



NOAA

Advancements in Physics Parameterizations for Global Earth System Modeling: GFSv17/GEFSv13/SFSv1 Physics under the Unified Forecast System (UFS).

Lisa Bengtsson¹ and Fanglin Yang²

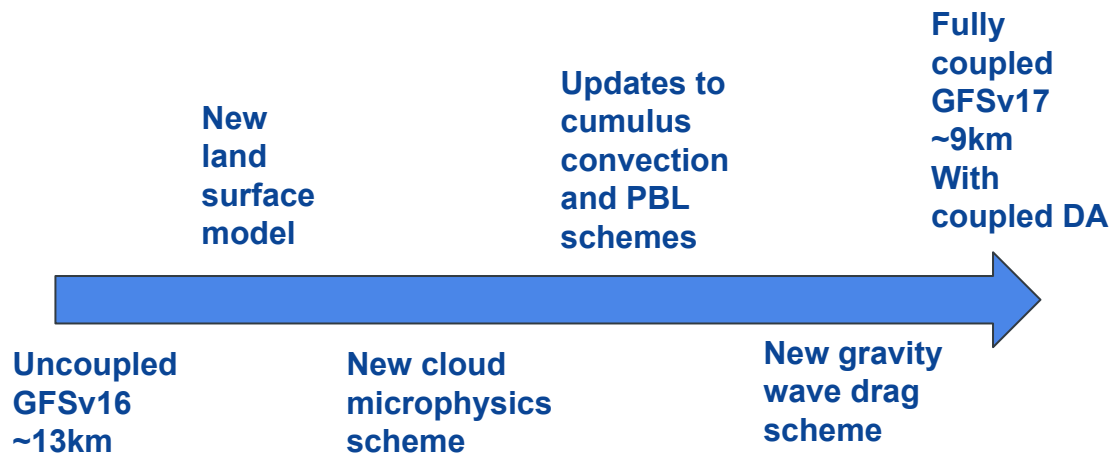
1) NOAA OAR ESRL Physical Sciences Laboratory

2) NOAA NWS NCEP Environmental Modeling Center



GFSv17/GEFSv13/SFSv1 prototype development

- The GFSv17/GEFSv13 and SFSv1 includes innovations which have been included in so-called “coupled prototypes” coordinated between NOAA and the community under the UFSR20 project in a *stepwise* manner.
- The GFS will thus go from a atmosphere only global NWP model at 13 km, to a fully coupled earth system model at 9km, with many updates to model physics.





Land: **Noah-MP +**
Compositing surface layer variables,
albedo/emissivity
 PBL: **TKE-EDMF**
Reduced background diffusivity, limit PBL
updraft overshoot.
 Microphysics: **GFDL MP**
 Deep convection: **saSAS**
Stricter trigger criteria, reduced entr. rate,
reduced rain evap. rate
 Shallow convection: **saMF**
 Radiation: **RRTMG**
MERRA2 aerosols
 Gravity wave drag: **uGWDv0**

Land: **Noah-MP**
Bug-fixes
 PBL: **TKE-EDMF**
 Microphysics: **Thompson MP**
Improve radiative fluxes and cloud
cover
 Deep convection: **saSAS**
Prognostic closure
 Shallow convection: **saMF**
Prognostic closure
 Radiation: **RRTMG**
Couple convective cloud to radiation
 Gravity wave drag: **uGWDv0**

Land: **Noah-MP**
 PBL: **TKE-EDMF**
 Microphysics: **Thompson MP**
 Deep convection: **saSAS**
 Shallow convection: **saMF**
 Radiation: **RRTMG**
Address excessive large net SW
net to ocean at low sun angles
 Gravity wave drag: **uGWDv1**



Land: **Noah**
 PBL: **TKE-EDMF**
 Microphysics: **GFDL MP**
 Deep convection: **saSAS**
 Shallow convection: **saMF**
 Radiation: **RRTMG**
 Gravity wave drag: **uGWDv0**

Land: **Noah-MP**
Tuning, use CICE albedo in atm, new ice
climatology, VIIRS based land/lake mask, spun
up land IC's.
 PBL: **TKE-EDMF**
Positive definite massflux scheme, reduced
entrainment rate
 Microphysics: **Thompson MP +**
Semi-Lagrangian Sedimentation + refined ice
microphysics
 Deep convection: **saSAS**
Cellular automata convective org scheme.
Positive definite massflux scheme
 Shallow convection: **saMF**
Positive definite massflux scheme
 Radiation: **RRTMG**
 Gravity wave drag: **uGWDv0**

