Identification of Evaporation/Wind, Evaporation/SST and Evaporation/ Air Humidity Regimes in the Southern Ocean from Satellite Data

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Overview

- What are flux regimes? Why do we care about them?
- Why use satellite data?
- Where do the GSSTF2b and HOAPS3 variables come from?
- Climatology of fluxes and state variables from each dataset
- Cluster analysis method, and preliminary results
- Future directions

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- **q**_a = Air (10 m) specific humidity (g/kg)

HOAPS3 - linear combination of SSM/I radiances

GSSTF2b - EOFs relating 10m air humidity to SSM/I derived total column and bottom layer precipitable water



0.5 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5



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HOAPS3 windier







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Large interannual variability in SST not apparent in evap Different sign trend in evap post-1999 due mainly to differences in air humidity trends

Cluster Analysis Methodology





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• Evap-wind and evap-air humidity regimes display expected relationship, but evap-SST does not, some or all of the time (depending on dataset) – suggests SST is not directly controlling evaporation (possibly indirectly via influence on air humidity?)

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 - Change limits of 2d histograms to focus on different parts of parameter space?
 - What is optimum time resolution for analysis? Monthly vs. daily.
 - Another method entirely?

Thank you!

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