

# MODES software and its application to the ERA Interim reanalyses

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Based on

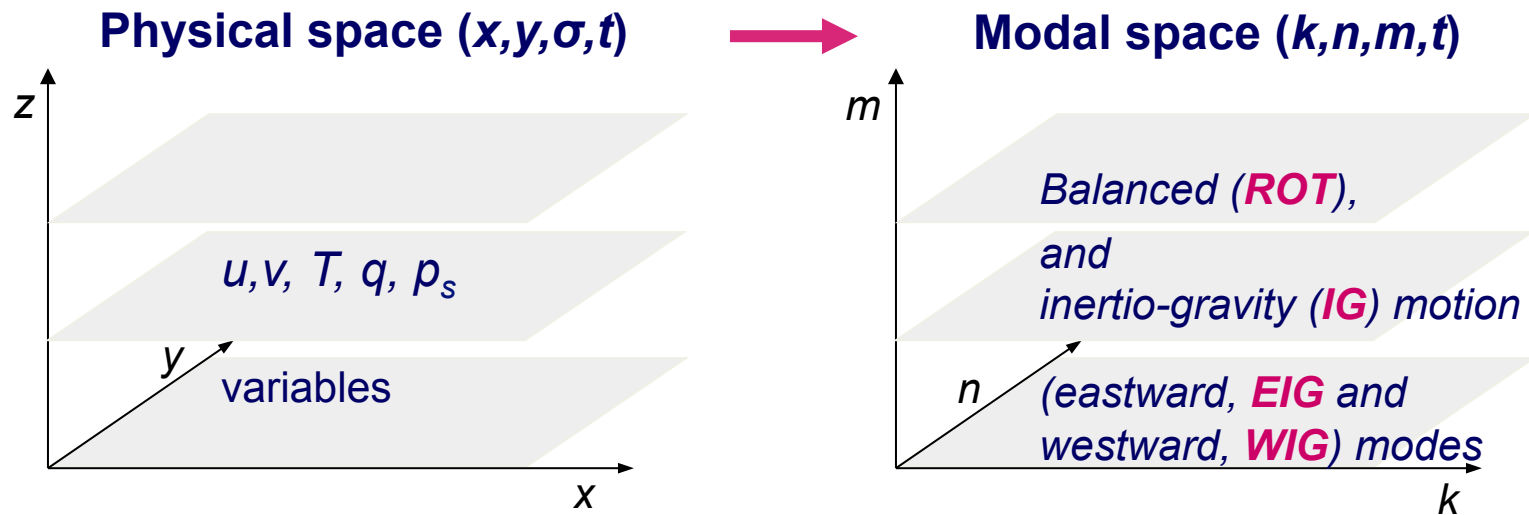
Žagar, N., A. Kasahara, K. Terasaki, J. Tribbia and H. Tanaka: Normal-mode function representation of global 3-D data sets: open-access software for the atmospheric research community. *Geoscientific Model Development*, 8, 1169-1195.

# Outline

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- Introduction
- Development of the normal-mode function (NMF) representation in the terrain-following coordinate
- Solution of NMF problem: vertical structure functions and horizontal structure functions
- Construction of the MODES software
- Some outputs of the MODES applied to the ERA Interim dataset
- Conclusions and Outlook

# Normal mode function (NMF) representation



**Balance:** part of the circulation that is associated with the Rossby type (quasi-geostrophic, ROT) of solutions to the linearized primitive equations.

The unbalanced part projects onto the inertio-gravity solutions that propagate eastward (EIG) or westward (WIG).

# Derivation of NMF following Kasahara&Puri, 1981

Vertical coordinate  $\sigma = p/p_s$

A new geopotential variable  $P = \Phi + RT_0 \ln(p_s)$   $h' = P / g$

System of linearized equations describing oscillations ( $u', v', h'$ ) superimposed on a basic state of rest with  $T_0(\sigma)$ :

$$\frac{\partial u'}{\partial t} - 2\Omega v' \sin(\varphi) = -\frac{g}{a \cos(\varphi)} \frac{\partial h'}{\partial \lambda},$$

$$\frac{\partial v'}{\partial t} + 2\Omega u' \sin(\varphi) = -\frac{g}{a} \frac{\partial h'}{\partial \varphi},$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial \sigma} \left( \frac{g\sigma}{R\Gamma_0} \frac{\partial h'}{\partial \sigma} \right) \right] - \nabla \cdot \mathbf{V}' = 0.$$

The static stability parameter:  $\Gamma_0 = \frac{\kappa T_0}{\sigma} - \frac{dT_0}{d\sigma}$

# Derivation of NMF following Kasahara&Puri, 1981

Solutions in terms of horizontal and vertical dependencies:

$$[u', v', h']^T(\lambda, \varphi, \sigma, t) = [u, v, h]^T(\lambda, \varphi, t) \times G(\sigma)$$

An equation for the vertical structure and a set of equations for 2D horizontal motions identical in form to the global shallow water equations. 3D and 2D motions are connected by particular values of a separation parameter – “**equivalent depth**” **D**.

The vertical structure equation:

$$\frac{d}{d\sigma} \left( \frac{\sigma}{S} \frac{dG}{d\sigma} \right) + \frac{H_*}{D} G = 0$$

and its boundary conditions

$$\frac{dG}{d\sigma} + rG = 0 \text{ where } r = \frac{\Gamma_o}{T_o} \text{ at the bottom } \sigma = 1$$

$$\sigma \frac{dG}{d\sigma} = 0 \text{ at the model top } \sigma = \sigma_T$$

provide solutions for  $G(\sigma)$  which are orthogonal  $\int_{\sigma_T}^1 G_i(\sigma) G_j(\sigma) d\sigma = \delta_{ij}$ ,

# Vertical expansion of discrete data onto NMF

An input data vector  $\mathbf{X}$  is defined on the horizontal regular Gaussian grid and vertical sigma levels at time  $t$ :  $\mathbf{X}(\lambda, \varphi, \sigma) = (u, v, h)^T$

Projection of a single data point on  $j$ -th sigma level is performed on the precomputed vertical structure functions  $\mathbf{G}$ , the horizontal Hough vector functions in the meridional direction and waves in the longitudinal direction:

$$\mathbf{X}(\lambda, \varphi, \sigma_j) = \sum_{m=1}^M \mathbf{S}_m \mathbf{X}_m(\lambda, \varphi) \cdot G_m(j) \quad (1)$$

$$\mathbf{X}_m(\lambda, \varphi) = (\tilde{u}_m, \tilde{v}_m, \tilde{h}_m)^T = \left( \frac{u_m}{\sqrt{gD_m}}, \frac{v_m}{\sqrt{gD_m}}, \frac{h_m}{D_m} \right)^T$$

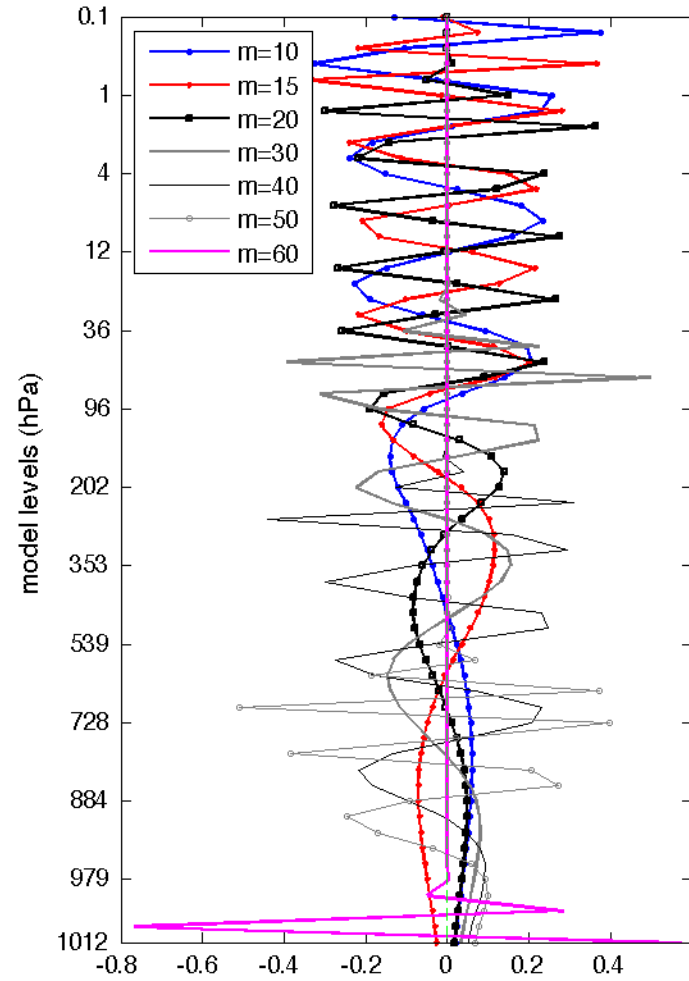
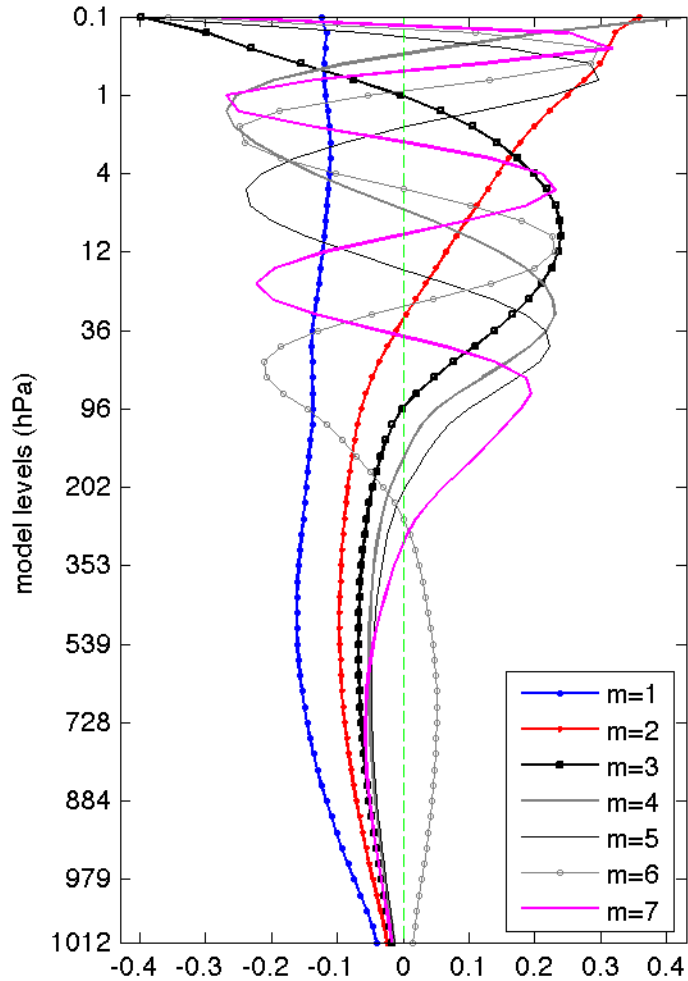
Normalization factors define diagonal elements of 3x3 matrix normalization matrix  $\mathbf{S}$

