^{\circ}$ , and (b) 3<sup>rd</sup>-order version of CSLAM with and without monotone/shape-preserving filter at resolutions  $\Delta \lambda = 1.5^{\circ}$  and  $\Delta \lambda = 0.75^{\circ}$ .



### **3. Filament diagnostic**

Schemes that steepen gradients will have  $I_f > 100$  for higher tau values:





### **3. Filament diagnostic**

How is ICON doing?





 $I_f$  is a smooth and monotone curve  $\bigcirc$ 

Lauritzen et al. (2013, "almost done"),

#### 4. "Rough" distribution (to challenge limiters/filters)





Background value is non-zero so positivity preserving filters do not alleviate undershoots!

**Fig. 7.** Contour plot of the CSLAM numerical solution  $\phi$  at resolution  $\Delta \lambda = 1.5^{\circ}$  and timestep *T*/120 using the slotted-cylinders initial condition at time t = T/2 (**a** and **c**) and t = T (**b** and **d**) using no filter/limiter (**a** and **b**) and a shape-preserving filter (**c** and **d**). The standard error norms for the unfiltered/unlimited solution are  $\ell_2 = 0.24$ ,  $\ell_{\infty} = 0.79$ ,  $\phi_{\min} = -0.19$ , and  $\phi_{\max} = 0.15$ , and for the shape-preserving solution they are  $\ell_2 = 0.26$ ,  $\ell_{\infty} = 0.80$ ,  $\phi_{\min} = 0.0$ , and  $\phi_{\max} = -4.34 \cdot 10^{-3}$ .



4. "Rough" distribution (to challenge limiters/filters)



Lauritzen et al. (2013, "almost done"),

(the design of schemes that preserve linear correlations was discussed by Lin and Rood (1996) and Thuburn and McIntyre (1997))

#### Motivation: Correlations between long-lived species in the stratosphere

Relationships between long-lived stratospheric tracers, manifested in similar spatial structures on scales ranging from a few to several thousand kilometers, are displayed most strikingly if the mixing ratio of one is plotted against another, when the data collapse onto remarkably compact curves. - Plumb (2007)

E.g., when plotting nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) against 'total odd nitrogen' (NO<sub>y</sub>) or chlorofluorocarbon (CFC's)



#### Motivation: Correlations between long-lived species in the stratosphere

- Such compact scatter plots can be physically or chemically significant; for example, departures from compactness have been used to quantify chemical ozone loss in the ozone hole (Proffitt et al., 1990).
- → It is therefore highly desirable that transport schemes used in modeling the atmosphere should respect such functional relations and not disrupt them in physically unrealistic ways.
- Similarly, the total of chemical species within some chemical family may be preserved following an air parcel although the individual species have a complicated relation to each other and may be transformed into each other through chemical reactions.
- Similar arguments can be made for aerosol-cloud interactions (Ovtchinnikov and Easter, 2009) where important physical properties are derived from several tracers.

Goal: design idealized test case suite to address some of these aspects of accuracy!

#### Initial conditions tracer 1: cosine bells tracer 2: correlated cosine bells $\Psi(\chi) = a\chi^2 + b$



#### Initial conditions tracer 1: cosine bells tracer 2: correlated cosine bells $\Psi(\chi) = a\chi^2 + b$



**Classification of mixing on scatter plot:** 

a. Mixing that resembles `real' mixing – convex hull (red area)
b. Everything else is spurious unmixing



#### 5. Preserving pre-existing functional relation between tracers under challenging flow conditions

Note: 1. Max value decrease, 2. Unmixing even if scheme is shape-preserving, 3. No expanding range unmixing



#### 5. Preserving pre-existing functional relation between tracers under challenging flow conditions

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# 5. Preserving pre-existing functional relation between tracers under challenging flow conditions

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#### Cubed-sphere models





#### Cubed-sphere models





#### Reg. lat-lon models





#### Icosahedral/Voronoi models





#### **Quantifying mixing**



where K is the total numbers of cells/points in the domain,  $\Delta A_k$  is the spherical area of grid cell k and A is the total area of the domain,  $A = \sum_{k=1}^{K} \Delta A_k$ . The distance function  $d_k$  is the shortest normalized distance between the numerically computed scatter point  $(\chi_k, \xi_k)$  and the preexisting functional curve within the range of the initial conditions.

This diagnostic does not rely on an analytical solution!

Lauritzen and Thuburn (2012, QJRMS)



#### Quantifying mixing: stacked histogram ("real" mixing,range-preserving unmixing, overshooting)

For each scheme: left histogram is unlimited results; right is shape-preserving (sp)

Y-axis: Normalized by CSLAM unlimited mixing diagnostics at 1.5°



Mixing diagnostics at resolution  $\Delta\lambda\approx 1.5^{\circ}$ 



#### Quantifying mixing: stacked histogram ("real" mixing,range-preserving unmixing , overshooting)

For each scheme: left histogram is unlimited results; right is shape-preserving (sp)

Y-axis: Normalized by CSLAM unlimited mixing diagnostics at 1.5°



Mixing diagnostics at resolution  $\Delta\lambda\approx 1.5^{\circ}$ 

- If shape-preserving filter is "rigorous" red bars disappear: IMPORTANT!
- Yellow histograms reduce with sp filter: scheme produces results that are more physically realizable!
- For some schemes `real mixing' decreases and for some it increases with sp filter.



#### It is key that tracer features collapse to smaller scales (as in nature)





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