

# Stochastic <sup>deep</sup> convective parameterization

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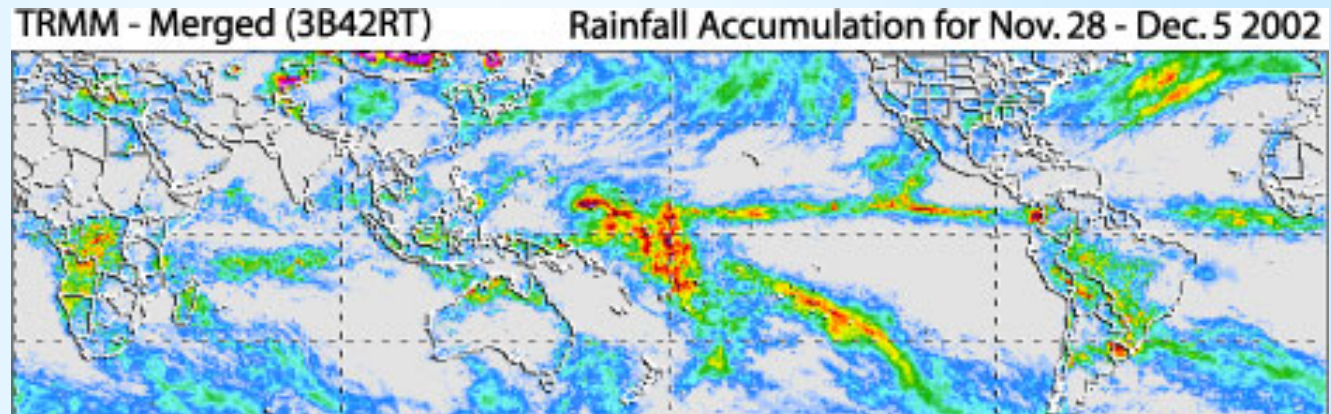
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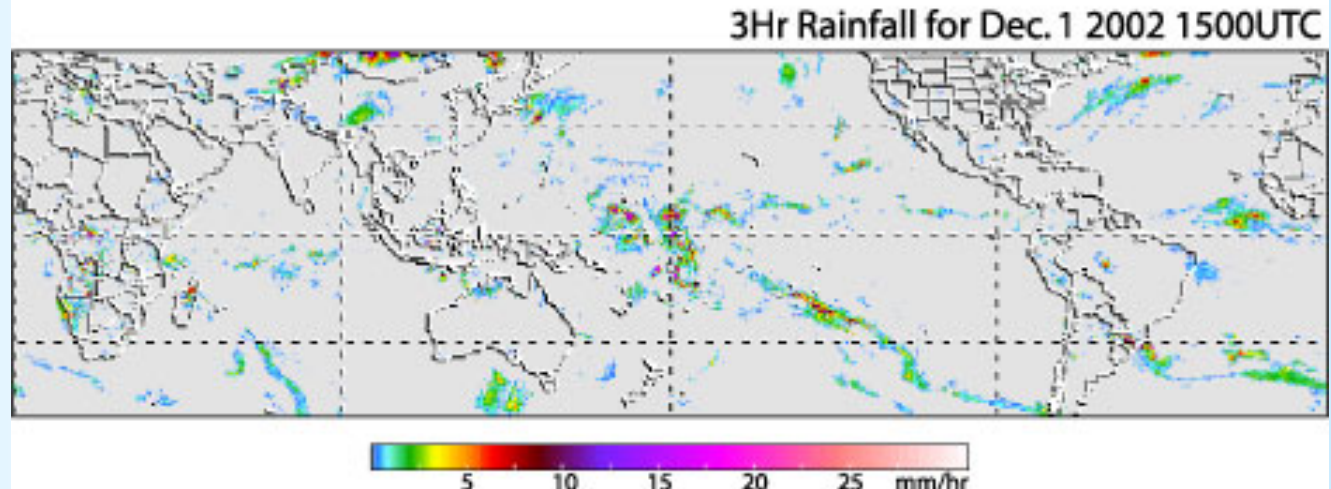
- Moist convective parameterizations represent ensemble mean effects of sub-grid scale motions on Reynolds-average large-scale as deterministic function of the large-scale variables
- For a domain  $\sim(200 \text{ km})^2 \times (20 \text{ minutes})$  the sample of deep convective elements is not large  $\Rightarrow$  variance in average
- Probability distribution of convective heating, etc. at typical grid cell/time step can impact large scales
- Mimic these physical effects by stochastic representation

# Rainfall from the TRMM-based merged data (3B42RT)

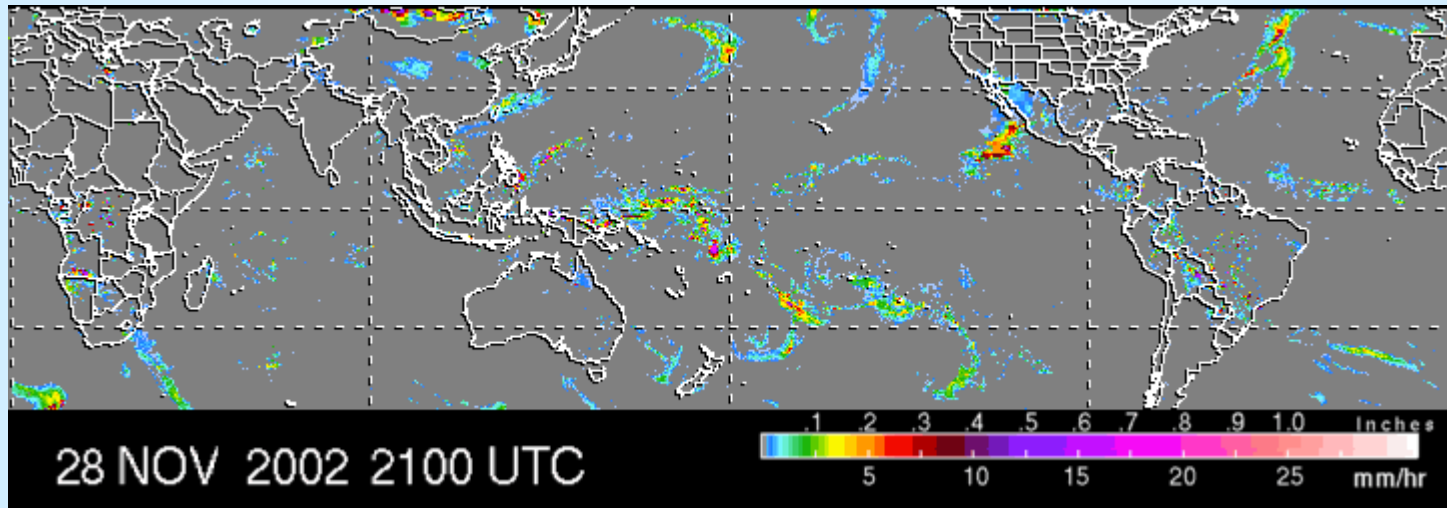
Weekly  
accumulation



Rain rate from a  
3-hourly period  
within the week  
shown above



# Rainfall animation from the TRMM-based merged data (3B42RT)



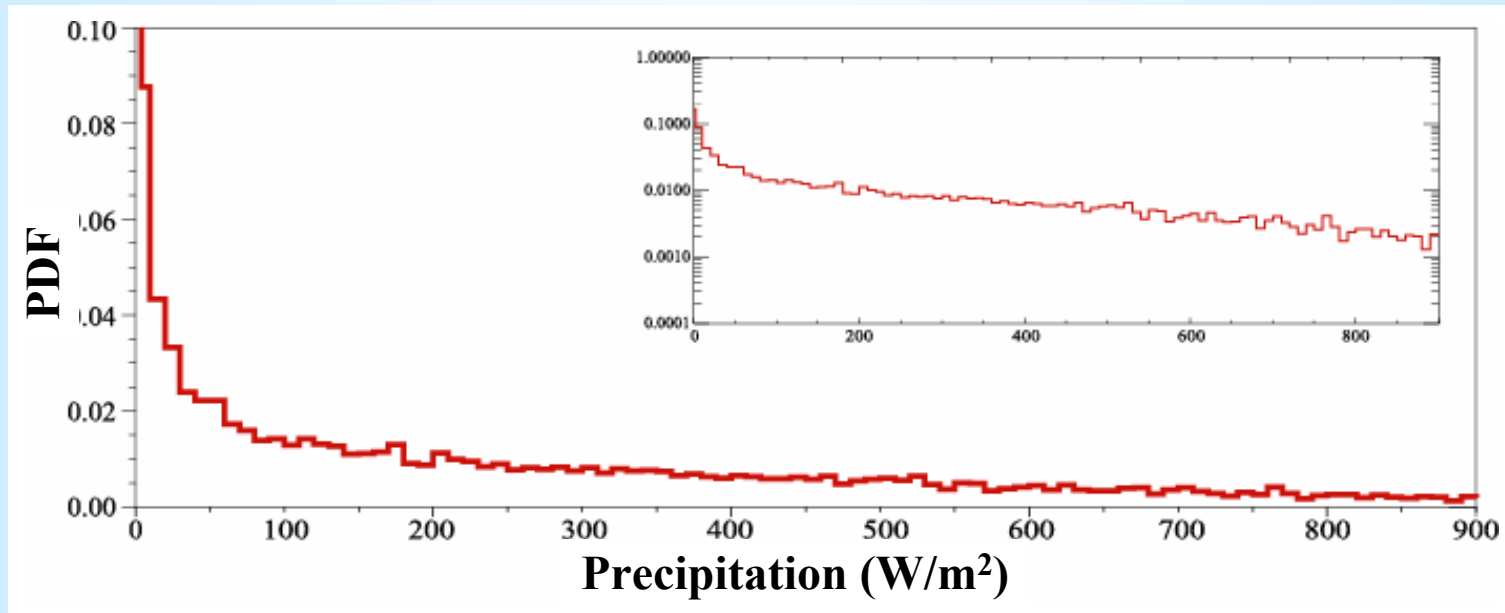
**3 hour rainfall over one week (Nov. 28-Dec. 5, 2002)**

**START**

From Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC), Huffman, 2002.