Land: **Noah-MP**
Bug-fixes
 PBL: **TKE-EDMF**
wind shear effect and TKE
dependent entrainment.
CONUS CAPE enhancement
 Microphysics: **Thompson MP**
Reduce stratus and downwelling
rad. fluxes
 Deep convection: **saSAS**
wind shear effect and TKE
dependent entrainment
 Shallow convection: **saMF**
 Radiation: **RRTMG**
 Gravity wave drag: **uGWDv0**

*UFSR20 physics/dynamics
 development coordination
 Fanglin Yang, Lisa Bengtsson*

Acknowledgement to ALL UFS coupled/infrastructure/physics/dynamics/DA developers, application/project leads , and evaluators!

Physics suites are shared among many UFS applications

- GFSv17 - 9km medium range
 - GEFSv13 - 25km sub-seasonal range
 - SFSv1 - 50km seasonal range
 - HAFSv1 - 6 km / 2 km hurricane forecasts
 - AQMv7 - 12 km Air quality forecasts for North America
-
- Poses challenges for scale-adptivness in applications with different dx and dt, as well as challenges for different target lead-times (e.g Hurricane application vs Seasonal prediction)
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- Poses challenges for coupled vs un-coupled applications due to complex interaction between clouds and mixing with ocean/ice/waves/aerosols.

Example of scale dependent challenges seen in SFS

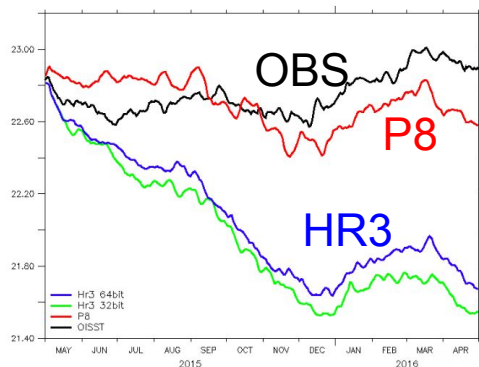
L. Bengtsson (PSL), S. Sun (GSL), W. Li (DTC), F. Yang, J. Han, R. Sun (EMC), X-W Quan (PSL)

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 Bug-fixes
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 Improve radiative fluxes and cloud cover
 Deep convection: saSAS
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 Couple convective cloud to radiation
 Gravity wave drag: uGWDv0

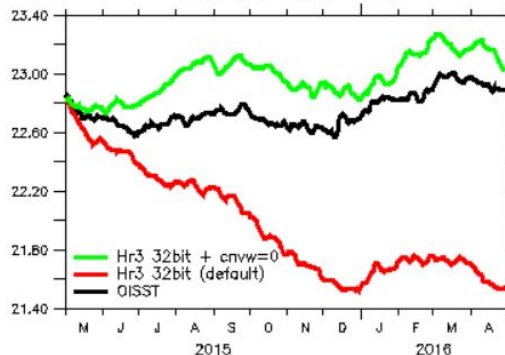


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 Positive definite massflux scheme
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 Gravity wave drag: uGWDv0

