Intraseasonal variability as simulated by a GCM with super-parameterization

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More details in Khairoutdinov et al (JAS, 2005) and Benedict et al (JAS, 2008)

Individual CRM/SP domain (64 cols, 30 levels) One of 8,192 CRMs running simultaneously in T42 CAM GCM





Phase composites of OLR dominant MJO mode





Stan et al (2010)

Simulated MJO composite resembles the reality





Benedict et al (2008)

Symmetric Equatorial Waves



Anti-Symmetric Equatorial Waves





Slide from Charlotte DeMott

CMT seems to slow down propagation speed of MJO

3D-SP



3D-SP - Momentum



However, you don't need an explicit CMT to simulate MJO.

CMT seems also to slow down propagation speed of Kelvin waves

3D-SP

U 850mb, m/s

U 200mb, m/s





1.6 3.2 4.8

Precipitation, mm/day

2.67 5.33 8

1.6 3.2 4.8

OLR, W/m2

3.2-1.6 -0 1.6 3.2 4.8

-8 -5.33-2.67 0 2.67 5.33 8

-4.8 -3.2 -1.6 -0 1.6 3.2 4.8

-24 -16 -8 0



DeMott et al. (2011)

MJO on Aquaplanet

Sea Surface Temperature



SSTs come from observed January SSTs zonally averaged between 60E and 120E



MJO forms 'wave packets' on Aquaplanet



Sensitivity to Sea Surface Temperature

MJO-filtered Precipitation







SST



Stronger MJO and ISO





No super-rotation on Aqua-planet was simulated



Zonal wind





Sensitivity to Zonally Homogenized Water Vapor

• Zonal Homogenization: Nudge (relax) water vapor to zonally averaged values over <u>diurnal</u> time scale;

OLR



• The existence of mid-to-low troposphere (but above PBL) water-vapor anomalies is the key for the existence of simulated MJO.

Sensitivity to Zonally Homogenized Surface fluxes and Radiative Heating

• Zonal Homogenization: Compute surface fluxes and radiation heating rates as usual but apply them zonally averaged.





• MJO-like mode propagates as fast as the Kelvin-wave mode with pick of variability in the periods of about 30 days





ANN Composite AR4 Models SST A1B Anomaly 2090s - 2000s

Model Bias substructed





MJO is projected to get stronger in the warming world

Take-home messages

Coupling to the ocean seems to be essential for realistic simulation of MJO in SP-CAM.

Mid-tropospheric moisture anomaly is necessary for simulated MJO.

Variations of the surface fluxes and radiation across the MJO scales don't seem to be essential for MJO maintainance.

Aqua-planer simulations suggest that MJO variability may increase in warmer climate.

The importance of CMT is not clear (SP-CAM does NOT have the CMT)