The vector  $\mathbf{X}_m$  is obtained by the reverse transform of (1):

$$\mathbf{X}_m(\lambda, \varphi) = \mathbf{S}_m^{-1} \sum_{j=1}^J (u, v, h)_j^T G_m(j) \quad (2)$$

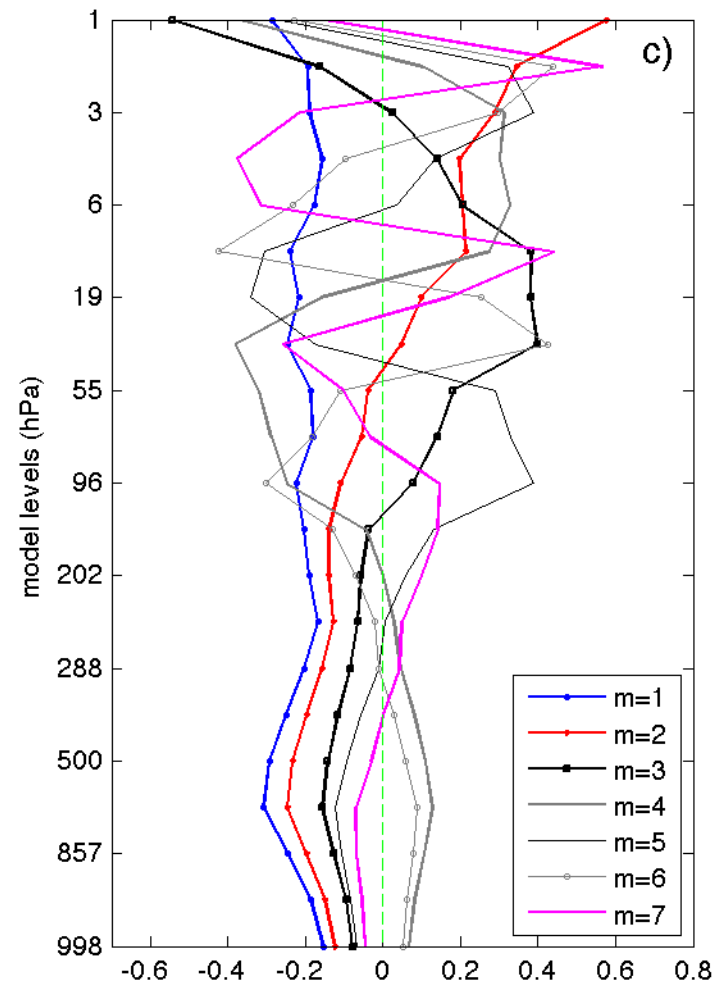
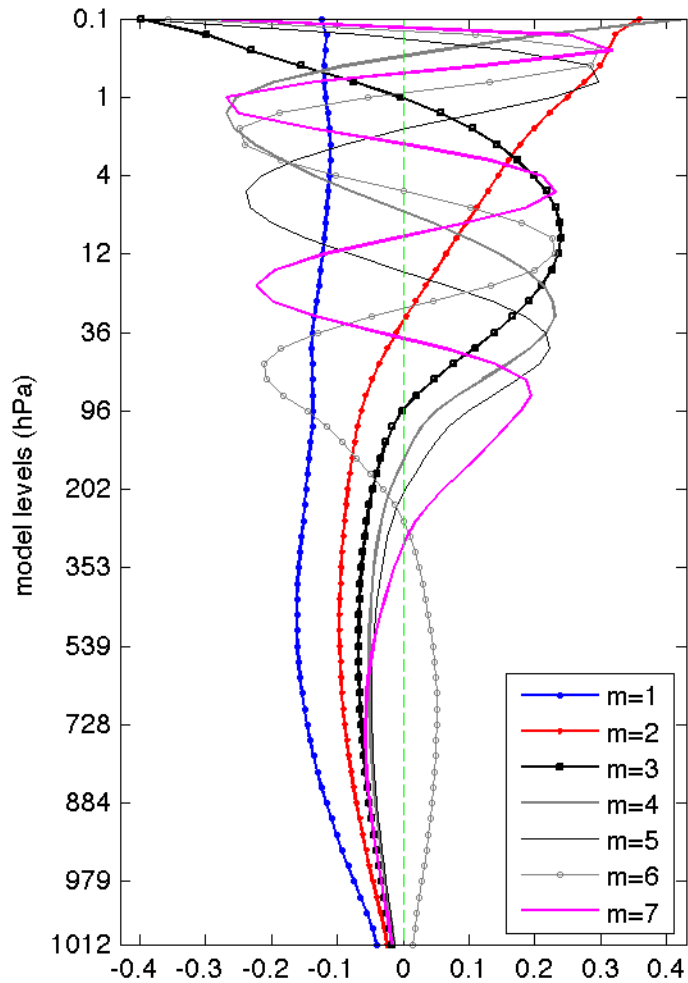
# Solutions of the vertical structure function

Example of ERA Interim dataset: L60



# Solutions of the vertical structure function

Example of ERA Interim dataset: L60 versus L21 (standard p levels)





# Derivation of NMF following Kasahara&Puri, 1981

The horizontal structure equation  $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \mathbf{X}_m + \mathbf{L} \mathbf{X}_m = 0$

describe 2D motions for vector  $\mathbf{X}_m(\lambda, \varphi)$  every equivalent depth  $D_m$ :

$$\mathbf{X}_m(\lambda, \varphi) = (\tilde{u}_m, \tilde{v}_m, \tilde{h}_m)^T = \left( \frac{u_m}{\sqrt{gD_m}}, \frac{v_m}{\sqrt{gD_m}}, \frac{h_m}{D_m} \right)^T$$

$\mathbf{L}$  is the linear differential matrix operator

$$\mathbf{L} = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & -\sin(\varphi) & \frac{\gamma}{\cos(\varphi)} \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} \\ \sin(\varphi) & 0 & \gamma \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi} \\ \frac{\gamma}{\cos(\varphi)} \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} & \frac{\gamma}{\cos(\varphi)} \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi} [\cos(\varphi)(\cdot)] & 0 \end{vmatrix}$$

Solution  $\mathbf{X}_m$  is harmonic in time:  $\mathbf{X}_m(\lambda, \varphi, \tilde{t}) = \mathbf{H}_n^k(\lambda, \varphi) e^{-iv_n^k \tilde{t}}$

With global inner product defined as  $\langle \mathbf{X}_l, \mathbf{X}_m \rangle = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_{-1}^1 (\tilde{u}_l \tilde{u}_m^* + \tilde{v}_l \tilde{v}_m^* + \tilde{h}_l \tilde{h}_m^*) d\mu d\lambda$

functions  $\mathbf{H}$  are expressed as  $\mathbf{H}_n^k(\lambda, \varphi) = \Theta_n^k e^{ik\lambda}$  Hough harmonics

# Horizontal expansion of discrete data onto NMF

The horizontal coefficient vector  $\mathbf{X}_m$  for a given vertical mode is projected onto the Hough harmonics  $\mathbf{H}_k^n(\lambda, \varphi, m)$  as

$$\mathbf{X}_m(\lambda, \varphi) = \sum_{n=1}^R \sum_{k=-K}^K \chi_n^k(m) \mathbf{H}_n^k(\lambda, \varphi, m) \quad (3)$$

The subscript  $n$  indicates all meridional modes including rotational (ROT), and eastward and westward propagating inertio-gravity (EIG and WIG, respectively) modes