# Probability density function of daily precip. in west Pacific warm pool

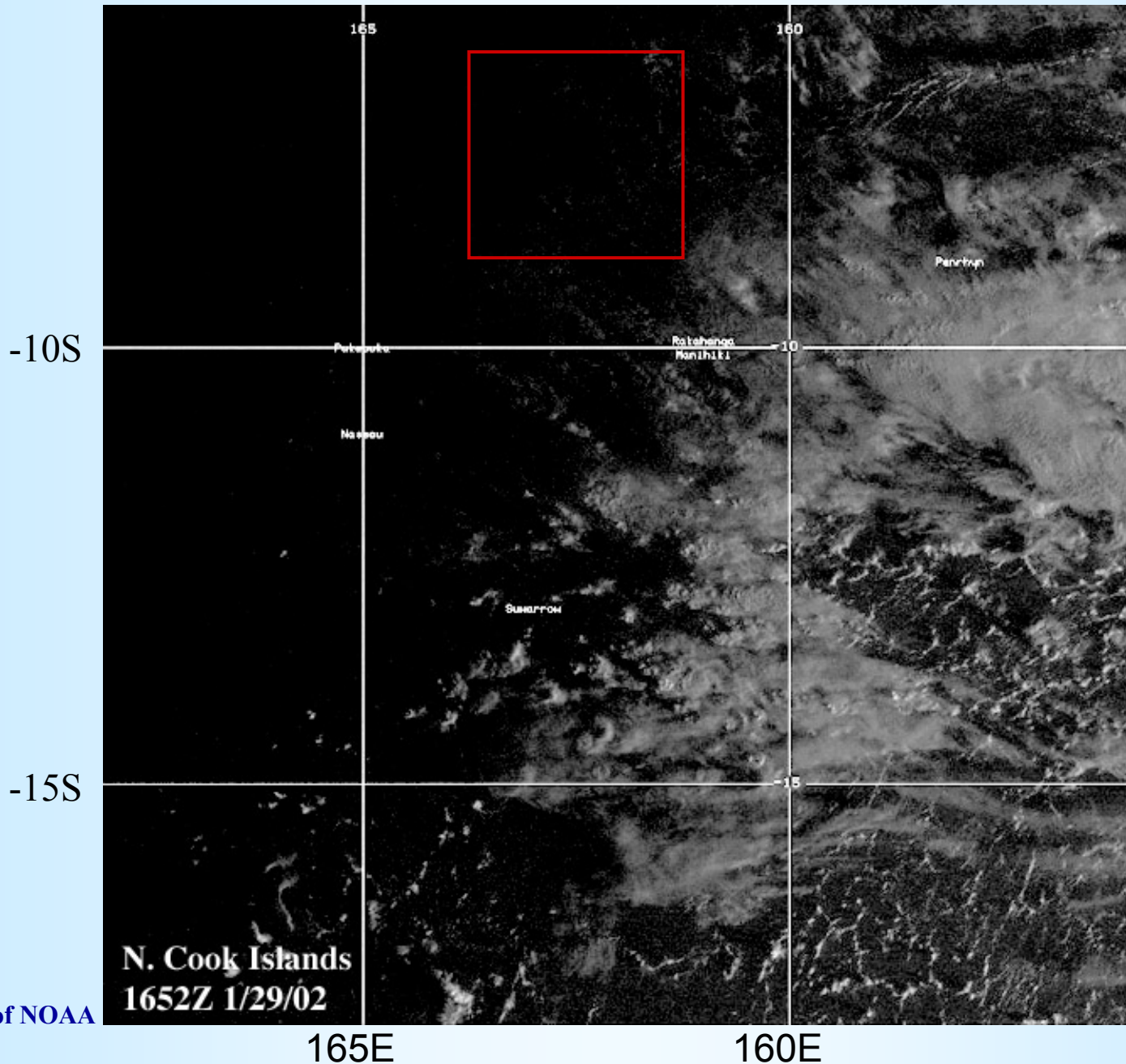
TRMM-based 3B42



- 150-152E, 6.5-8.5S



# Visible image – Western Pacific 1652Z



Courtesy of NOAA



# Approaches to stochastic convective parameterization

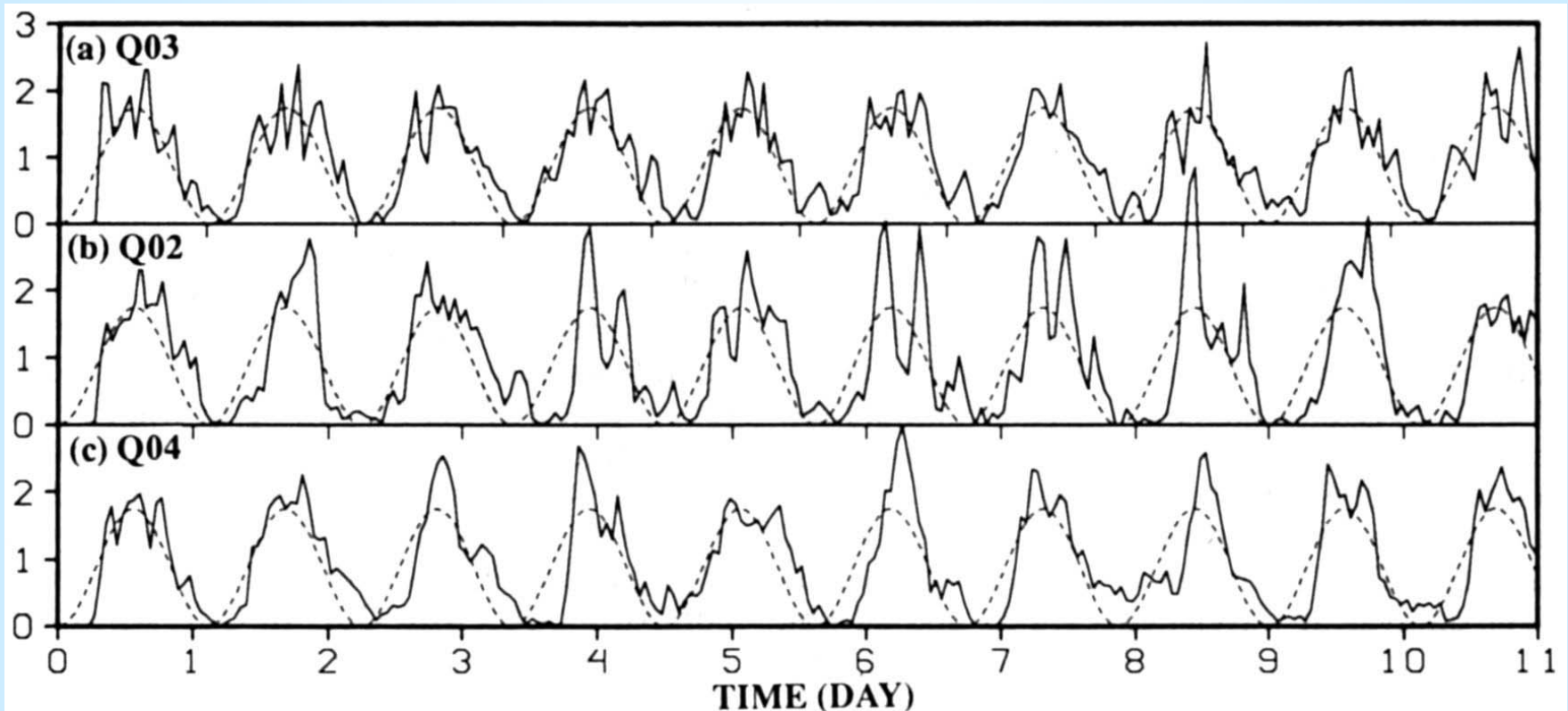
- **Empirical**: Directly control statistics of the overall convective heating; specify distribution as function of model variables, with dependence estimated empirically.
  - Related to hydrology & remote sensing literature **but heating/precipitation has strong feedbacks with large-scale flow.**
  - **Example using “empirical lognormal scheme” in QTCM (Lin & Neelin 2002, JAS).**
- **“Physics-Motivated”**: Stochastic processes introduced within framework of convective parameterization, informed by physics relevant to unresolved variance.
  - **Distribution is a testable outcome of the postulated physics.**
  - **Example using “CAPE scheme” in QTCM (Lin & Neelin 2000, GRL).**
  - **Modifications to existing Zhang-McFarlane scheme in CCM3 (Lin & Neelin 2003, GRL).**
- **Related work: Buizza et al 1999, Khouider and Majda (2001) Mesoscopic CIN; Khairoutdinov and Randall (2001), Grabowski (2001) “Super parameterization”**

# Xu, Arakawa and Krueger 1992

## Cumulus Ensemble Model (2-D)

— Precipitation rates

---- Imposed large-scale forcing (cooling & moistening)



**Experiments: Q03 512 km domain, no shear**  
**Q02 512 km domain, shear**  
**Q04 1024 km domain, shear**

# Temperature $T$ and Moisture $q$ equations

*dry static energy  $s = T + \phi$*

$$(\partial_t + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla)T + \omega \partial_p s - \partial_p R + \partial_p S - \partial_p F_{SH} = Q_c$$

*convective heating*

*vertical velocity*

*Fluxes: longwave radiation (R), solar (S), sensible (SH), latent heat (L)*

---


$$(\partial_t + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla)q + \omega \partial_p q - \partial_p F_L = Q_q$$

*moisture source/sink*

Energy constraint in vertical integral  $\langle \rangle$

$$\langle Q_c \rangle = -\langle Q_q \rangle$$

Moist static energy equation

$$\langle (\partial_t + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla)(T + q) \rangle + \langle \omega \partial_p h \rangle - F_{net} = 0$$

*Transport of moist static energy by divergent flow  $\approx$  (measure of divergence)  $\times$  gross moist stability*