SST 50S-50N from UFS of 1deg atm, ocn and ice



OCN SST 50S-50N



Examination by Shan Sun, GSL

This drift is only seen at 100 km res simulations

Remove conv. cloud from radiation-cloud intreaction

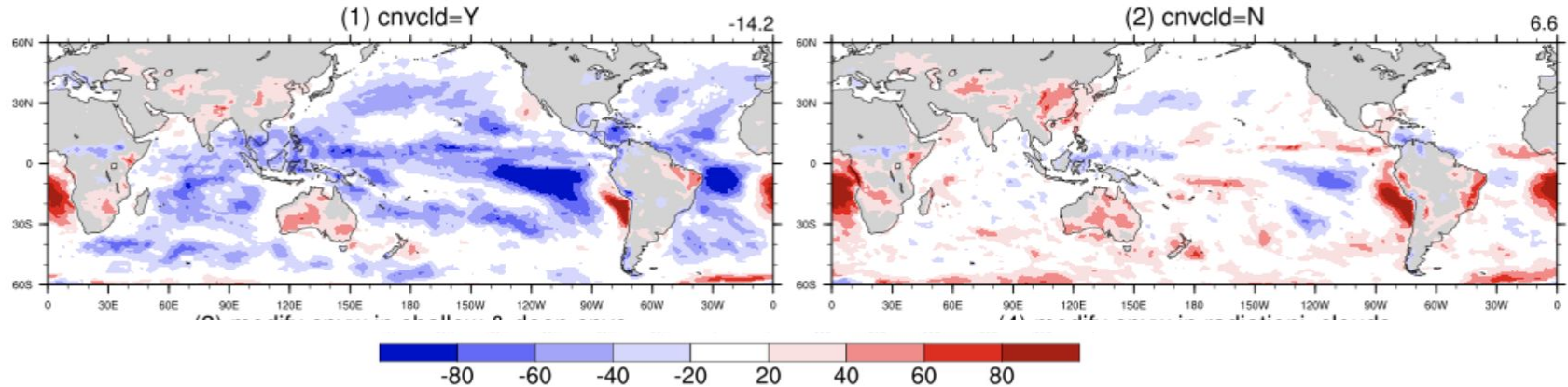
Include conv. cloud from radiation-cloud intreaction



Removing convective clouds from cloud radiation interaction at C96 (100km resolution)

L. Bengtsson (PSL), S. Sun (GSL), W. Li (DTC), F. Yang, J. Han, R. Sun (EMC), X-W Quan (PSL)

Surface Downward SW Bias from CERES (W/m²) Oct/Nov 2011



Removing suspended convective cloud liquid improves the negative bias in Downward SW. But in regions of the world dominated by sub-grid clouds a positive bias strengthens.

**Examination by Shan
Sun, GSL**

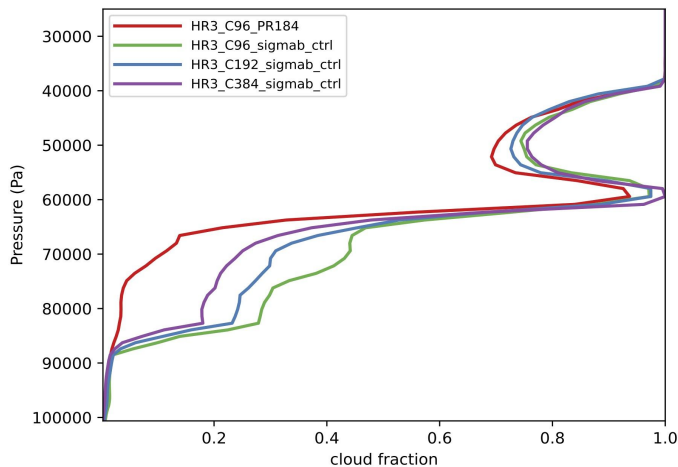
A scale-adaptive solution

L. Bengtsson (PSL), S. Sun (GSL), W. Li (DTC), F. Yang, J. Han, R. Sun (EMC), X-W Quan (PSL)

Proposal to use **convective updraft area fraction** used in convective scheme (Bengtsson et al. 2023) to provide **in-cloud** suspended convective cloud passed into the Xu-Randall cloud fraction computation, and optical depth calculation to provide in-cloud cumulus condensates to the cloud-radiation interaction.