The scalar complex coefficients  $\chi$  are obtained as

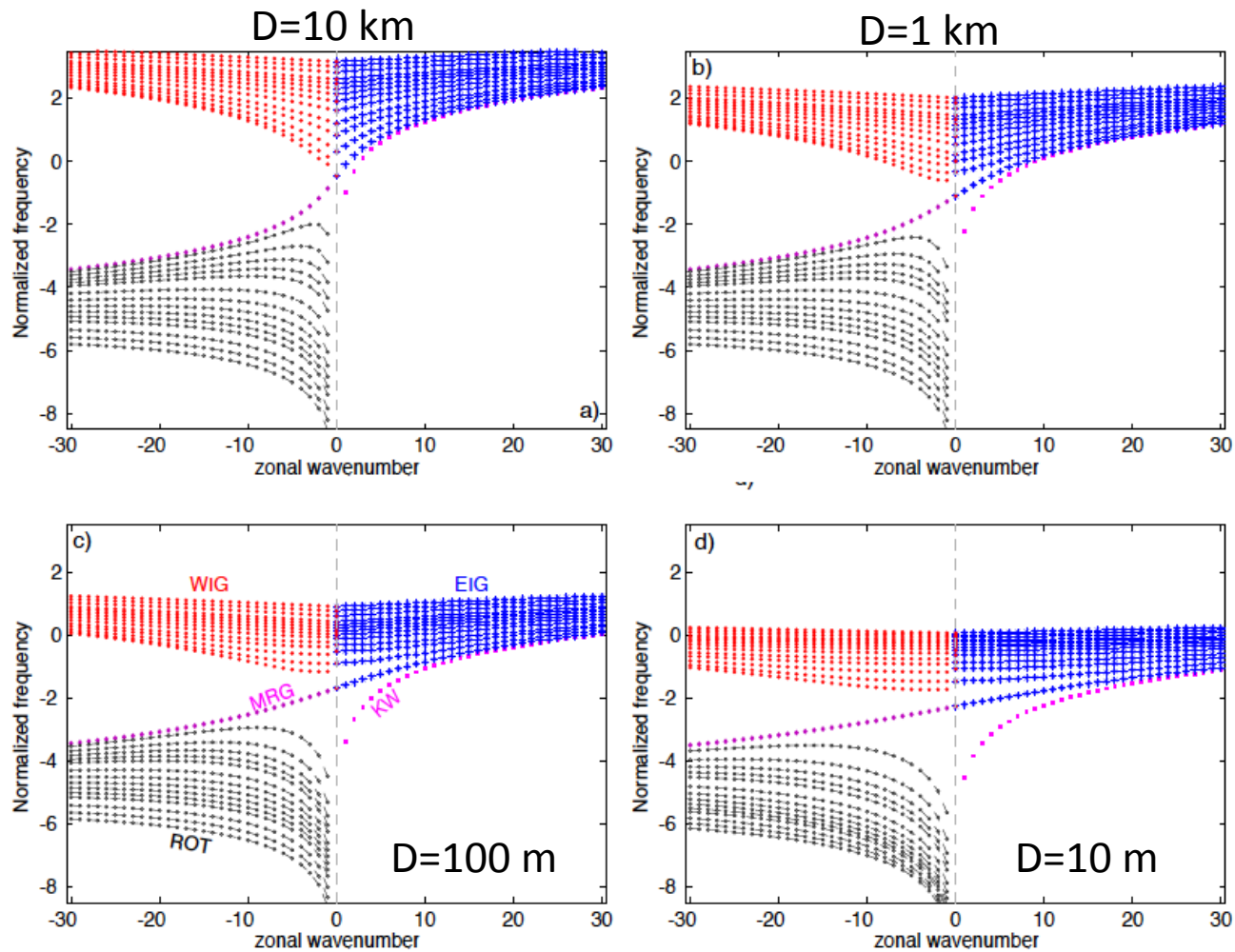
$$\chi_n^k(m) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_{-1}^1 \left( \tilde{u}_m, \tilde{v}_m, \tilde{h}_m \right)^T \left[ \mathbf{H}_{n'}^{k'} \right]^* d\mu d\lambda \quad (4)$$

Here,  $\mu = \sin(\varphi)$ .

Equations (3-4) are the horizontal transform pair.

Equations (1-2) represent the vertical transform pair.

# Two kinds of Hough functions



Frequencies of spherical normal modes for different equivalent depths

# NMF expansion: horizontal expansion functions

HSFs are pre-computed for a given number of vertical modes,  $M$

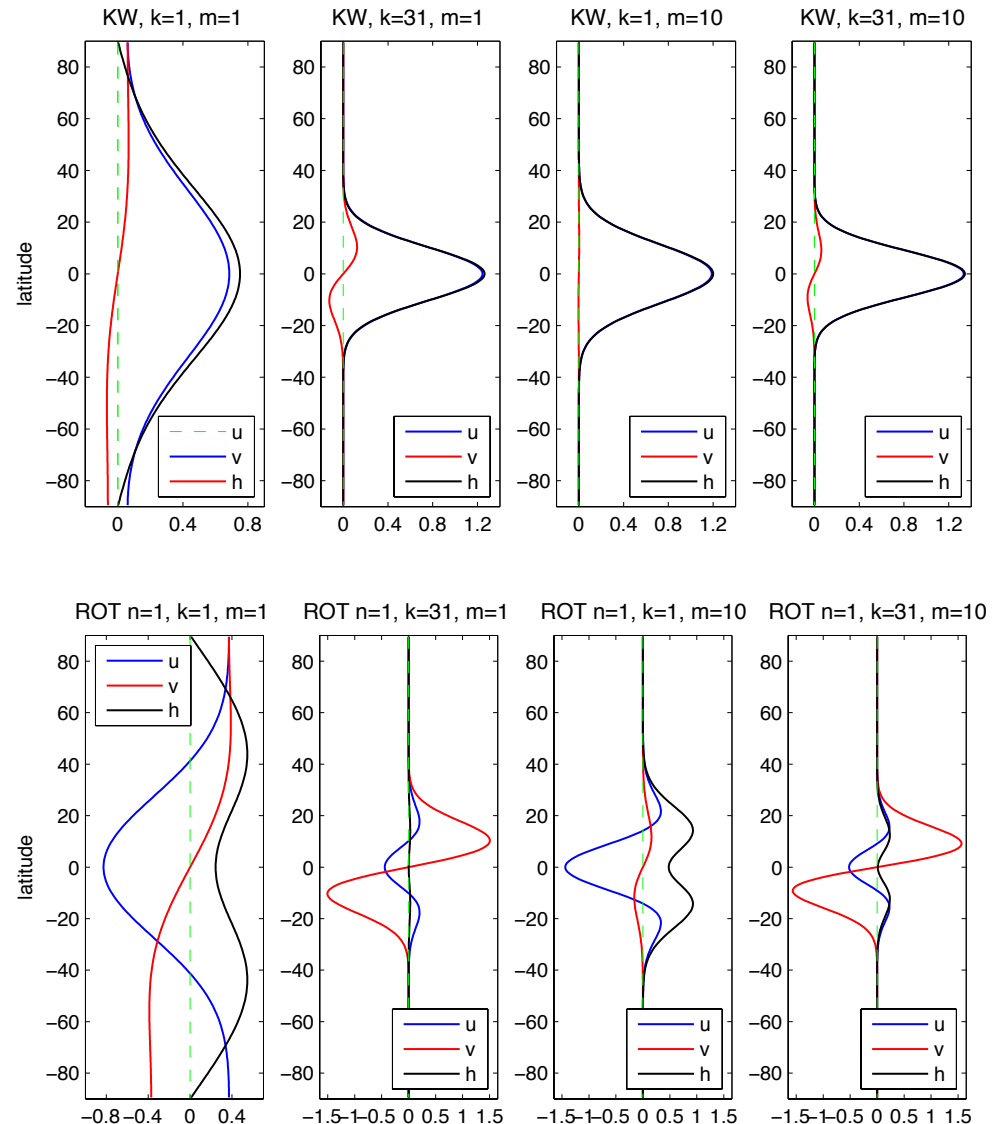
For every  $m=1, \dots, M$ , i.e. for every  $D_m$

Meridional structure for Hough functions is computed for a range of the zonal wavenumbers  $K$ ,

$k=-K, \dots, 0, \dots, K$

and a range of meridional modes for the balanced,  $N_{ROT}$ , a range of EIG,  $N_{EIG}$ , and a range of WIG,  $N_{WIG}$ , modes.

$$R = N_{ROT} + N_{EIG} + N_{WIG}$$



# Expansion of 3D data onto NMF: MODES software

```
# -----  
TOPPATH=/Users/nedjeljka/NMF/Sigma/NMF_MODES  
# -----  
INSTALLDIR=$(TOPPATH)/bin  
SHAREDIR=$(TOPPATH)/share  
HOUGHDIR=$(TOPPATH)/hough  
NORMALDIR=$(TOPPATH)/normal  
VSFDIR=$(TOPPATH)/VSF  
MAINDIR=$(TOPPATH)/main  
LIBDIR=/usr/local/lib  
# ----- FOR LINUX -----  
SYSTEM = LINUX  
LAPACK_LIB=/usr/local/lib  
ALFPACK_LIB=/usr/local/lib  
GRIB_API_LIB=/usr/local/grib_api-1.9.18/lib  
GRIB_API_INCLUDE=/usr/local/grib_api-1.9.18/include  
NETCDF_LIB=/opt/local/lib  
NETCDF_INCLUDE=/opt/local/include  
LIBGRIB_F90=/usr/local/grib_api-1.9.18/lib/libgrib_api_f90.a  
LIBGRIB=/usr/local/grib_api-1.9.18/lib/libgrib_api.a  
  
FC = gfortran  
FFLAGS= -O3 -I$(SHAREDIR) -I$(HOUGHDIR) -I$(NORMALDIR) -I$(  
VSFDIR) -L$(LIBDIR) -fopenmp -I$(GRIB_API_INCLUDE)  
LD = $(FC)  
LFLAGS = -O3 -fopenmp
```

Makefile and namelist controlled

Required libraries for the input data in grib and netcdf format

Input data on the Gaussian grid and model levels (sigma or hybrid)

Uses LAPACK or equivalent

Preparation steps requires computation of the stability profile

Five executables which are run in subsequent steps:

- Preparation of the horizontal grid
- Computation of the vertical structure functions
- Computation of the horizontal structure functions
- Projection
- Filtering of selected modes to physical space



# NMF software structure: grid and vsf namelists

---

& gaussian

N = 256,

gauss\_fname = 'gauss256.data',

/

& vsfcalc\_cnf

stab\_fname = 'stability\_L60.data',

vgrid\_fname = 'sigma\_levels\_L60.data',

vsf\_fname = 'vsf\_L60.data',

equiheight\_fname = 'equivalent\_height\_L60.data',

num\_vmode = 60,

mp = 60,

hstd = 8000.0d0,

suft = 288.0d0,

given\_stability = .true.,

ocheck = .true.,

/

# NMF software structure: hsf namelists

---

```
&houghcalc_cnf
  szw      = 0,
  ezw      = 200,
  maxl     = 70,
  my       = 256,
  freq_fname = 'freq.data',
  ocheck   = .true.,
/

& output
  output_gmt = .false.,
  ofname_gmt = 'hough_gmt',
  ofname_bin  = 'hough',
  bin_combine = 'zonal',
/

& meridional_grid
  ygrid_fname = 'gauss256.data',
/

& vsf_cnf
  equiheight_fname = 'equivalent_height.data',
  num_vmode        = 43,
/
```