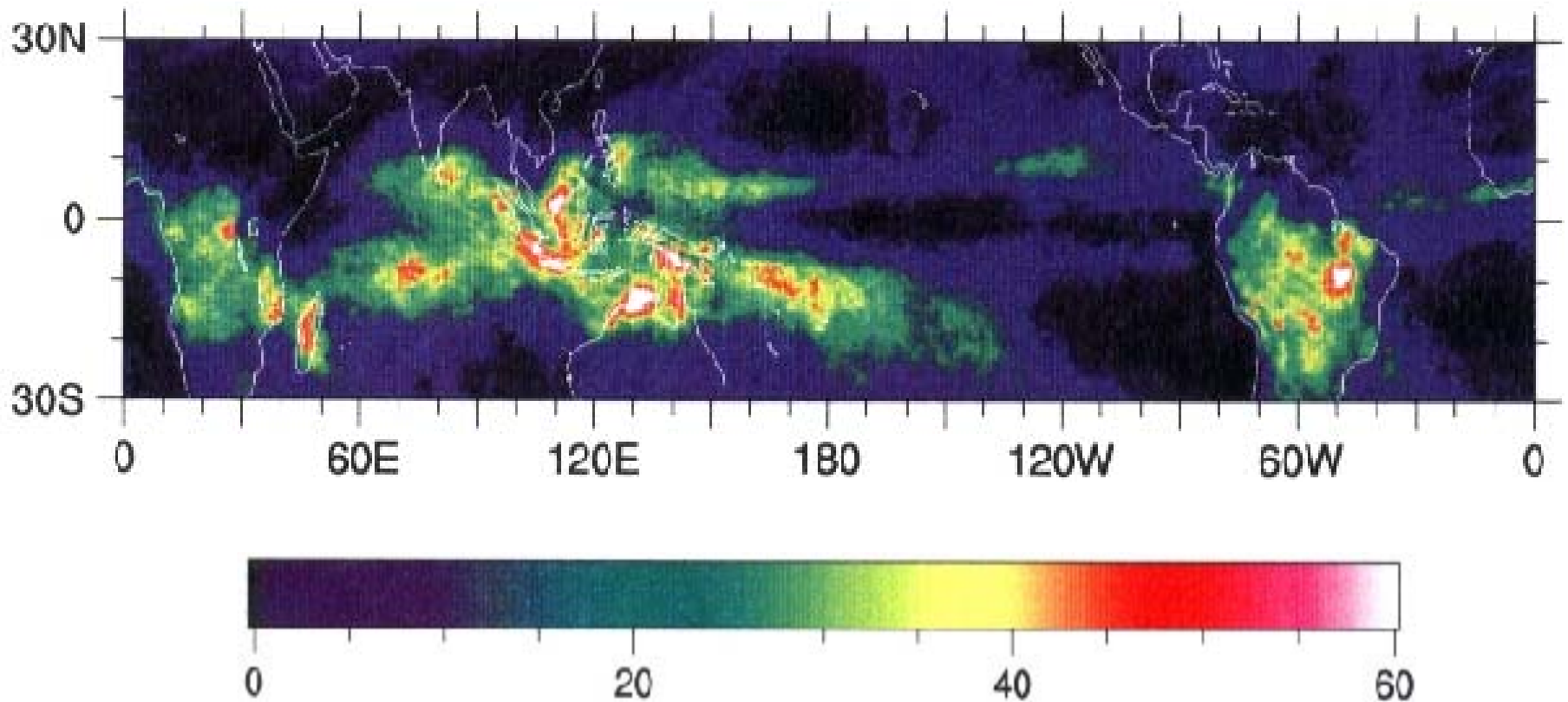
*Net energy flux into column*

*Moist static energy  $h = s + q$*

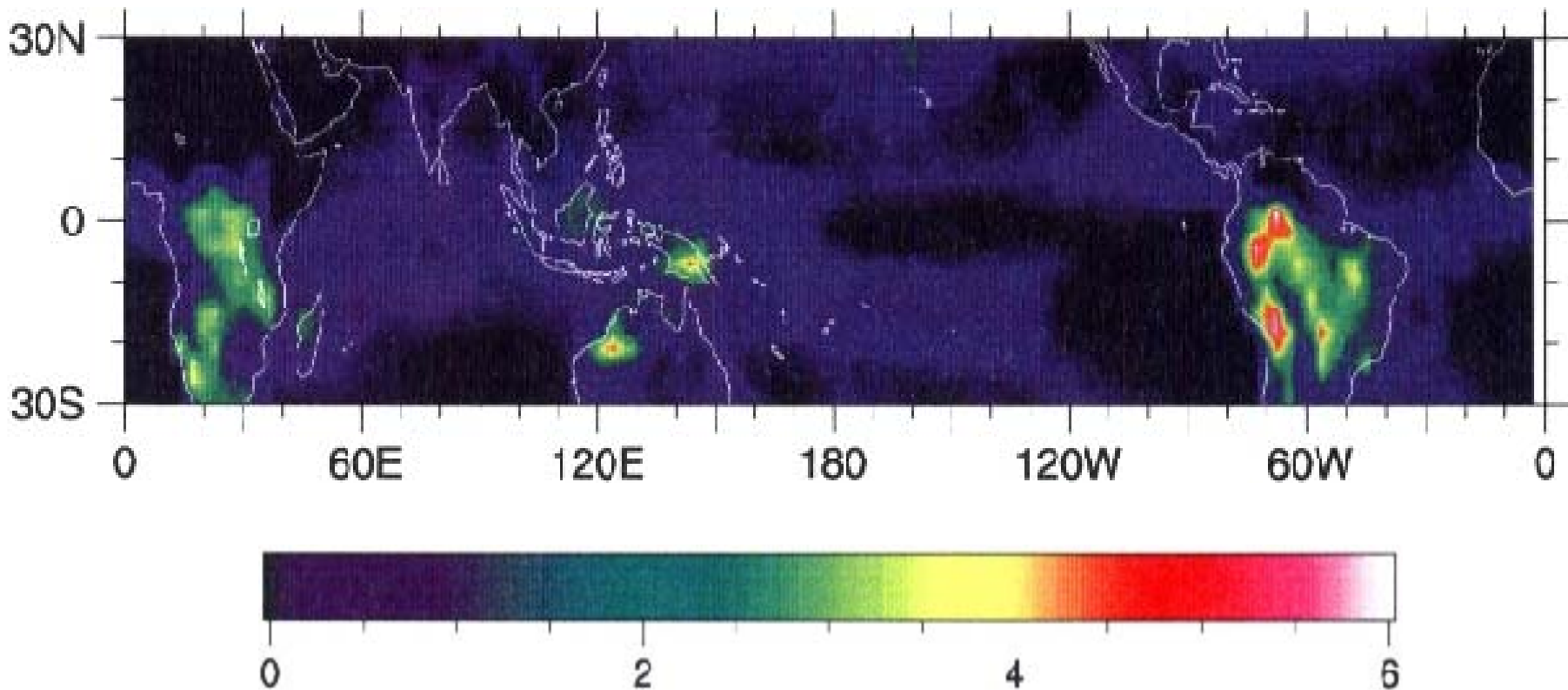




# Winter 1984 observed estimate of deep convective heating (DCH) variance $[(K/day)^2]$ (period 6 hours-2 days)

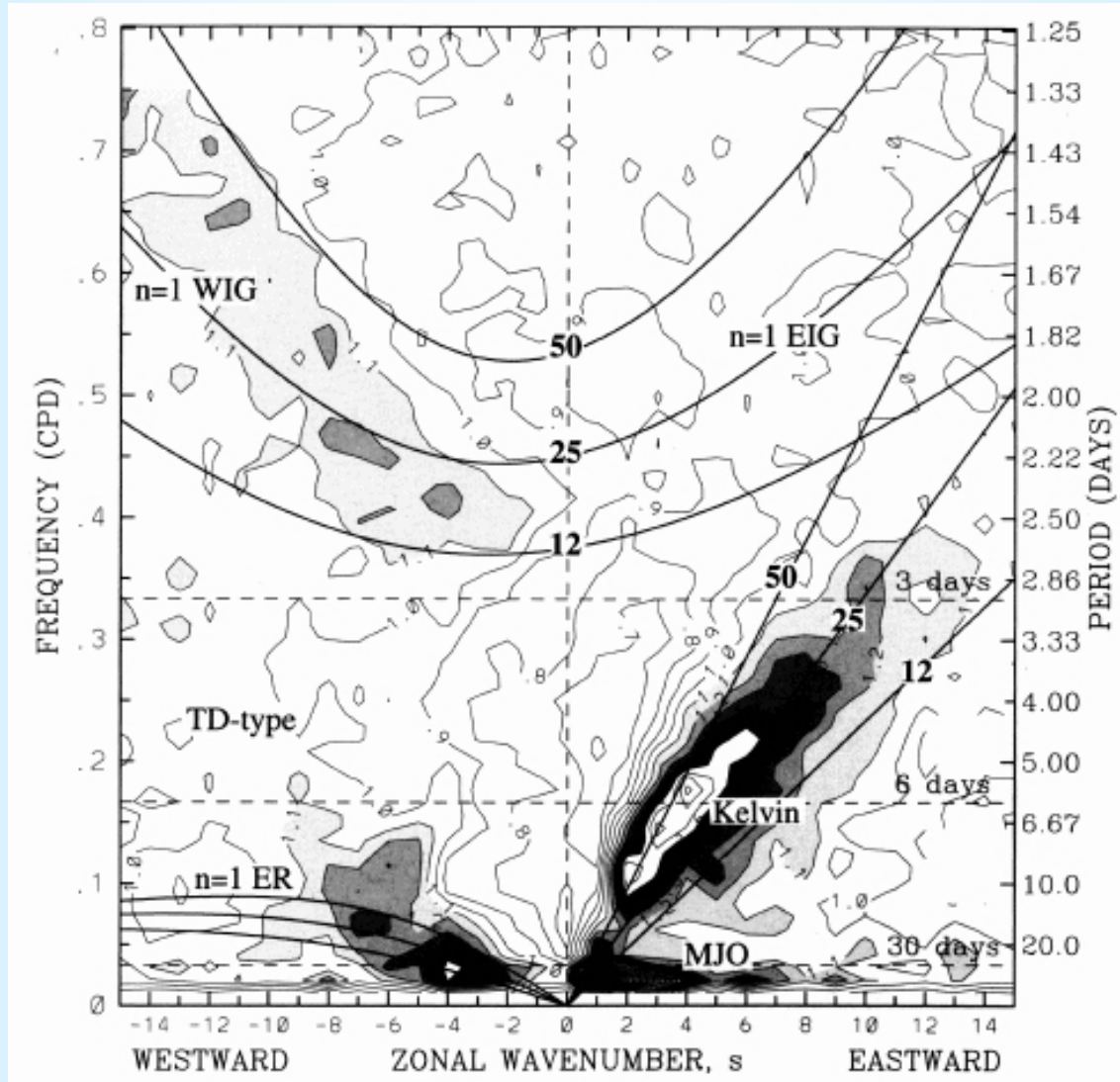


# Winter 1984 Modeled DCH Variance $[(K/day)^2]$ (period 6 hrs-2 days)

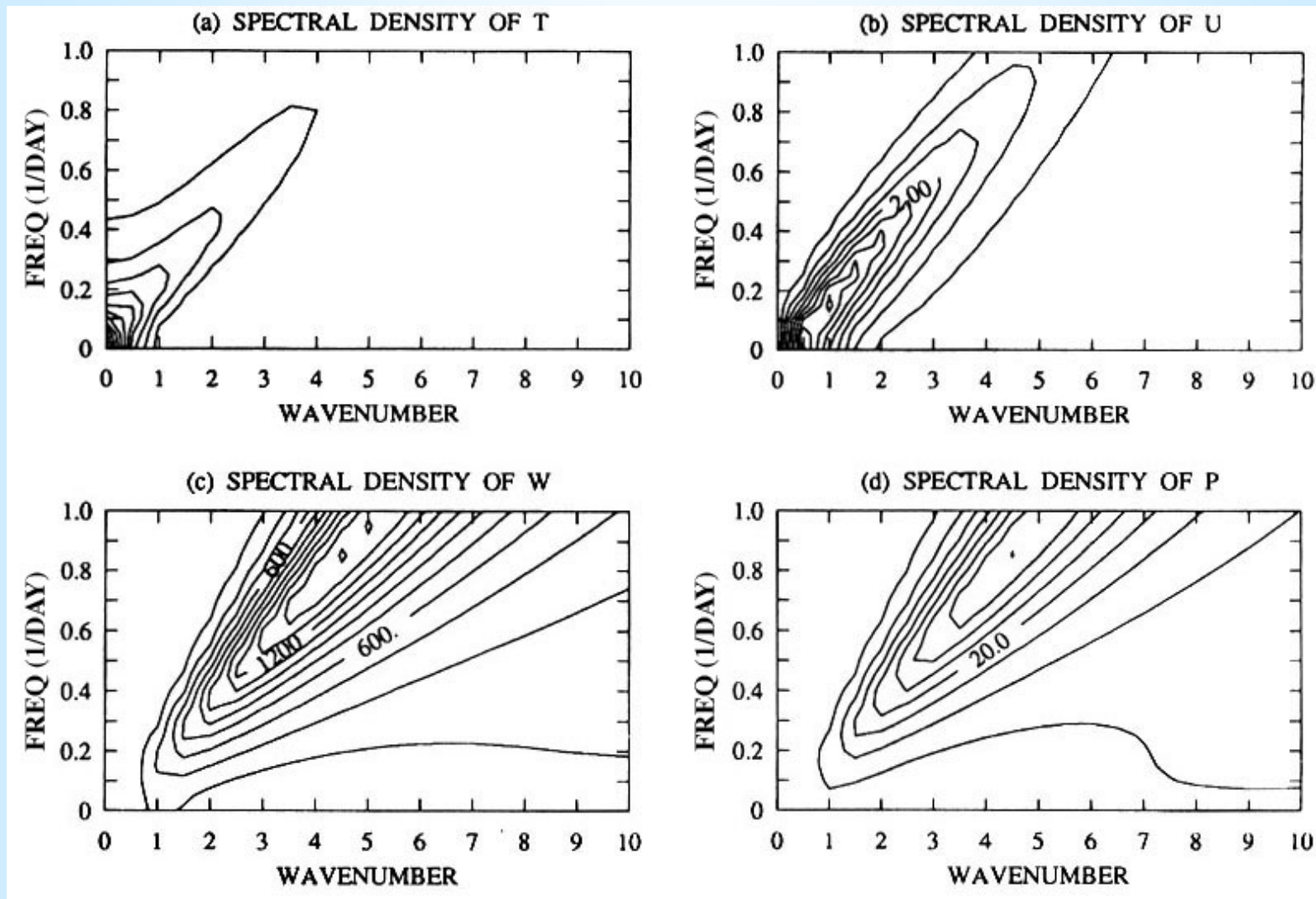


CCM3 using Zhang-McFarlane convective parameterization

# Tropical OLR Spectral Power ÷ Background (Symmetric)



# Stochastic forcing of intraseasonal variance in linearized P.E. model with Betts-Miller convective scheme



Spatially & temporally white noise in thermodynamic Eqn.