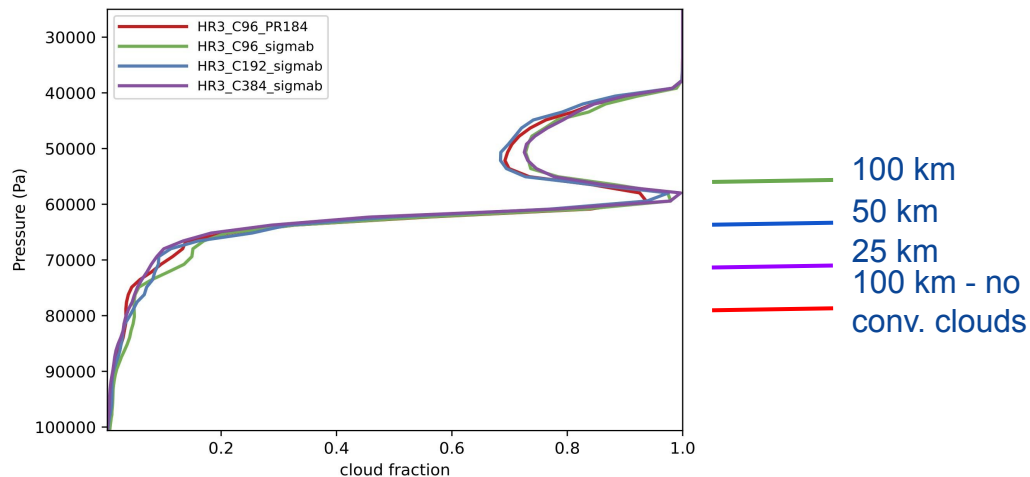
Cloud fraction - DYNAMO SCM

control

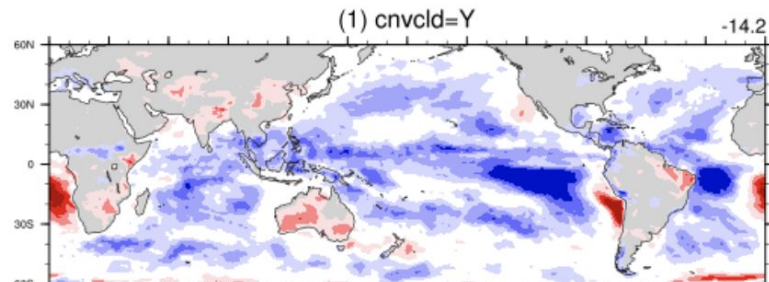


SCM analysis by Weiwei Li, DTC

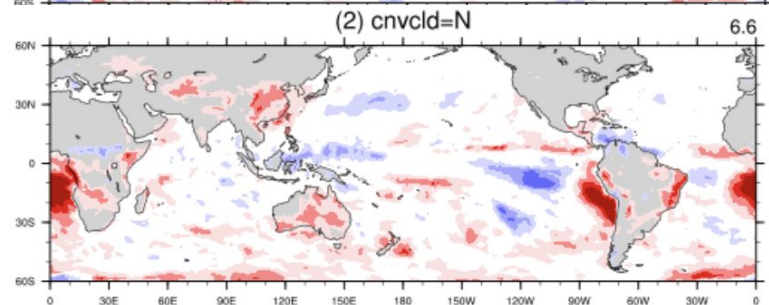
Scale adaptive conv.



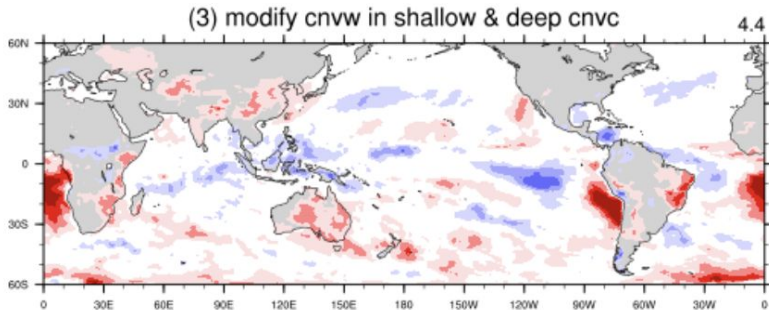
Impact on short wave down, bias from CERES (W/m²)