# NMF software structure: projection namelists

```
& normal_cnf
  nx      = 512,
  ny      = 256,
  nz      = 56,
  nstep   = 1,
  coef3DNMF_fname = 'Hough_coef_',
  output_3DNMF   = .true.,
  saveps        = .true.,
  savemeant     = .true.,
  ps_fname      = 'Ps_',
  meant_fname   = 'Tmean_',
  saveasci      = .true.,
  afname        = 'Indata_',
  aformat       = '(512E20.6,1x)',
/

& time
  datetype     = 'yyyymmddhh',
  syear        = 2007,
  smon         = 07,
  sday         = 01,
  shour        = 12,
  smins        = 00,
  ssec         = 00,
  slen         = 00,
  eyear        = 2007,
  emon         = 07,
  eday         = 01,
  ehour        = 12,
  emins        = 00,
  esec         = 00,
  elen         = 00,
  dt           = 86400,
/

& input_data
  dataformat_input = 'grib',
  orig             = 'ECMWF',
  zgrid_type       = 'hybrid'
  ifile_grib_head(1) = 'era1_N128_'
/
```

# Energy product

Starting from the linearized system ( $u', v', h'$ ) and its solutions by using the variable separation, the partition of total energy into the kinetic and available potential energy for every vertical mode is written as :

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_{-1}^1 \sum_m \frac{1}{2} \left( u_m^2 + v_m^2 + \frac{g}{D_m} h_m^2 \right) a^2 d\mu d\lambda = 0$$

Global energy product of the  $m$ -th vertical mode defined as

$$I_m = \frac{1}{2} g D_m \sum_{n=1}^R \sum_{k=-K}^K \chi_n^k(m) \left[ \chi_n^k(m) \right]^*$$

is equivalent to

$$I_m = \frac{1}{2} g D_m \int_0^{2\pi} \int_{-1}^1 \left( \tilde{u}_m^2 + \tilde{v}_m^2 + \tilde{h}_m^2 \right) d\lambda d\mu = \int_0^{2\pi} \int_{-1}^1 (K_m + P_m) d\lambda d\mu$$

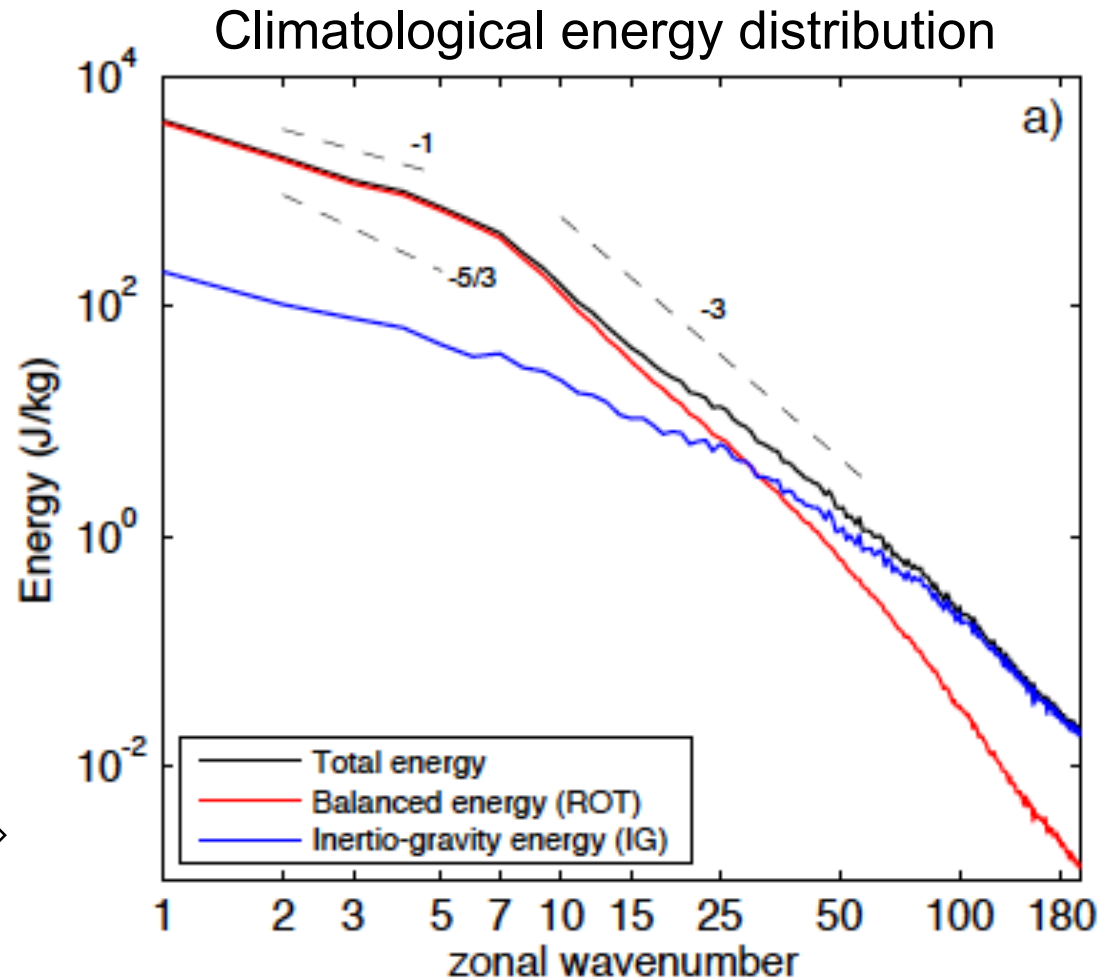
# NMF representation of ERA Interim dataset