# **Quasi-equilibrium Tropical circulation model:**

**Primitive equations projected onto vertical basis functions from convective quasi-equilibrium analytical solutions**

**for Betts-Miller (1986) convective scheme, accurate vertical structure in deep convective regions for low vertical resolution  
baroclinic instability crudely resolved**

**1.5min/yr on a Pentium 4 at 5.6x3.75 degree resolution**

**GCM-like parameters but easier to analyze**

## **Radiation/cloud parameterization:**

**Longwave and shortwave schemes simplified from GCM schemes (Harshvardhan et al. 1987, Fu and Liou 1993)**

**deep convective cloud, CsCc fraction param. on precip**

## **Simple land model:**

**1 soil moisture layer; evapotranspiration with stomatal/root resistance dep. on surface type (e.g., forest, desert, grassland)**

**low heat capacity; Darnell et al 1992 albedo**





# Empirical approach stoch. convective param'n.

- Deterministic Betts-Miller parameterization gives convective heating  $Q_c$  as

$$Q_c^{\text{BM}} \propto \tau_c^{-1} R(C_1)$$

- where  $R(x) = x, x > 0; = 0, x \leq 0$ ,  $\tau_c$  is convective timescale,  $C_1$  a measure of CAPE (Convective Available Potential Energy; depends on moisture and temperature).
- Calculate  $Q_c^{\text{BM}}$ , but then choose  $Q_c$  as a random number from distribution. **Distribution parameterized on  $Q_c^{\text{BM}}$**  (e.g., ensemble mean  $\propto Q_c^{\text{BM}}$ ) so changes with time.
- Vertically integrated heating = precipitation (in  $\text{Wm}^{-2}$ ) so use **precipitation data to estimate.**
- Issues: probability of zero precip., relation of variance and mean, tail, numerical impacts, estimation from data that includes effects of large-scale, ...
- Real issue: **Feedback** from large-scale alters distribution

# “Empirical lognormal” scheme

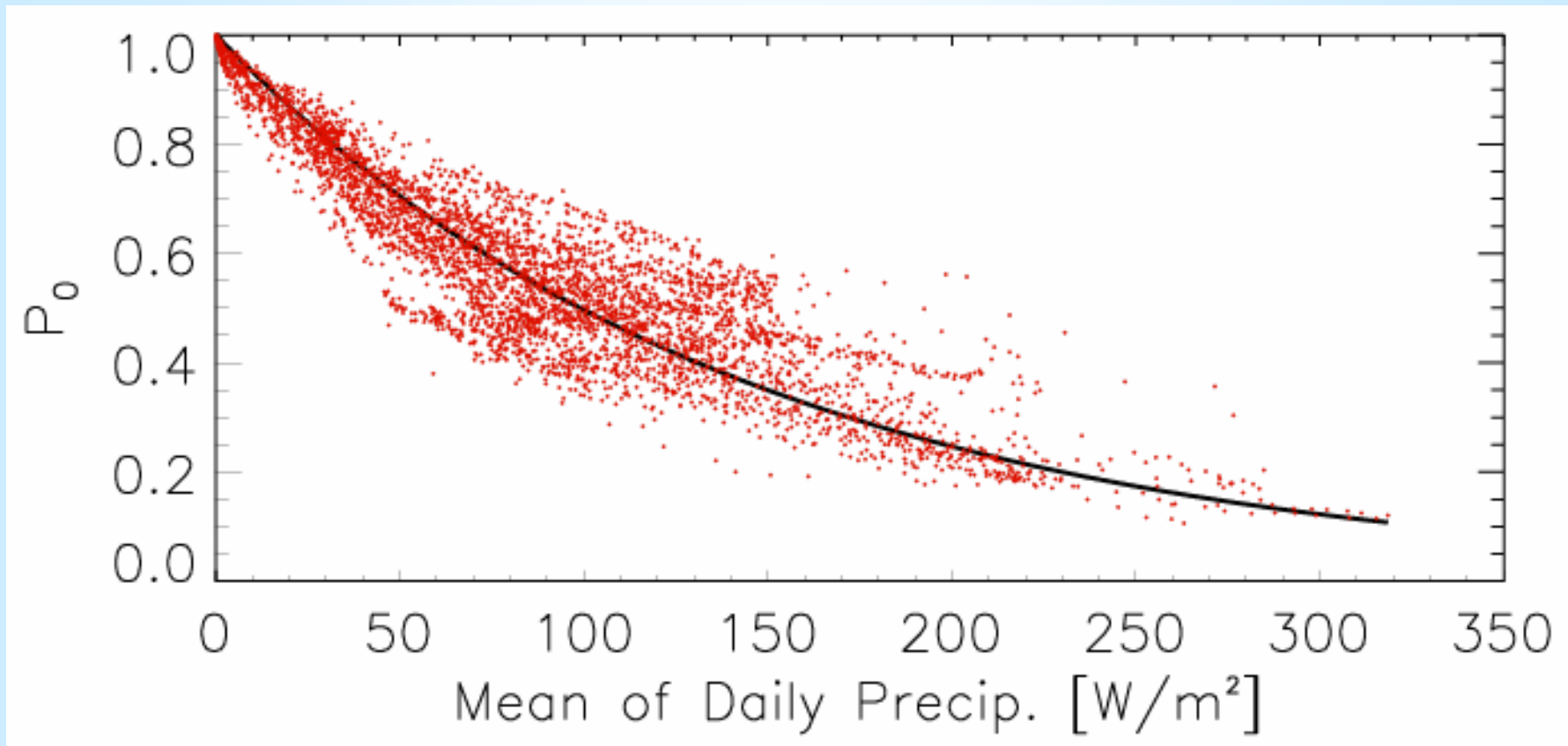
$Q_c = \alpha \xi_t Q_c^{\text{BM}}$  with cap on extreme values (50,000 Wm<sup>-2</sup>!) for numerical reasons.  $\alpha$  for sensitivity testing (rescales  $\tau_c^{-1}$ )

$\xi_t = \varepsilon_\xi \xi_{t-1} + (1 - \varepsilon_\xi) y_t$  with  $\varepsilon_\xi$  chosen such that autocorrelation time  $\tau_\xi \approx 20$  min., 2 hr., 1 day

- $y$  from mixed lognormal after Kedem et al (1990)
- Cumulative distribution function  $P(y > \hat{y}) = P_0 H(\hat{y}) + (1 - P_0) F(\hat{y})$   
 $P_0$  probability of zero precip.,  $H$  Heaviside function
- $F(\hat{y}, \mu, \sigma)$  lognormal
- Parameterize  $P_0 = \exp(-\mu_p Q_c^{\text{BM}})$
- For  $E(y) = 1$ ,  $\mu = \ln(1/(1 - P_0)) - \sigma^2/2$ , and set  $\sigma = 4$  because gives “plausible” variance to mean relation & numerical reasons (Short et al 1993  $\sigma \approx 1$ ; higher  $\sigma$  gives higher variance for same mean and  $P_0$ ).

# Observed daily precipitation: Fraction of zero precip days $P_0$ vs. mean precip $\bar{Q}_c$

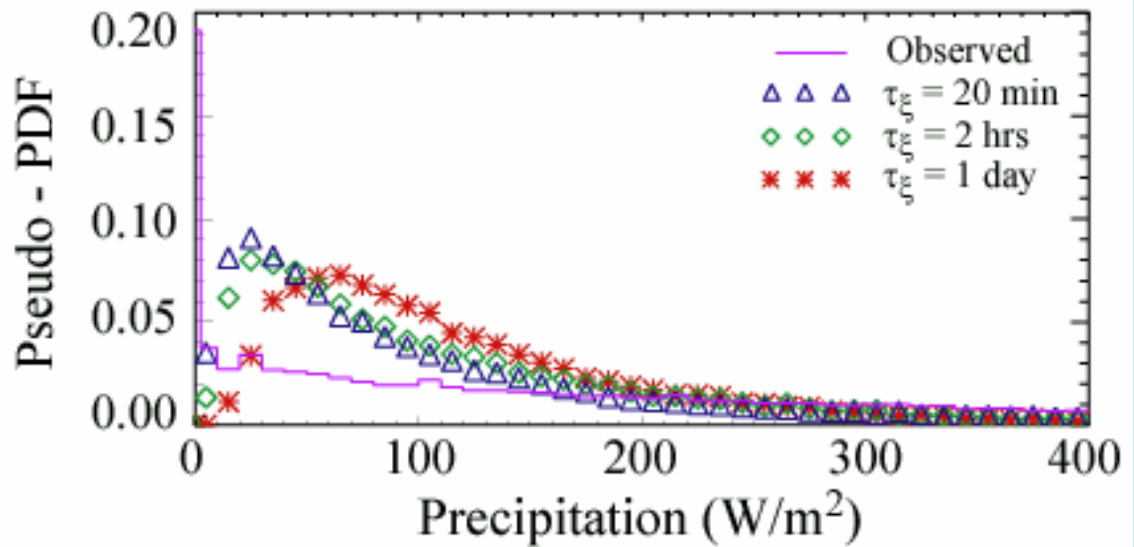
- Fit:  $P_0 = \exp(-\mu_p \bar{Q}_c)$



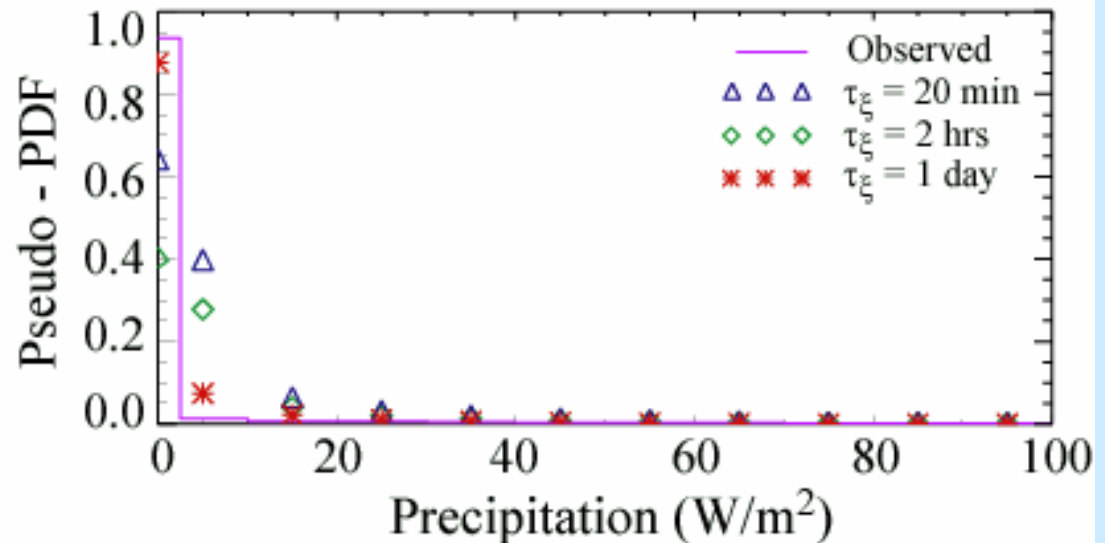
Microwave sounding unit (MSU) ocean region daily data (Jan 1979-Dec 1995).  
Annual mean used as mean.