All conv. cloud added

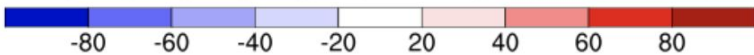


No conv. cloud added



Scale adaptive solution

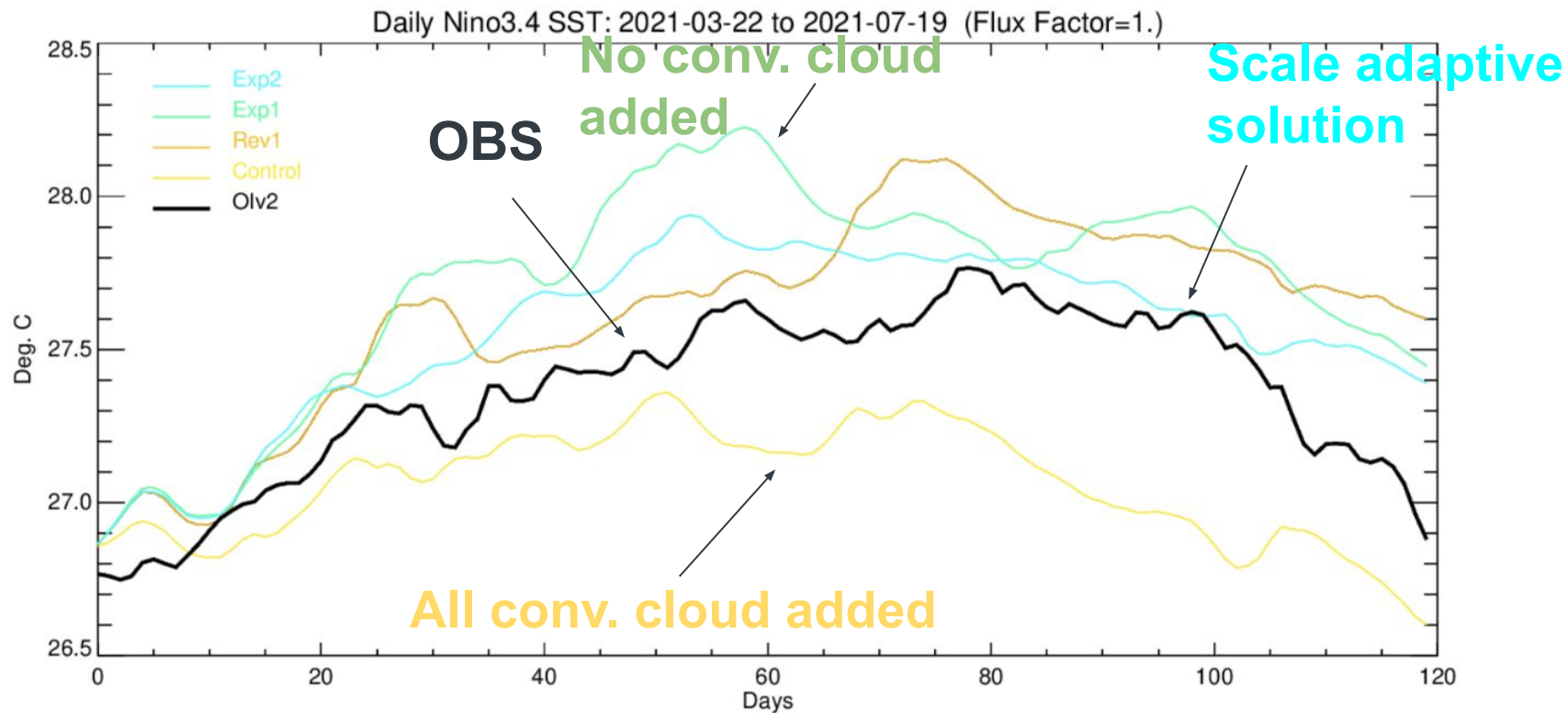
Analysis by
Shan Sun,
GSL





Impact on Nino3.4 SST

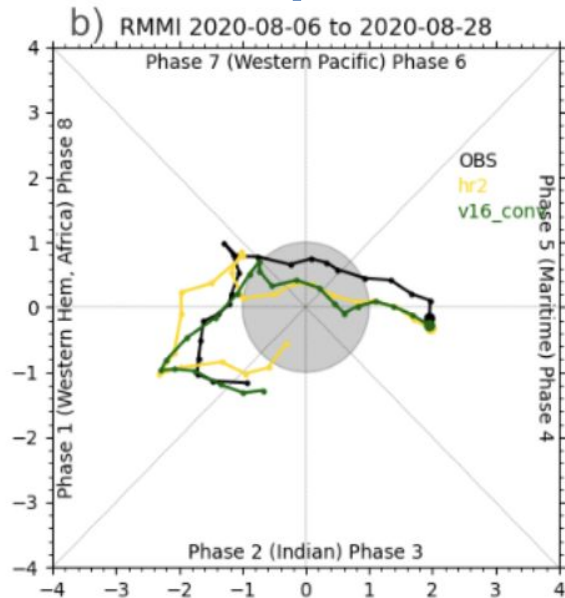
Analysis by Xiao-Wei Quan, PSL



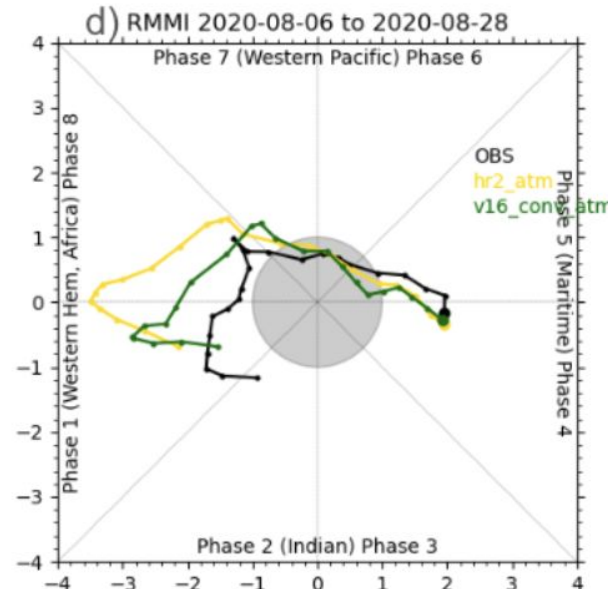
Example impact of coupled vs uncoupled simulations of the MJO