30-year period between  
1980 and 2009

12 UTC time

$K=200$ ;  
 $N=70$ ,  $R=210$   
 $M=45$

About 10% of wave  
energy in IG modes  $\Leftrightarrow$   
1/3 of circulation

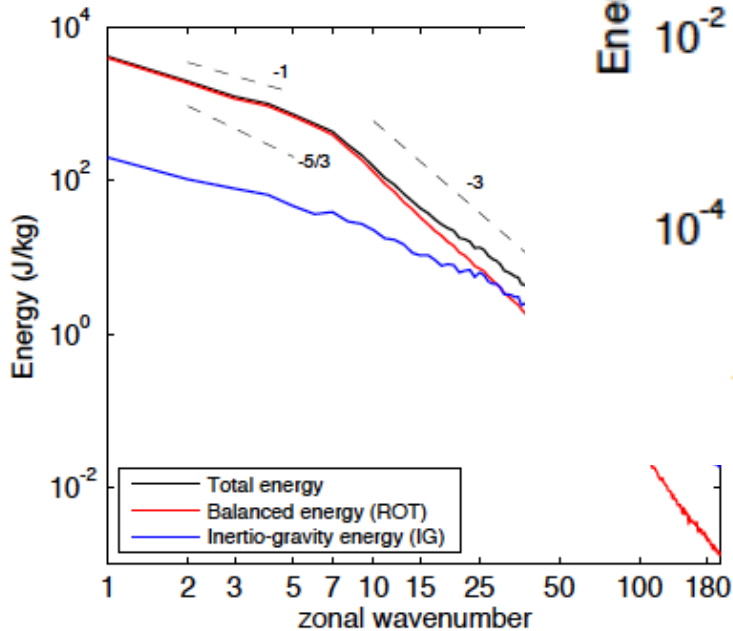


# NMF representation of ERA Interim dataset

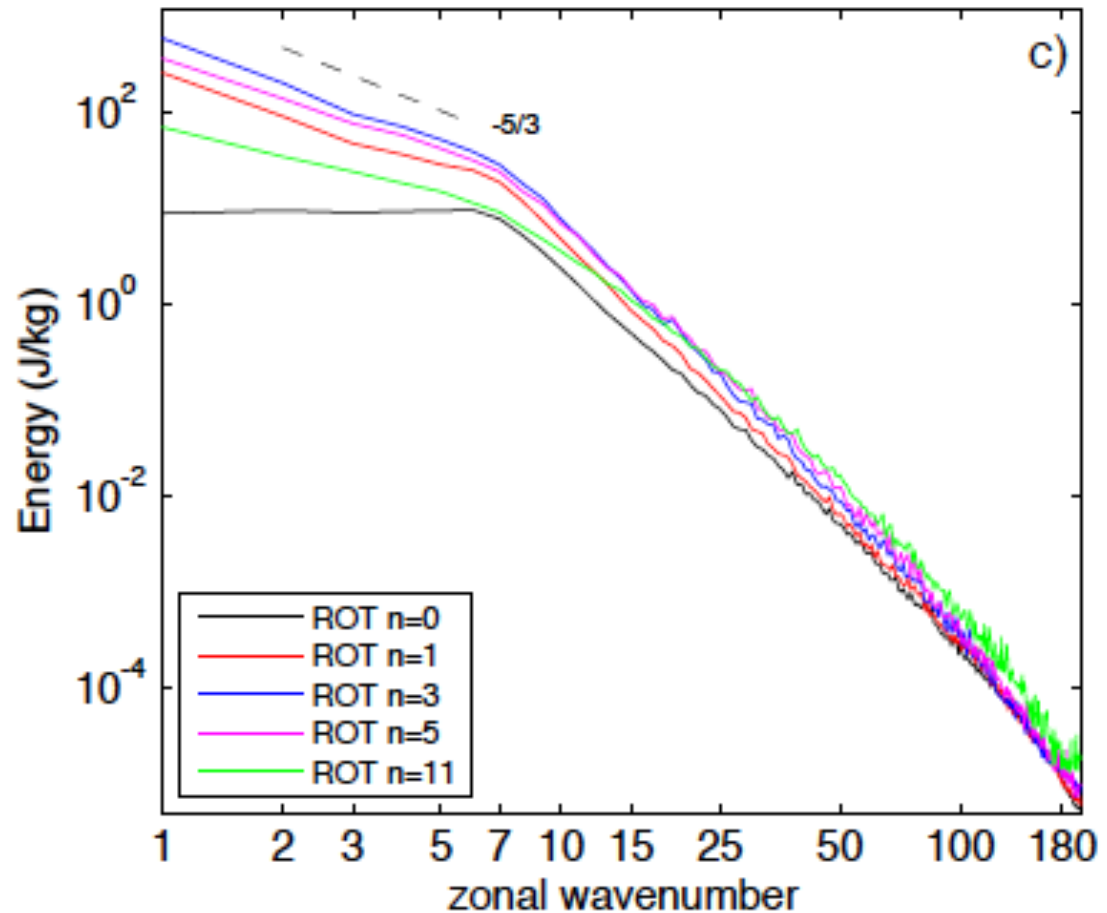
30-year period between  
1980 and 2009

12 UTC time

$K=200$ ;  
 $N=70$ ,  $R=210$   
 $M=45$



Spectra for various balanced modes



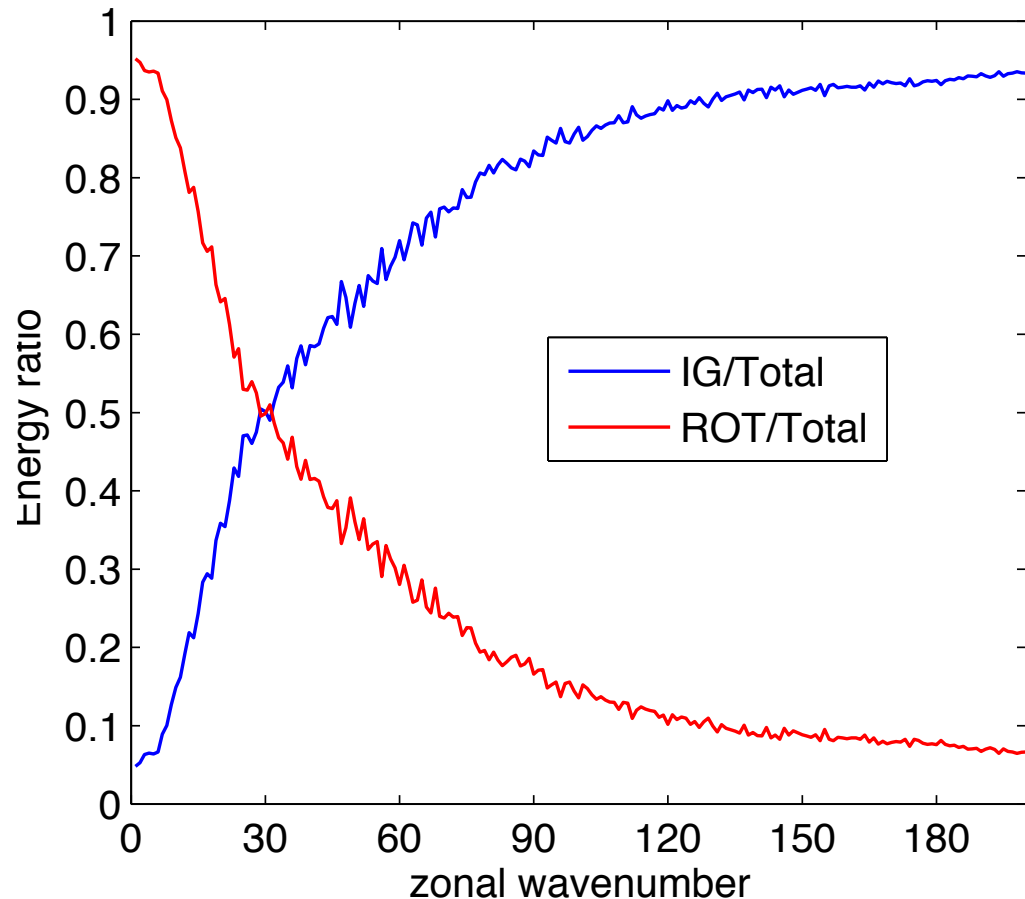
# Scale-dependent climatological distribution of atmospheric total energy

Based on 30-year period between 1980 and 2009

12 UTC time

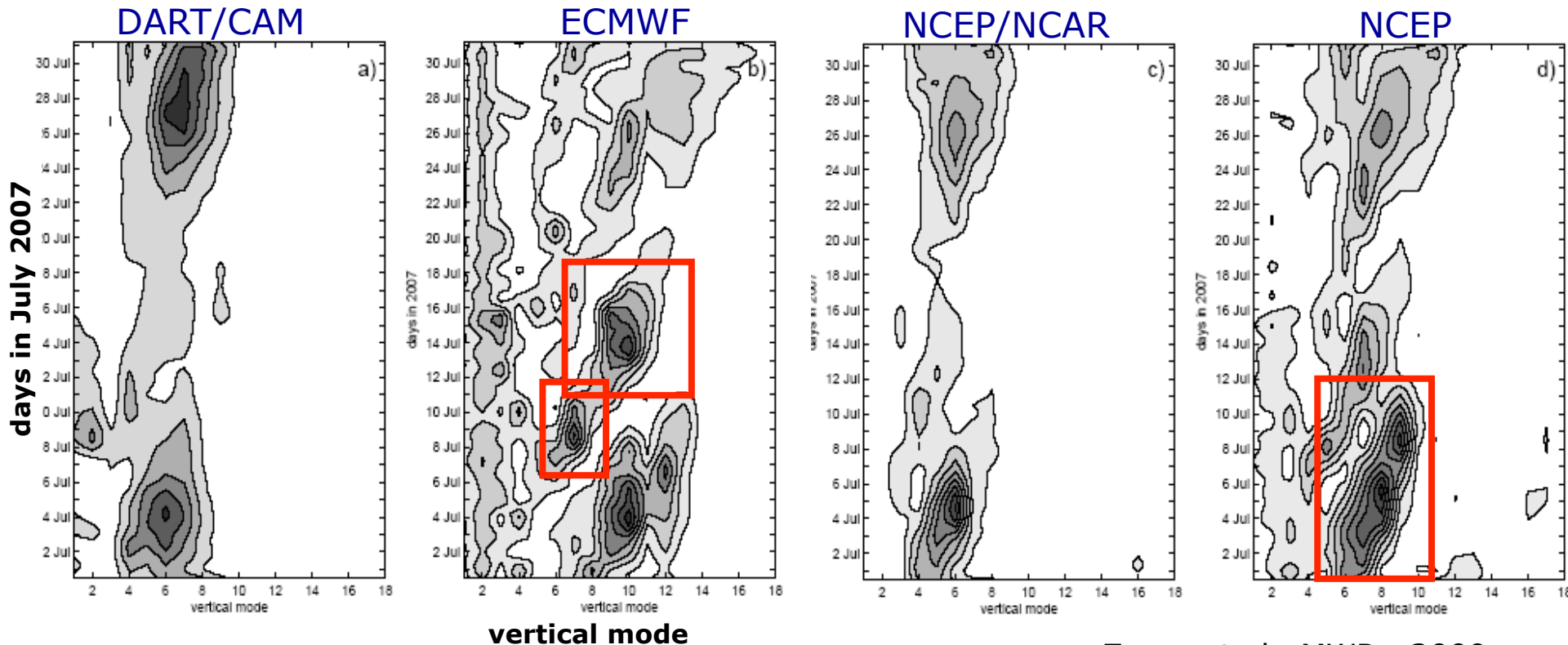
Up to 10% of wave energy in IG modes  $\Leftrightarrow$  1/3 of circulation

Percentage of ROT/IG energy in each scale



# Application of the normal mode representation

## Modal-space diagnosis of the vertical energy propagation by the Kelvin waves

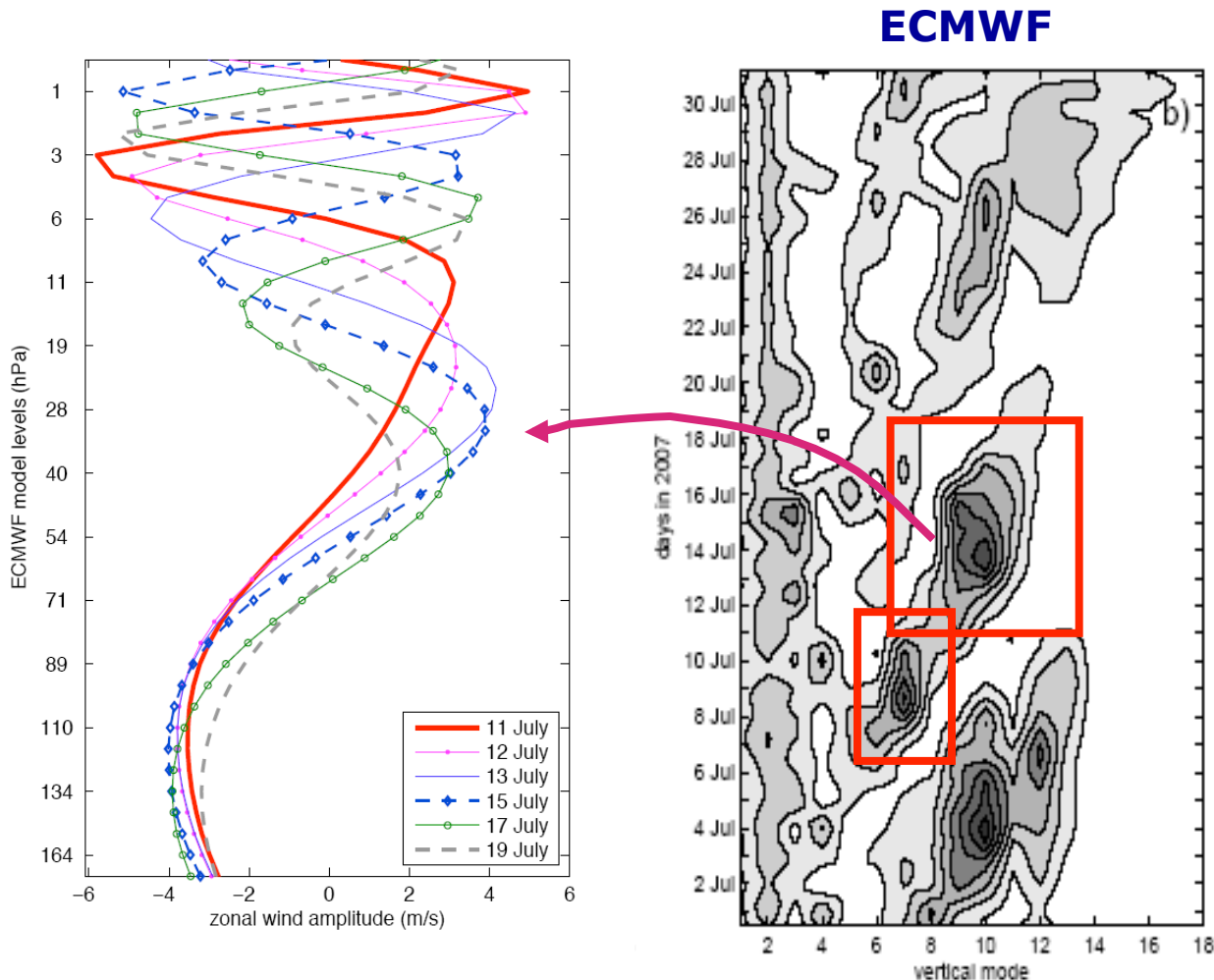


Zagar et al., MWR, 2009

Evolution of the zonal wavenumber  $k=1$  Kelvin wave in July 2007, filtered for periods shorter than 36 hours. The best agreement between the datasets exists for the Kelvin wave.