# PDF of daily precip: Observed vs. QTCM with empirical lognormal stochastic $Q_c$

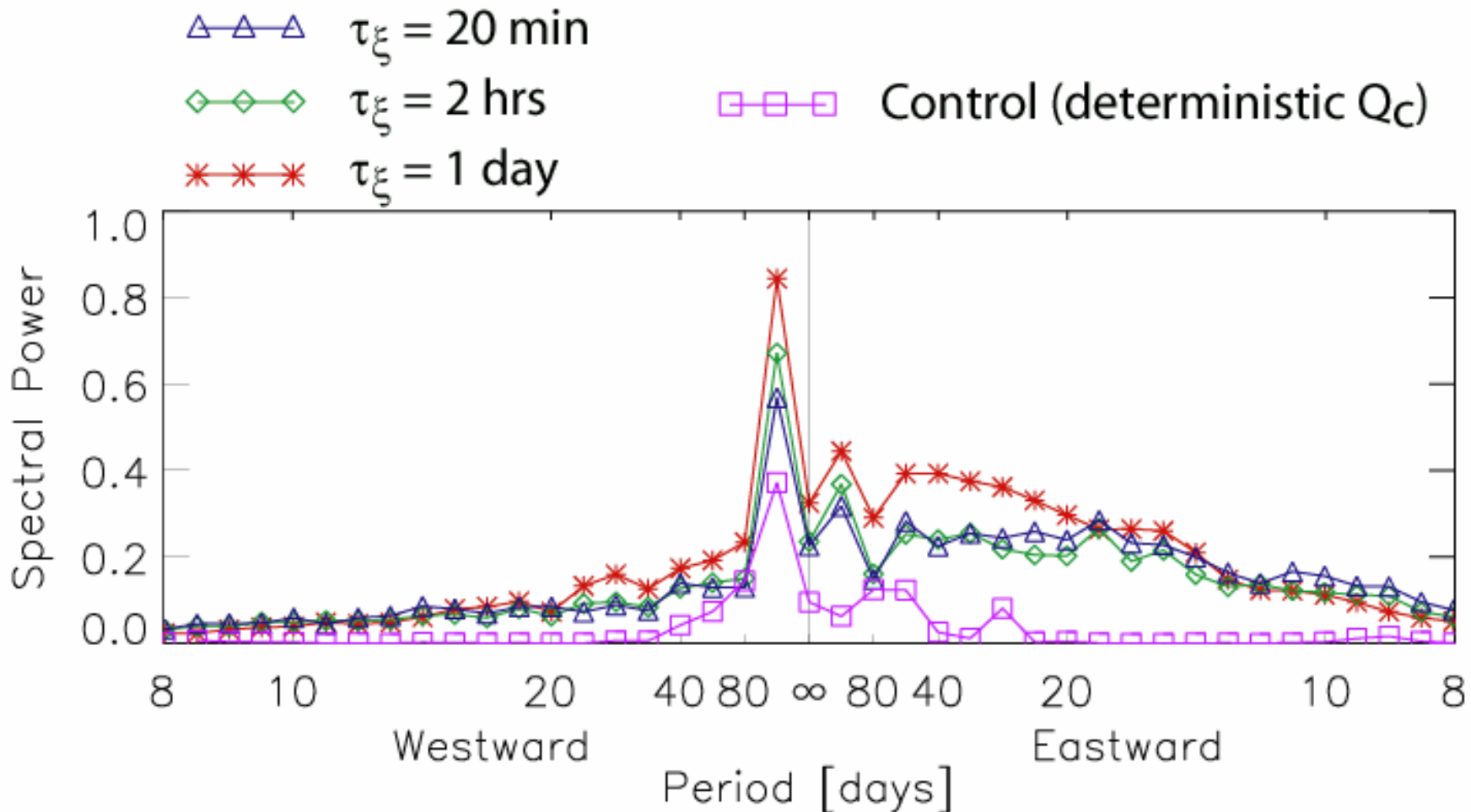
Region of **frequent** convection  
(in equatorial Western Pacific)



Region of **infrequent** convection  
(in tropical Southeastern Pacific)

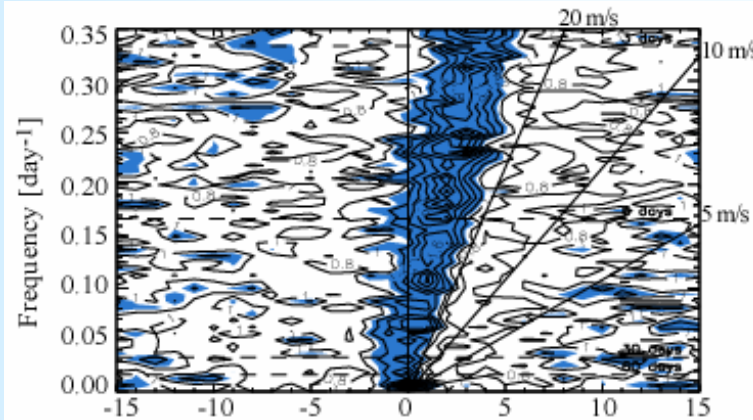


# QTCM with empirical lognormal ( $\alpha = 1$ ) stochastic convective parameterization. Equatorial low-level zonal wind ( $u_{850}$ ) power spectrum for wave number 1



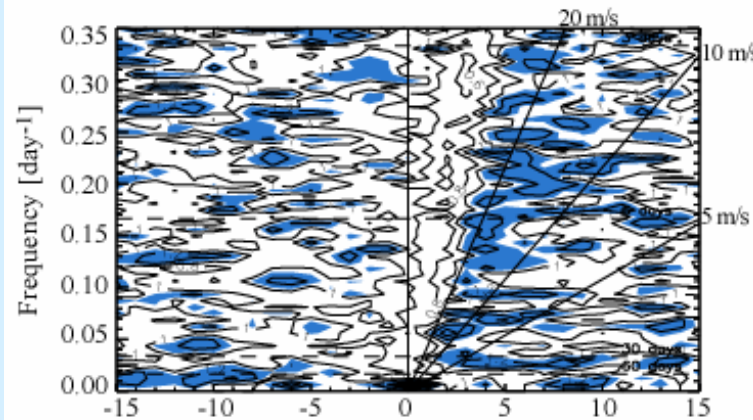


# QTCM OLR PSD ÷ Background (7.5N-7.5S)

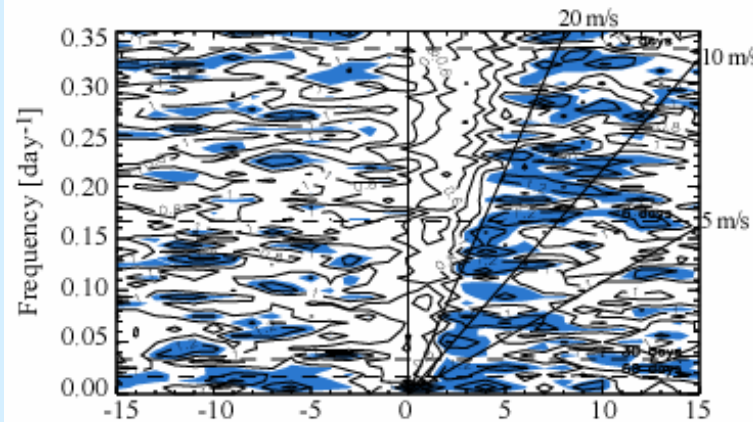


Empirical lognormal  
scheme

$$\tau_{\xi} = 20 \text{ min}$$



$$\tau_{\xi} = 2 \text{ hrs}$$



$$\tau_{\xi} = 1 \text{ day}$$

Analysis following Wheeler  
& Kiladis (1999)

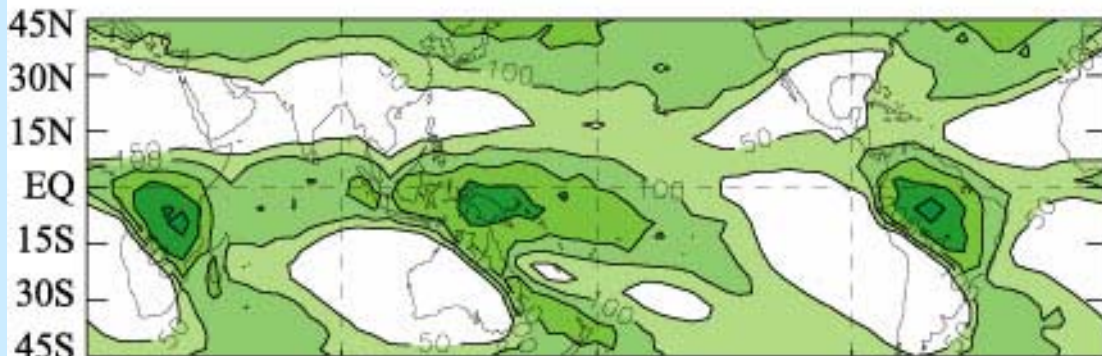
# Large-scale dynamics reduces sensitivity of clim.

$$Q_c = \alpha \xi Q_c^{\text{BM}}$$

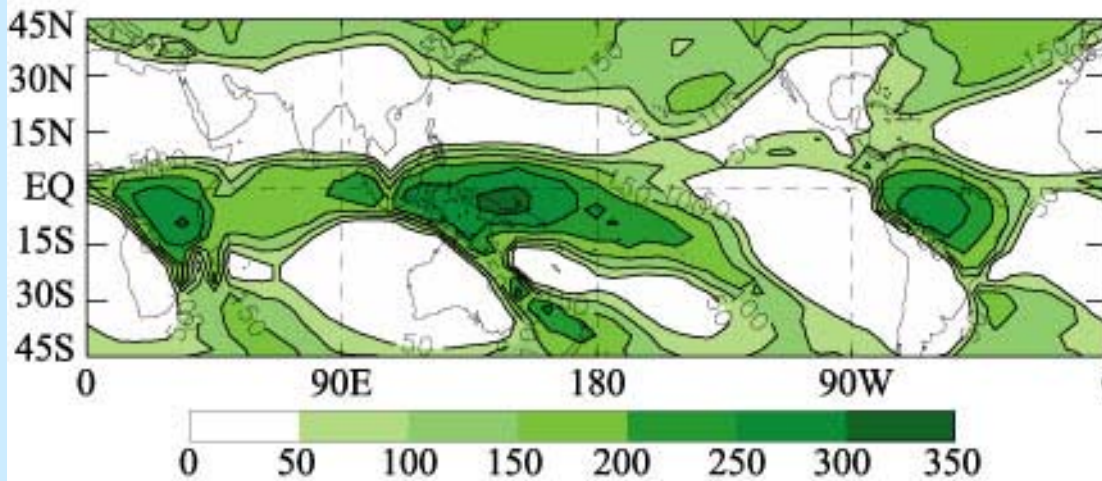
Control



$\alpha = 1$   
(Similar to  
deterministic case  
with  $\tau_c = 2 * 11$ )