Another challenge we face is the response of atmospheric physics to the choice of coupling

Coupled



Uncoupled

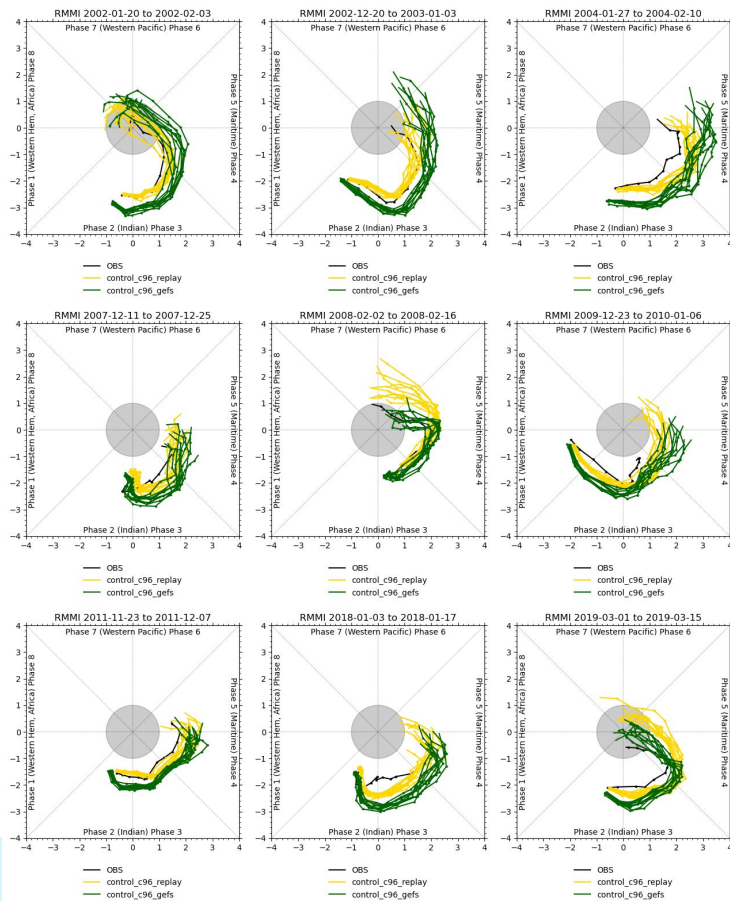


- HR2 physics
- HR2 physics with GFSv16 convection

Bengtsson and Han 2024

The Crucial Role of Initial Moisture in Predicting the MJO Advancement Across the Maritime Continent