# Application of the normal mode representation

## Modal-space diagnosis of the vertical energy propagation by the Kelvin waves



The zonal wind component in the Kelvin wave at subsequent days (left) shows the downward phase propagation (upward energy propagation).

The difference in the depth of the atmosphere in DART/CAM and NCEP/NCAR on one hand and ECMWF and NCEP on the other appears to be one reason for different propagation properties.

(Zagar et al., 2009)

# NMF software structure: filtering namelists

---

```
&normal_cnf_inverse
```

```
nx      = 512,  
ny      = 256,  
nz      = 56,  
coef3DNMF_fname = 'Houghcoeff_',  
inverse_fname   = 'Inv_',  
inv2hybrid     = .false.,  
ps_fname      = 'Ps_',  
meant_fname    = 'Tmean_',  
saveascii     = .true.,  
afname        = 'Inverse_ascii_',  
aformat       = '(512E16.4,1x)',
```

```
/
```

```
& filter_cnf
```

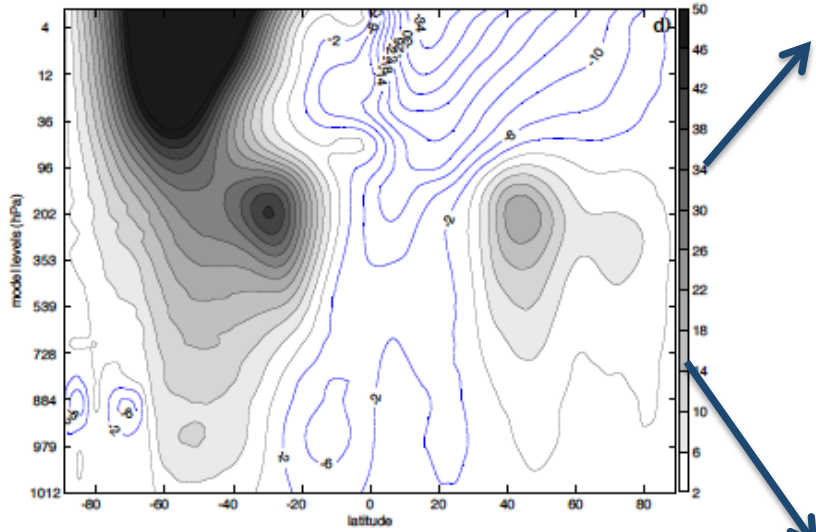
```
eig_n_s    = 1,  
eig_n_e    = 70,  
wig_n_s    = 1,  
wig_n_e    = 70,  
rot_n_s    = 2,  
rot_n_e    = 70,  
kmode_s    = 100,  
kmode_e    = 85,  
vmode_s    = 410,  
vmode_e    = 70,
```

```
/
```

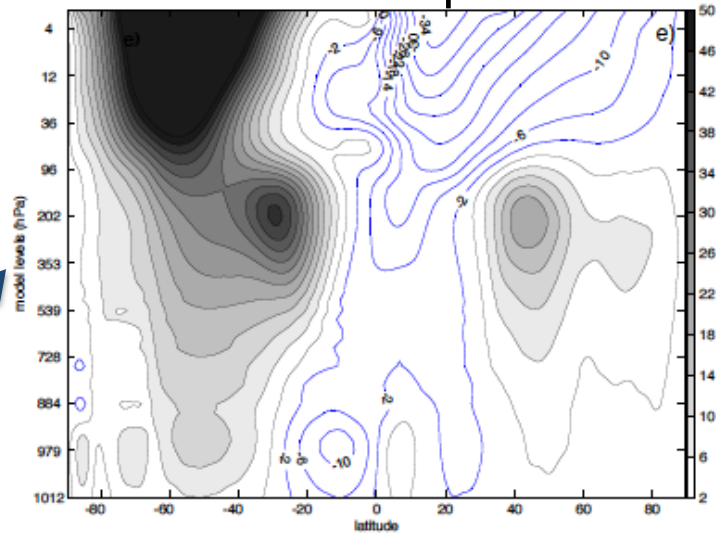


# NMF representation of ERA Interim dataset

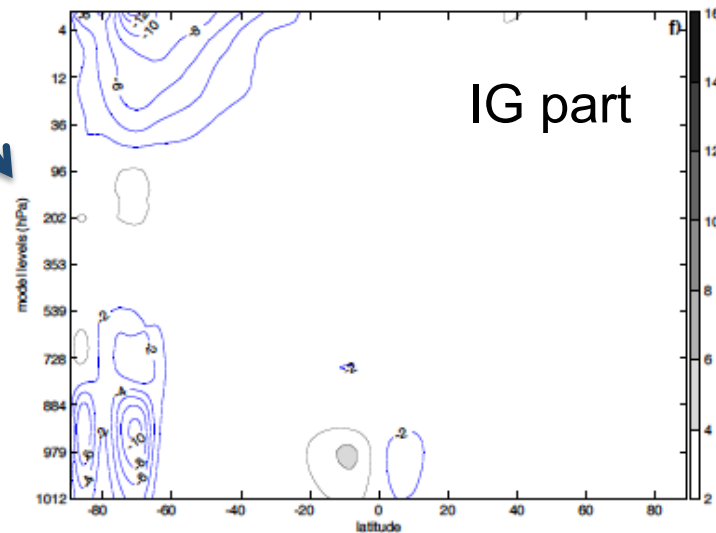
Zonally-averaged  
zonal winds, **July**



Balanced part

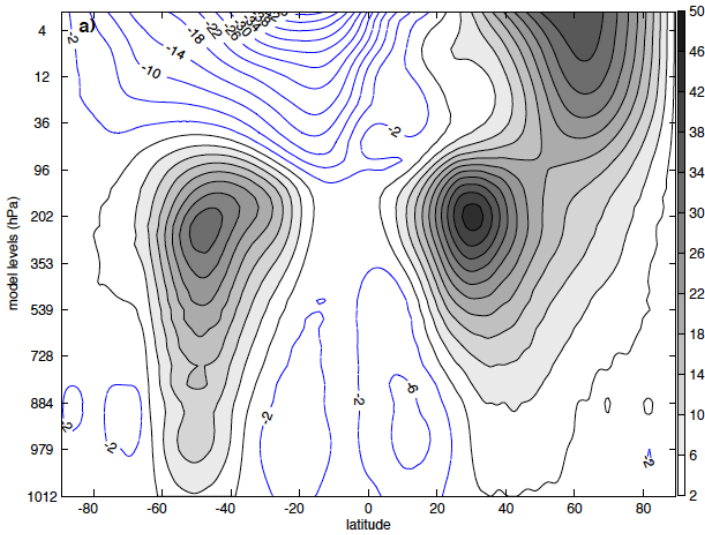


IG part

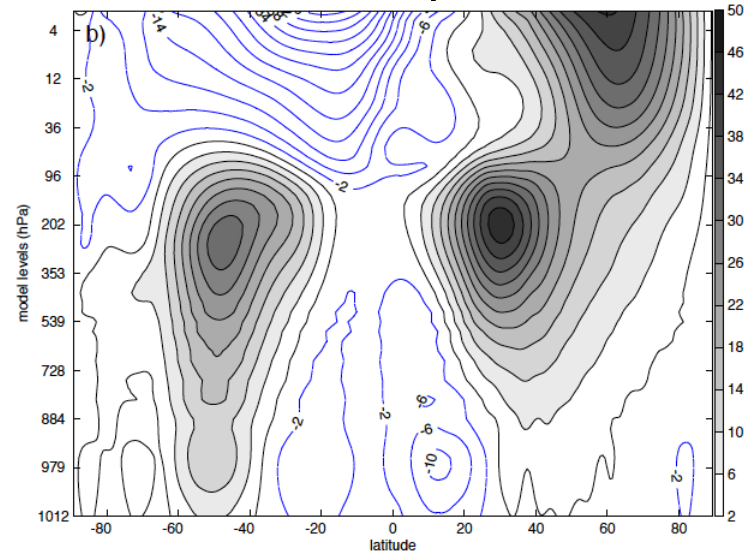


# NMF representation of ERA Interim dataset

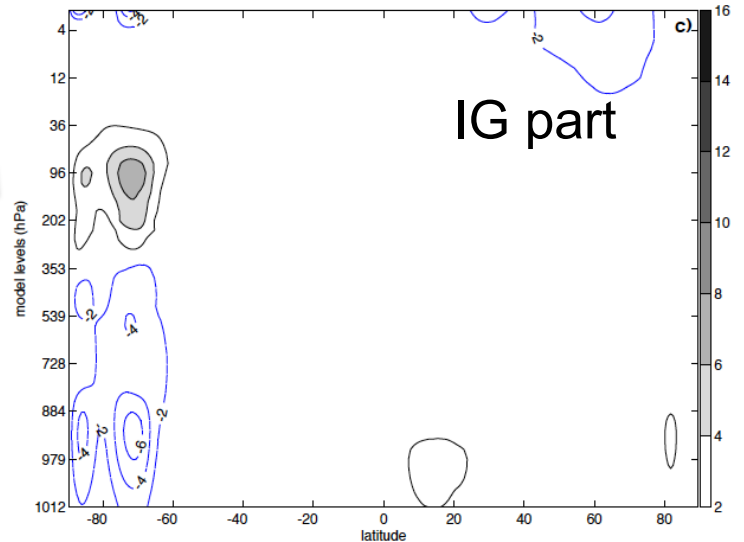
Zonally-averaged zonal winds, **January**