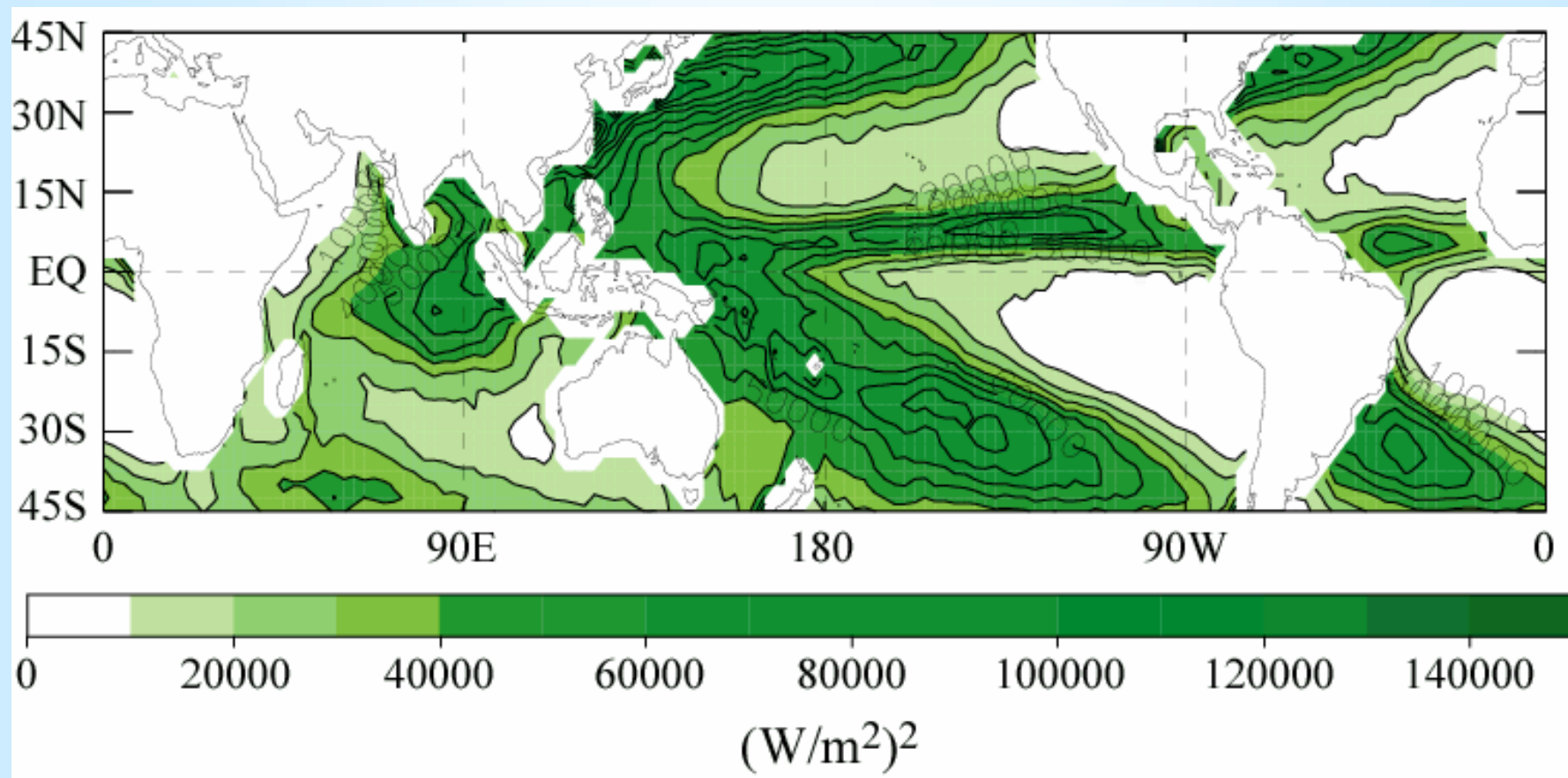


$\alpha = 11$   
(Not a factor of 11  
different)



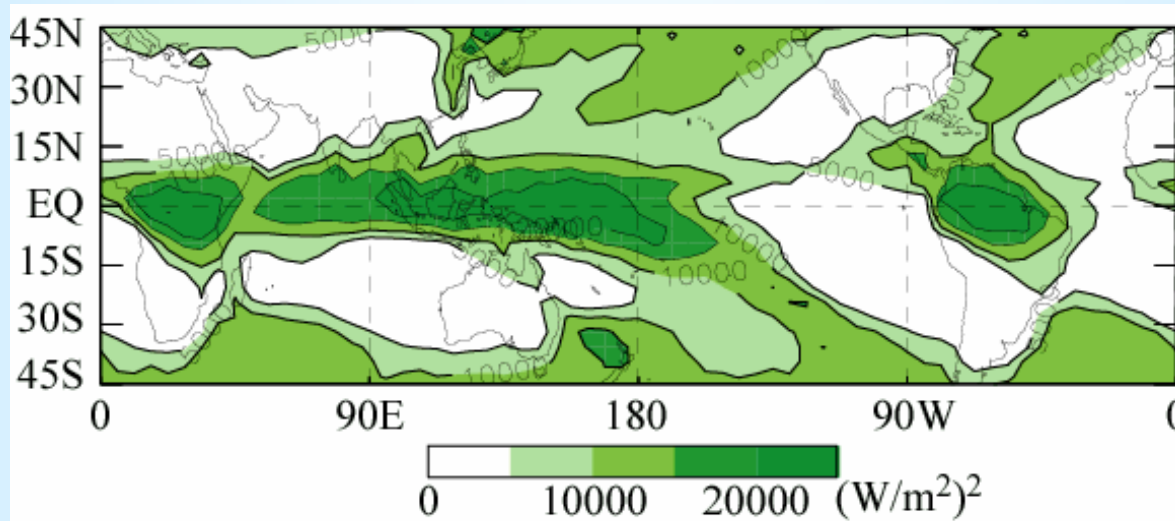
January  
Precipitation

# Variance of daily mean precipitation from observations (MSU)





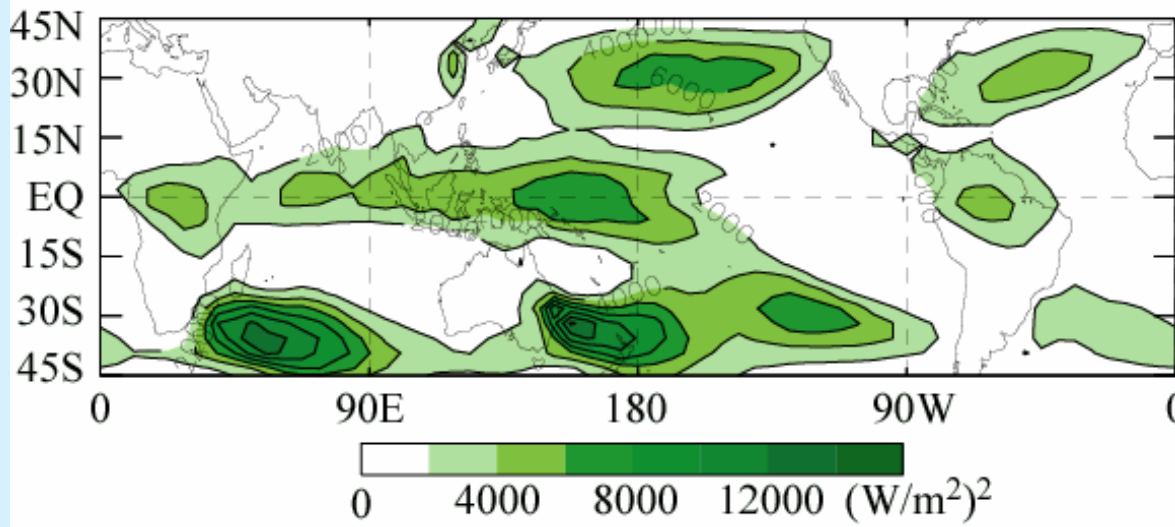
**Model dynamics can increase or decrease precip. variance relative to “no dynamics” case ( $Q_c^{BM}$  from clim. input to stoch. scheme)**



**No dynamics case**

$$\alpha = 11$$

$$\tau_{\xi} = 1 \text{ day}$$



$$\alpha = 11$$

$$\tau_{\xi} = 1 \text{ day}$$

# Physics-motivated approach, example in QTCM

## Stochastic “CAPE scheme”

- **Betts–Miller**

$$Q_c \propto \tau_c^{-1} R(C_1)$$

- $Q_c$  convective heating,  $\tau_c$  time scale
- $C_1$  a measure of CAPE,  $R(x) = x, x > 0; = 0, x \leq 0$

- **Retain physical postulates but assume CAPE Gaussian about mean**

$$Q_c \propto \tau_c^{-1} R(C_1 + \xi)$$

- $\xi_t = \varepsilon_\xi \xi_{t-1} + z_t$

- **Choose  $\varepsilon_\xi$  such that autocorrelation time of CAPE random process  $\tau_\xi = 20 \text{ min}, 2 \text{ hr}, 1 \text{ day}$ .**

- Sensitivity test and corresponds to different physics (convective cells to longer lived mesoscale systems)

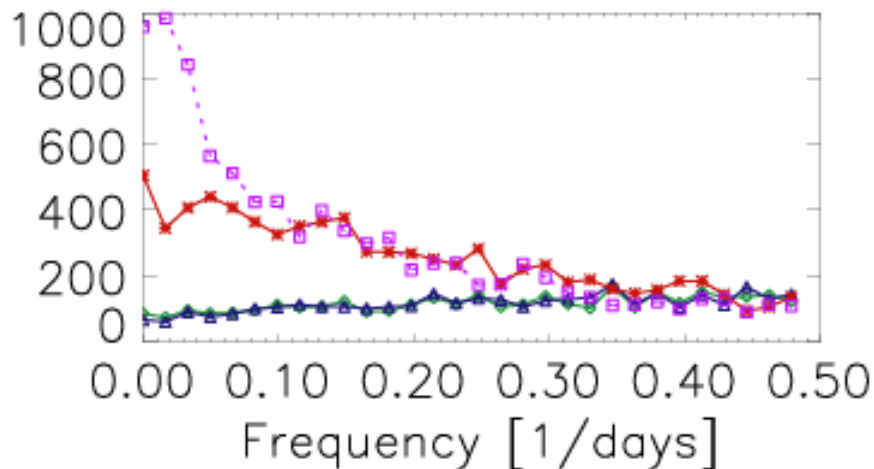
- **$z_t$  Gaussian, zero mean, s. dev.  $\sigma_z$ .**

- set  $\sigma_z$  such that model matches observations in freq band ( $0.4, 0.5 \text{ day}^{-1}$ )