L. Bengtsson, S. Tulich, J. Dias, K. Hall, M. Gehne, G. Kiladis, J. Whitaker and P. Pegion, (PSL)



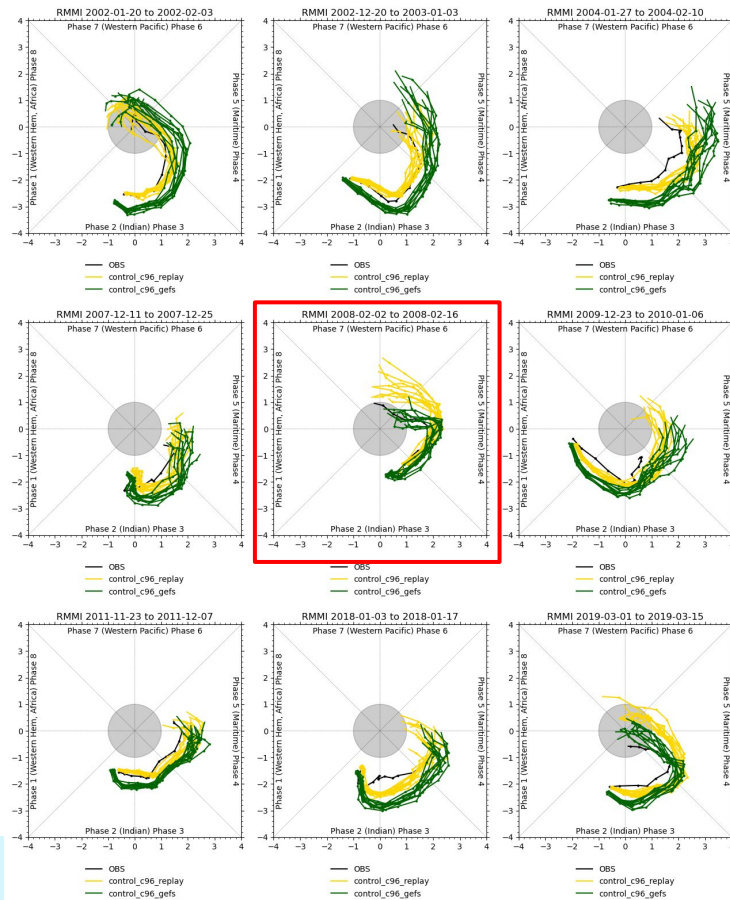
HR3 at 100km res. Initialized with UFS replay reanalysis



HR3 at 100km res. Initialized with GEFSv12 reanalysis

- The MJO when initialized in an active phase, propagates well across the Maritime Continent.
- A statistically significant difference in amplitude (and sometimes propagation) is seen depending on the initial condition used

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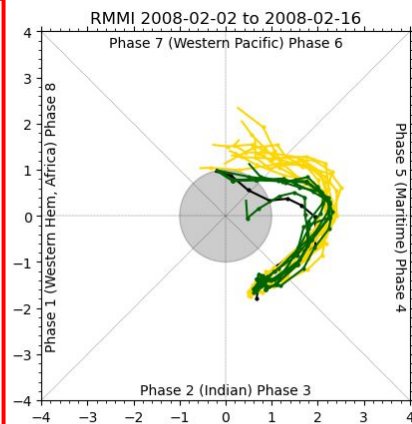
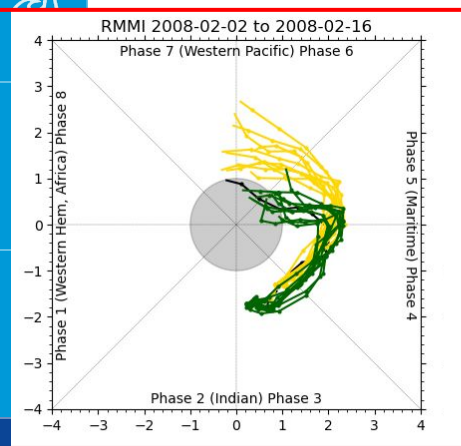


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— OBS
 — control_c96_replay
 — control_c96_gefs

— OBS
 — Replay replace UV with GEFSv12
 — Replay replace TQ with GEFSv12

Initialize from UFS replay, but replace **U,V** with GEFSv12 fields

Initialize from UFS replay, but replace **T,Q** with GEFSv12 fields

- When we replace the thermodynamic fields in the UFS replay initialized runs IC, with those from GEFSv12, the MJO propagation and amplitude improves throughout the forecast lead time, suggesting initial moisture plays a crucial role for the evolution of the MJO

HR3 at 100km res. Initialized with UFS replay reanalysis

HR3 at 100km res. Initialized with GEFSv12 reanalysis



Summary and future plans

- The UFS infrastructure has opened up incredible opportunities for collaboration on model development between NOAA and the community.
- Thanks to DTC's Common Community Physics Package we can easily use the same physics across scales and applications in the UFS.
- Since physics development spans many UFS applications, there's an increasing need for scale-adaptive development, and a need to avoid application specific tuning, but coupled/uncoupled configurations poses new challenges.
- For many applications, physics is very important to get at systematic biases, but let's not forget the crucial role of the initial state in predicting phenomena even on S2S time-scales.