Balanced part

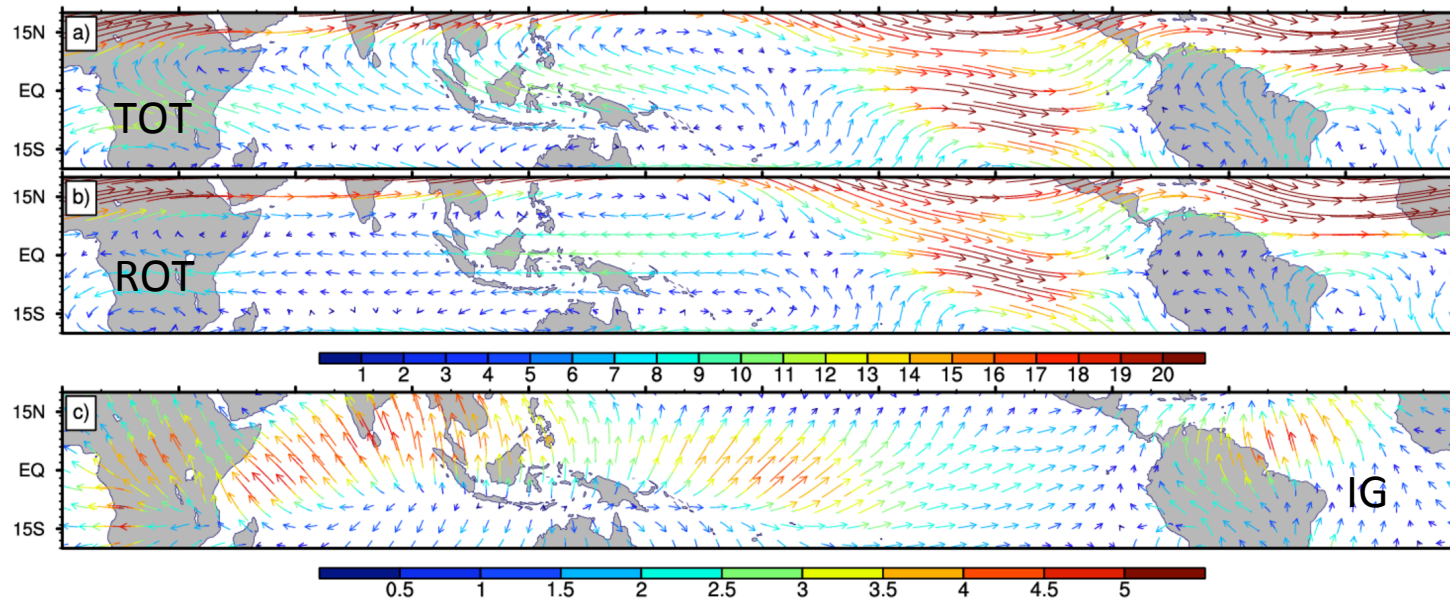


IG part

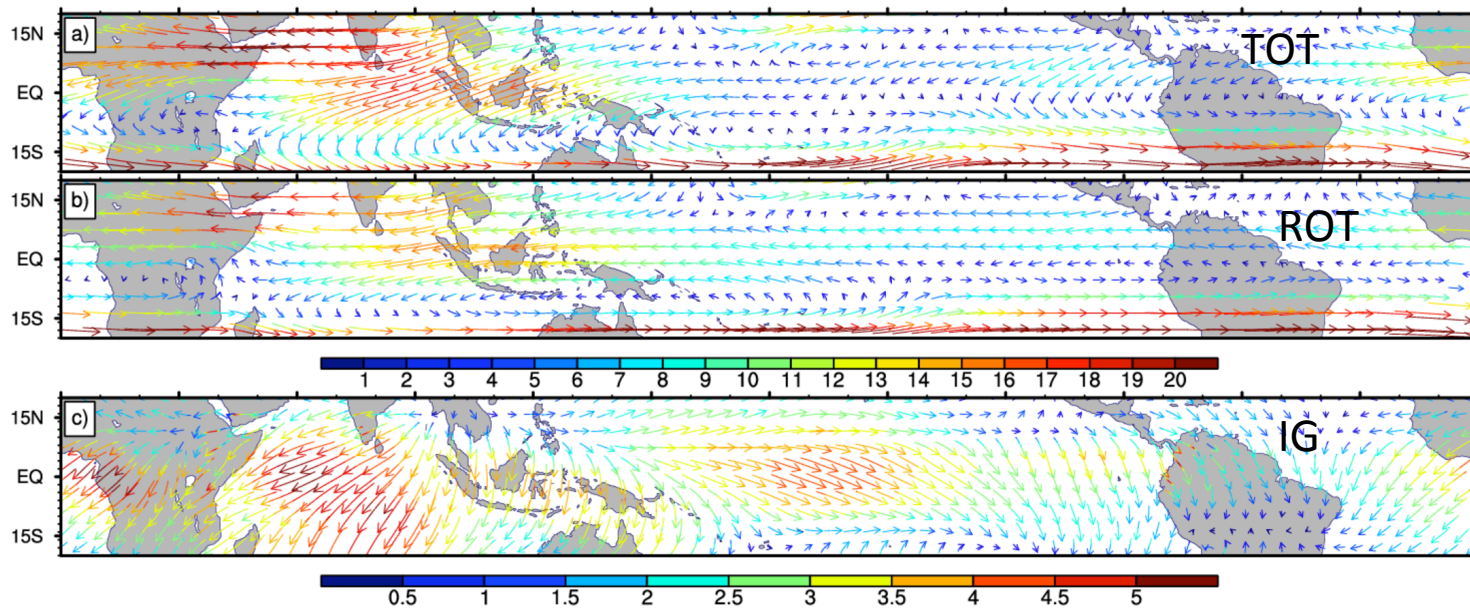


# Climatological circulation in the tropics

Jan



Jul



# Real-time modal view of ECMWF forecast

<http://meteo.fmf.uni-lj.si/MODES>

MODES

Energy spectra  
Horizontal maps  
Equatorial cross-sections  
Hovmöller diagrams  
Kelvin wave energy

Total circulation  
Balanced circulation  
Inertio-gravity circulation  
Kelvin waves

+ 00  
+ 24  
+ 48  
+ 72  
+ 96  
+ 120

2015 08 25  
2015 08 24  
2015 08 23  
2015 08 22  
2015 08 21  
2015 08 20  
2015 08 19  
2015 08 18  
2015 08 17  
2015 08 16  
2015 08 15  
2015 08 14  
2015 08 13  
2015 08 12  
2015 08 11  
2015 08 10  
2015 08 09  
2015 08 08  
2015 08 07  
2015 08 06  
2015 08 05  
2015 08 04  
2015 08 03  
2015 08 02

**Total circulation**  
Northern hemisphere  
Total circulation lev 74 (approx. 197 hPa) +000 h

Start: 2015082500:00UTC

4 8 12 16 20 24 28 32 36 40 44 48 52 56

**Total circulation lev 114 (approx. 850 hPa) +000 h**

Start: 2015082500:00UTC

2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24 26 28

Horizontal winds and geopotential (as perturbations with respect to the mean, in grey shading) in the Northern Hemisphere extratropics at the two ECMWF model levels. Top panel: model level 74 (approx. 197 hPa). Bottom panel: model level 114 (approx. 850 hPa). Colorbar