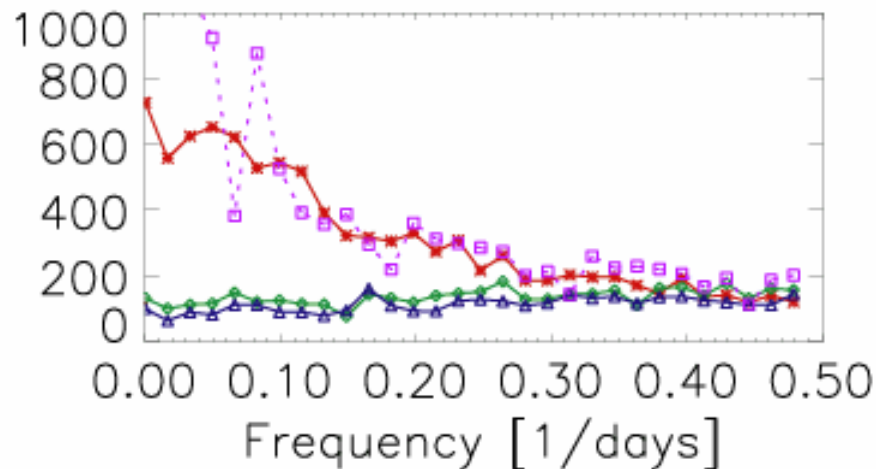


# Observed and model power spectrum of precip at 60E and 180E on the equator

## Mid-Indian Ocean



## Mid-Pacific Ocean



**Observed MSU** - - - - -

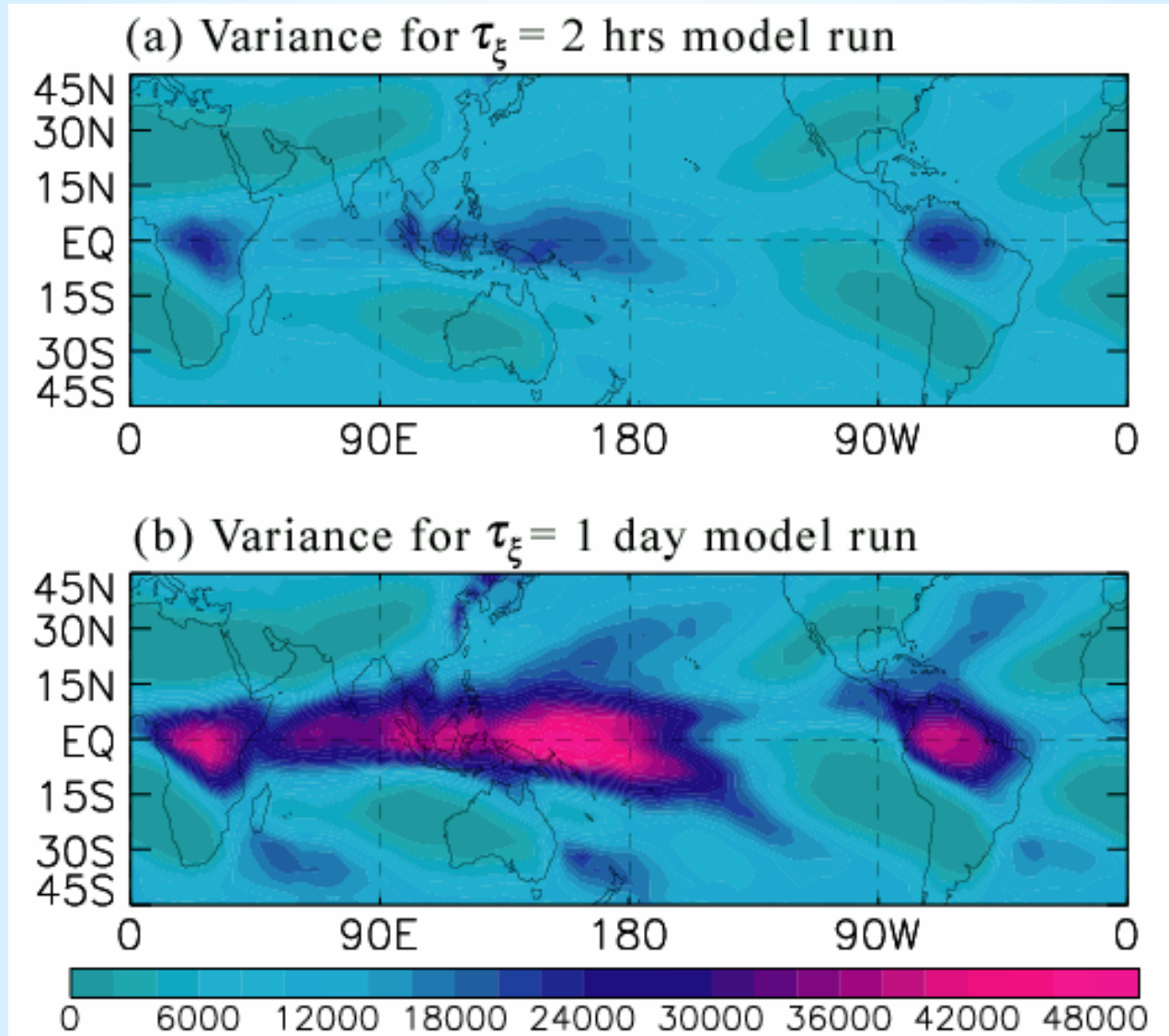
**Model with stochastic precip parameterization:**

$\tau_\xi = 20 \text{ min}$  —————

$\tau_\xi = 2 \text{ hrs}$  —————

$\tau_\xi = 1 \text{ day}$  —————

# Variance of QTCM with stochastic CAPE scheme for two values of $\tau_\xi$

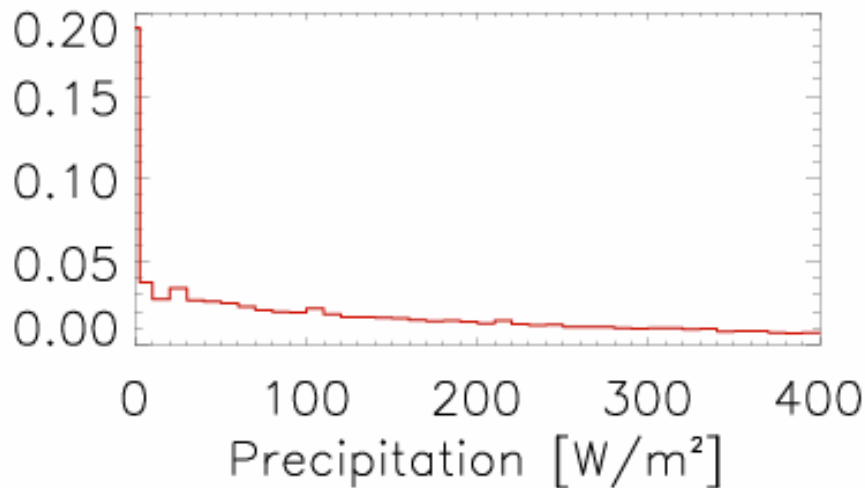


$\sigma_z = 0.8K$

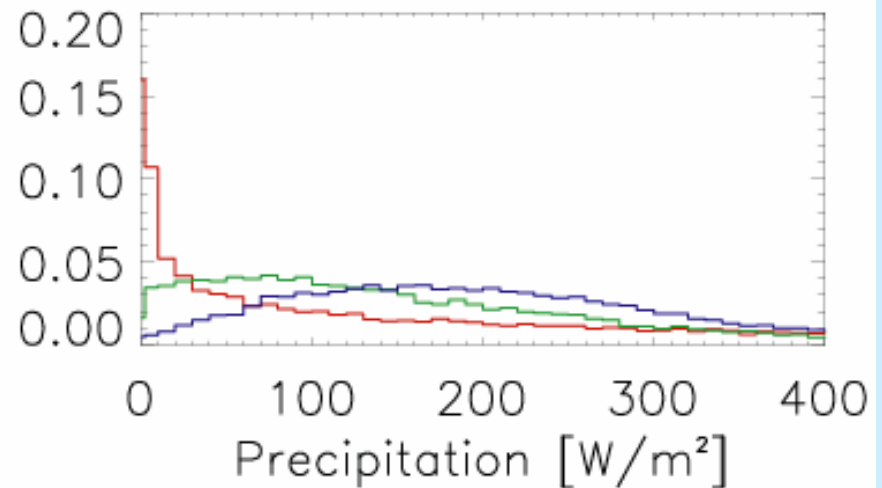
$\sigma_z = 0.1K$

# Probability density function of daily precip (in west Pacific, 5N)

## MSU Observations



## Model runs



**QTCM with CAPE stochastic precip. parameterization:**

$\tau_{\xi} = 20 \text{ min}$  —————

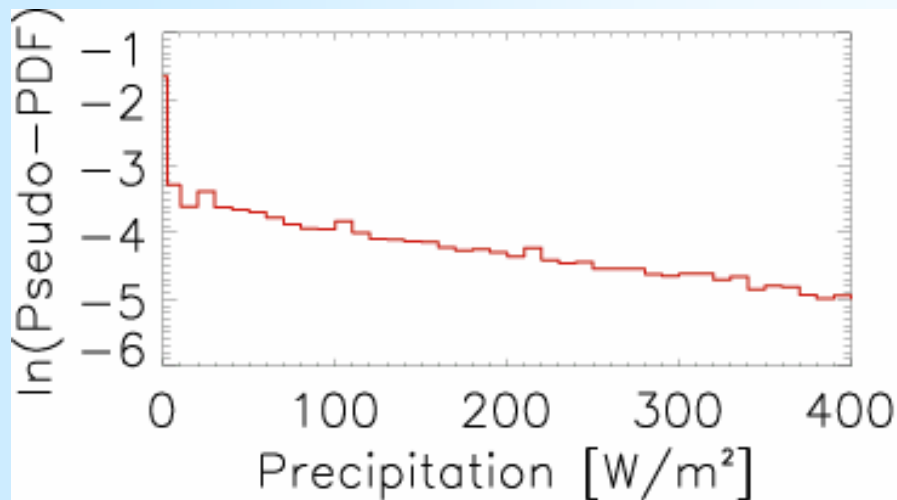
$\tau_{\xi} = 2 \text{ hrs}$  —————

$\tau_{\xi} = 1 \text{ day}$  —————

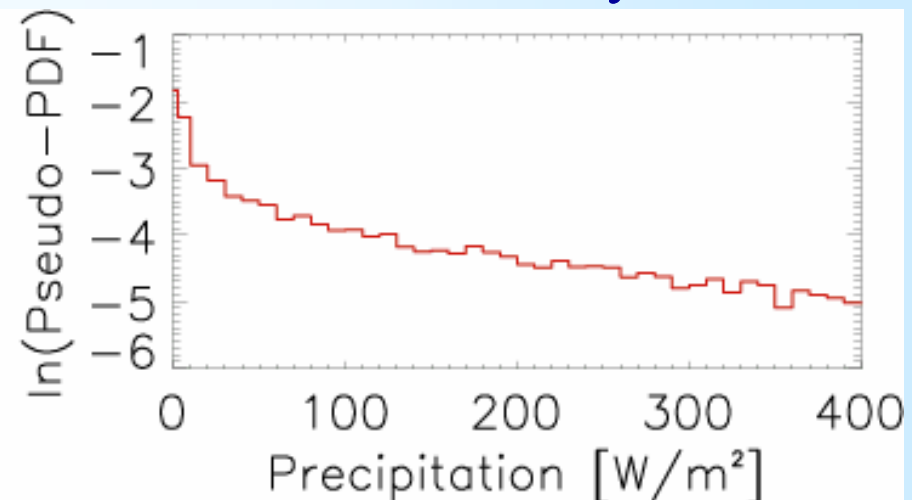
# Probability density function of daily precip (in west Pacific, 5N)

- Log-linear

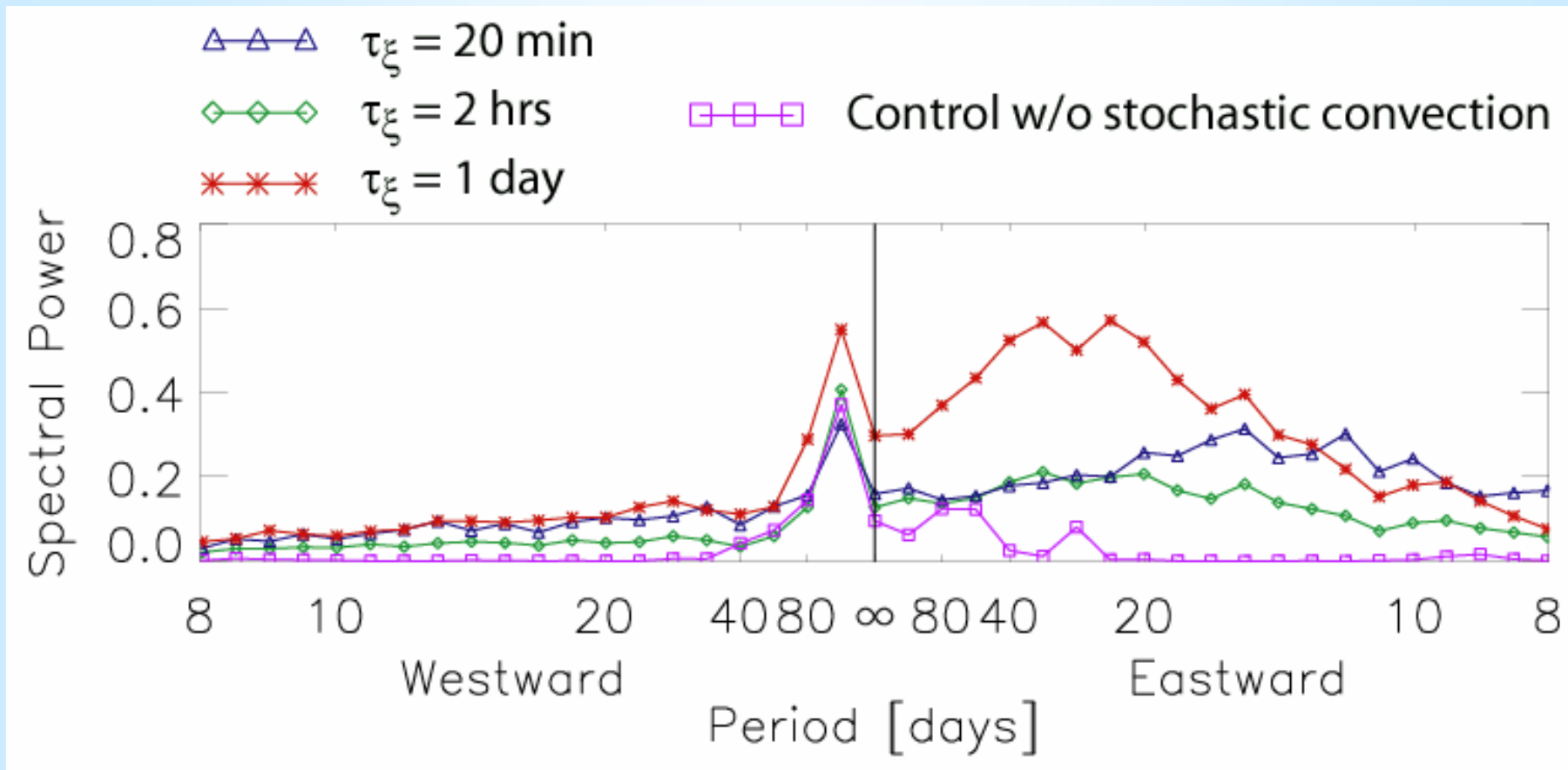
MSU Observations



QTCM with stochastic  
CAPE scheme,  $\tau_{\xi} = 1$  day



# Impact of CAPE stochastic convective parameterization on tropical intraseasonal variability





# Physics-motivated approach example in CCM3

## Stochastic “CAPE- $M_b$ ” scheme

Modify mass flux closure in Zhang - McFarlane (1995) scheme  
Evolution of CAPE,  $A$ , due to large-scale forcing,  $F$