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**NEWS**

26.8.15  
Website upgrade. Images older than 12 June are available from [ARCHIVE](#).

10.5.15  
MODES workshop to be held 26-28 August at NCAR.

24.4.15  
MODES software description paper published.

26.11.14  
Hovmöller forecast and verification added

26.11.14  
Kelvin wave energy forecast and verification added

26.11.14  
News added

10.10.14  
Various animations added

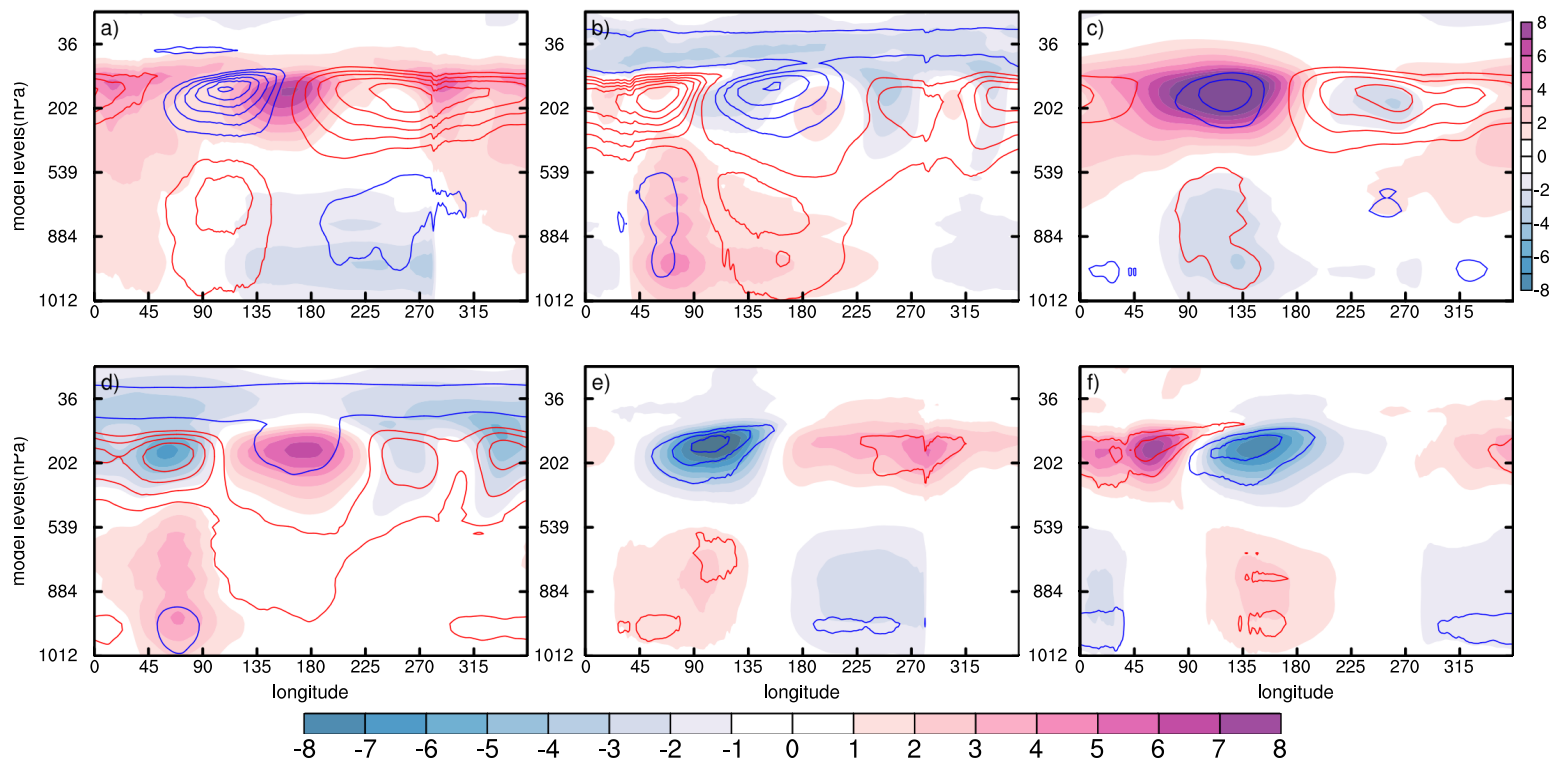
01.10.14  
Website launched

Click to add notes

# Modal representation of the MJO

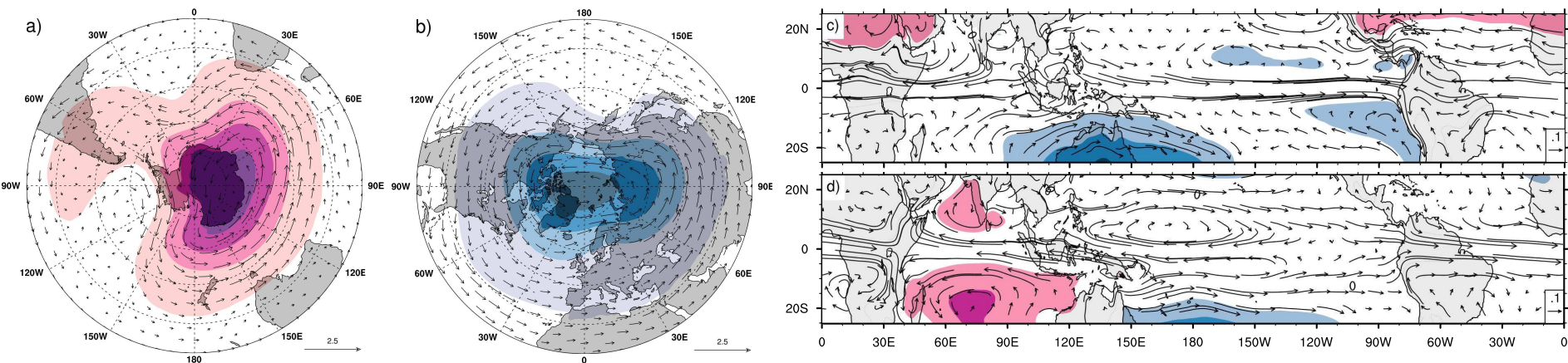
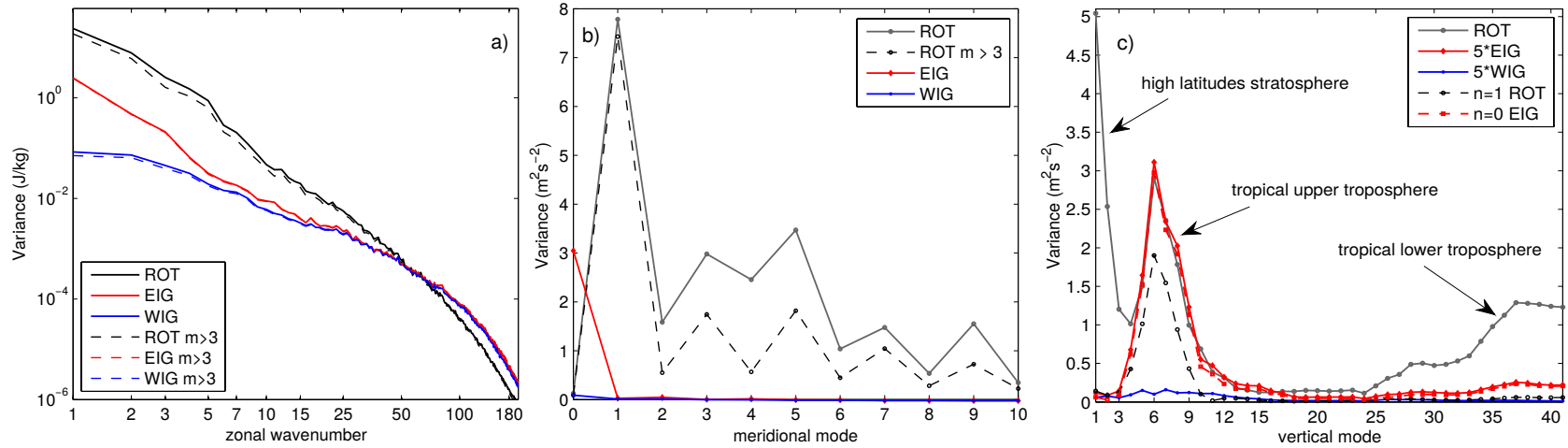
## Regression between the MJO index and ERA Interim

$$\mathcal{R}_n^k(m, \tau) = \frac{1}{N-1} \frac{\sum_{t=1}^N \left[ \left( \chi_n^k(m, t) - \overline{\chi_n^k(m)} \right) \left( \mathcal{M}_i(t, \tau) - \overline{\mathcal{M}_i} \right) \right]}{\text{Var} \left( \overline{\mathcal{M}_i} \right)}$$



# Modal representation of MJO

## Quantification of the role of various modes in MJO and its teleconnections

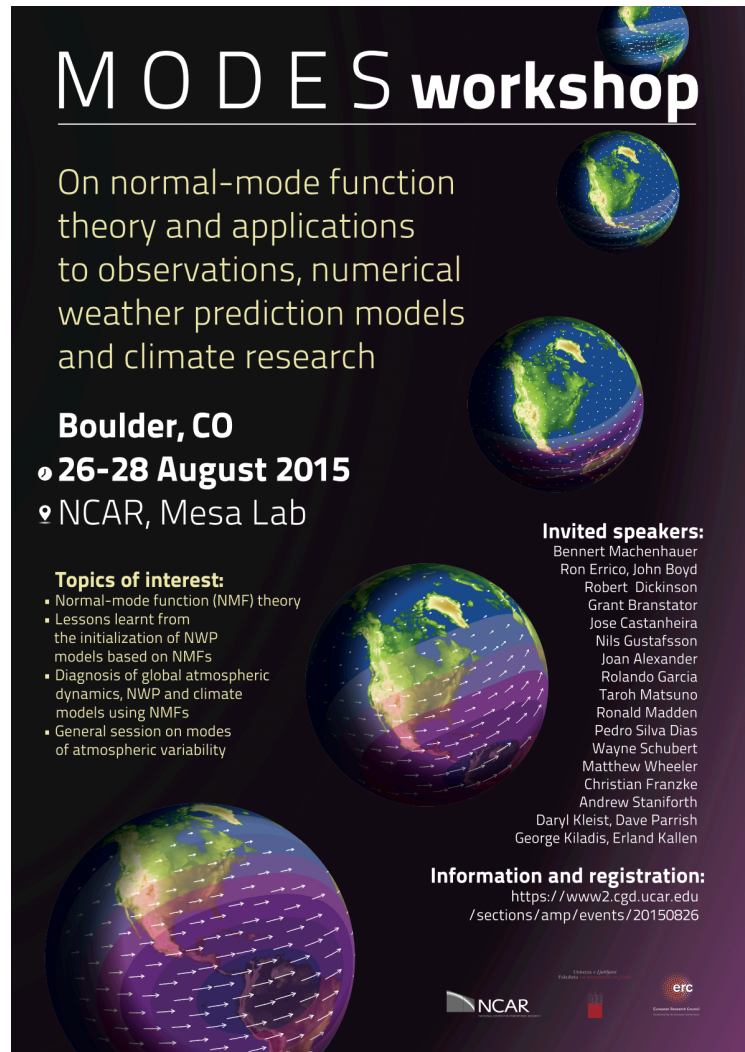


# Summary

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- Representation of the global circulation and mass fields in global NWP and climate models in terms of the normal modes of the Navier-Stokes equations offers an alternative and physically attractive approach to the diagnostic of some properties of the models
- A new software for the representation of global atmospheric energy, MODES, has been developed under the ERC funding and it is available to the atmospheric research community
- MODES provides possibility to study circulation changes in the coupled climate models in relation to the (un)balanced dynamic. Unbalanced circulation is climatologically small and difficult to diagnose, but it is critical for understanding atmospheric variability

Thank you very  
much for your  
attention!



# MODES workshop

On normal-mode function theory and applications to observations, numerical weather prediction models and climate research

**Boulder, CO**  
• **26-28 August 2015**  
• NCAR, Mesa Lab

**Topics of interest:**

- Normal-mode function (NMF) theory
- Lessons learnt from the initialization of NWP models based on NMFs
- Diagnosis of global atmospheric dynamics, NWP and climate models using NMFs
- General session on modes of atmospheric variability

**Invited speakers:**  
Bennert Machenhauer  
Ron Errico, John Boyd  
Robert Dickinson  
Grant Branstator  
Jose Castanheira  
Nils Gustafsson  
Joan Alexander  
Rolando Garcia  
Taroh Matsuno  
Ronald Madden  
Pedro Silva Dias  
Wayne Schubert  
Matthew Wheeler  
Christian Franzke  
Andrew Staniforth  
Daryl Kleist, Dave Parrish  
George Kiladis, Erland Kallen

**Information and registration:**  
<https://www2.cgd.ucar.edu/sections/amp/events/20150826>

NCAR 