$$\partial_t A_c = -M_b F$$

Closure

$$\partial_t A_c = -\tau^{-1} A$$

$$\Rightarrow M_b = A(\tau F)^{-1} \quad (\text{for } M_b > 0)$$

Stochastic modification

$$M_b = (A + \xi)(\tau F)^{-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow \partial_t A_c = -\tau^{-1}(A + \xi)$$

i.e., same as adding stochastic component to CAPE

But posited as **stochastic effect in cloud base mass flux  $M_b$**

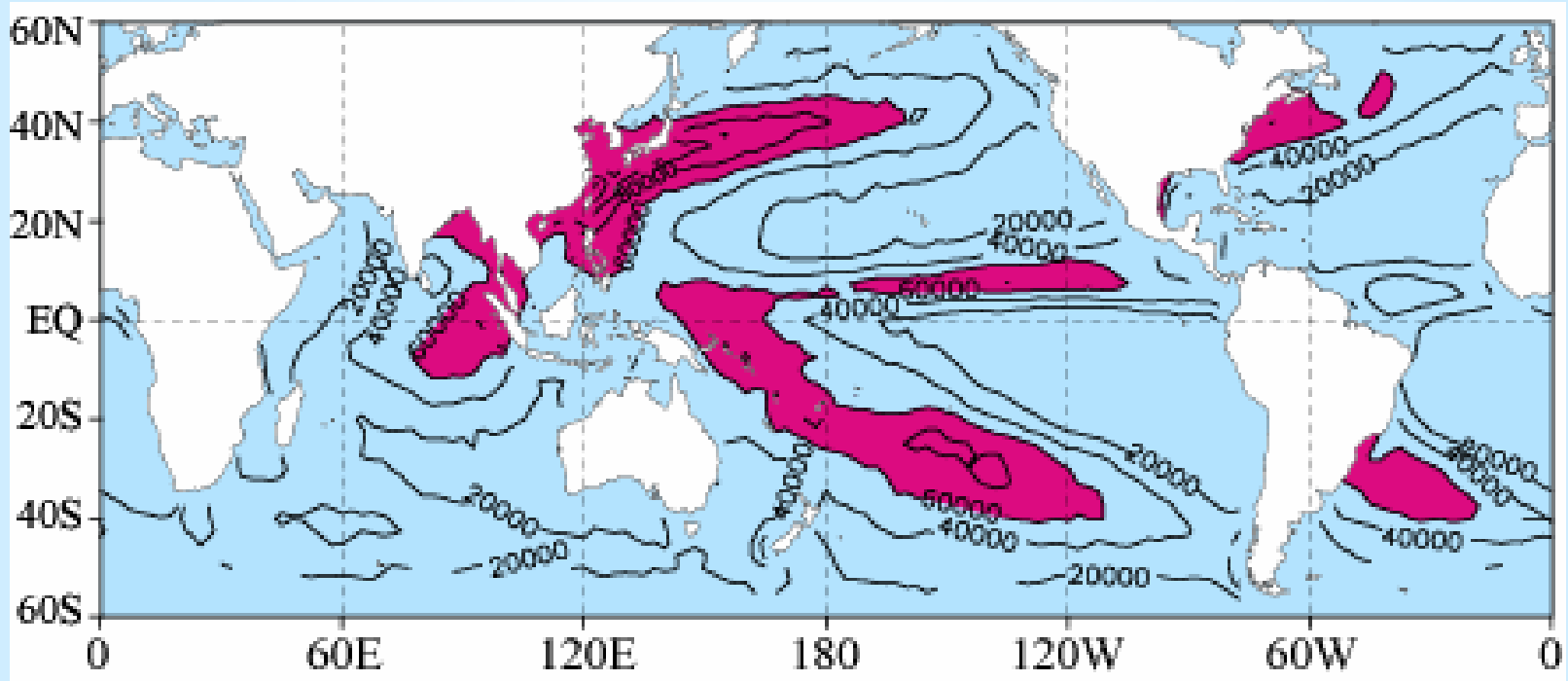
$\xi$  Gaussian, autocorrelation time 1day

# CCM3 Test scheme for stochastic effects in vertical structure of heating (VSH scheme)

$$Q_c(p) = Q_c^{ZM} + (\xi_t - \langle \xi_t \rangle) / \Delta t$$

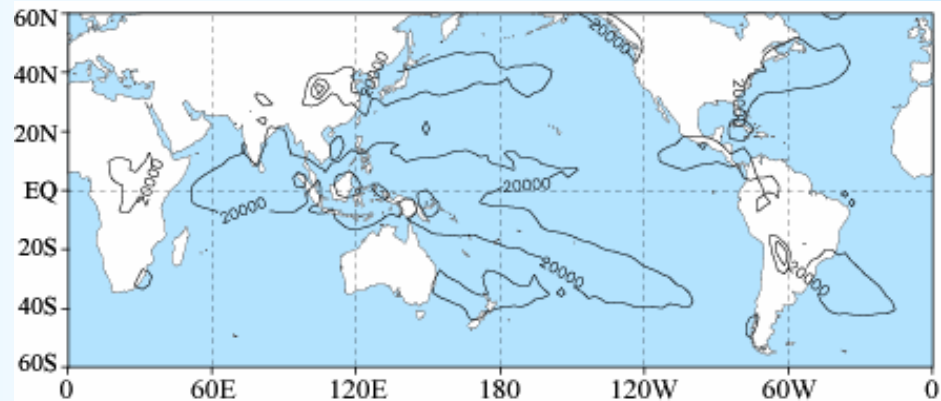
- $\xi_t$  Gaussian, autocorrelation time  $\tau_\xi = 1$  day
- **White in vertical except zero vertical mean**
- Convective heating only
  
- Simple test for potential impacts of variations in vertical structure
- **Contrasts with CAPE- $M_b$**  scheme which has no direct alteration of vertical structure from ZM scheme

# Variance daily precipitation (Microwave Sounder Unit product)

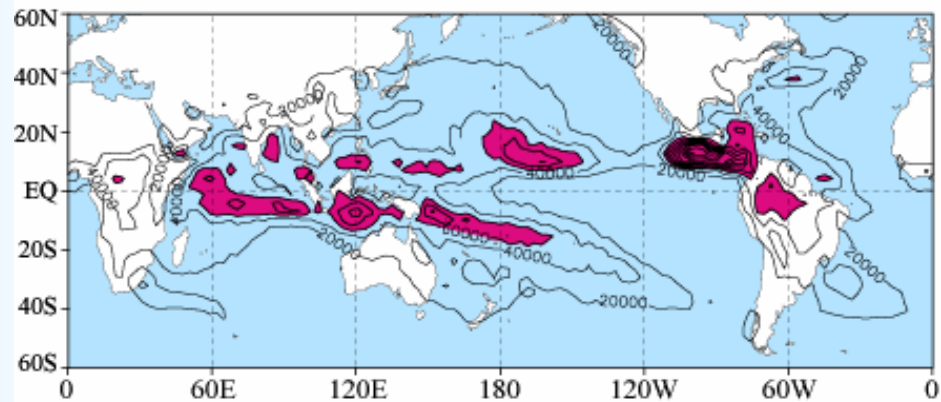


# CCM3 variance of daily precipitation

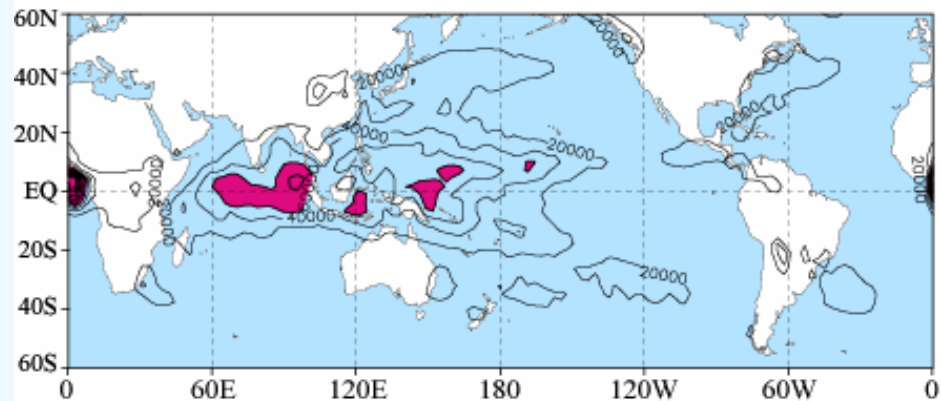
Control run



CAPE- $M_b$  scheme

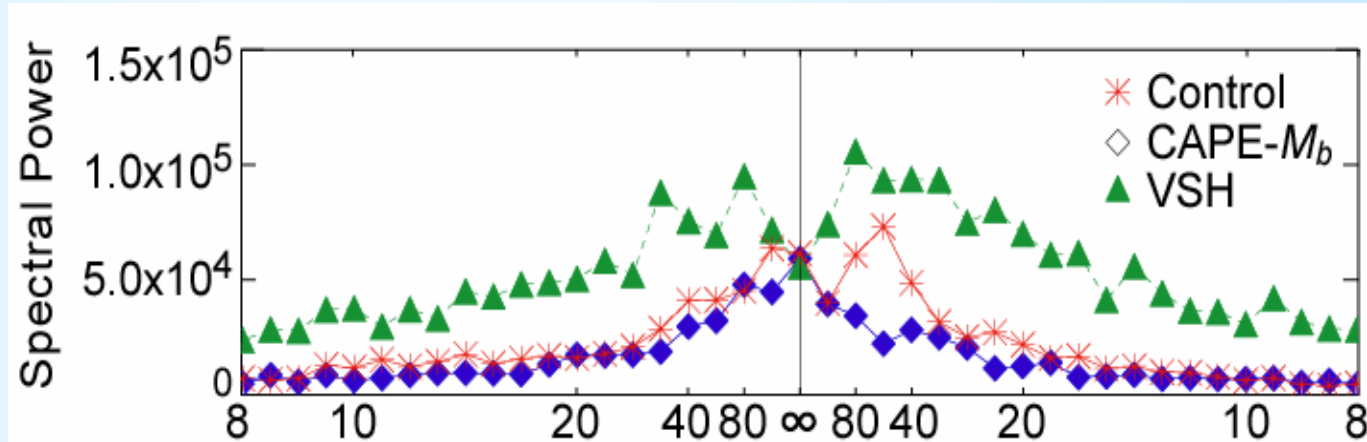


VSH scheme

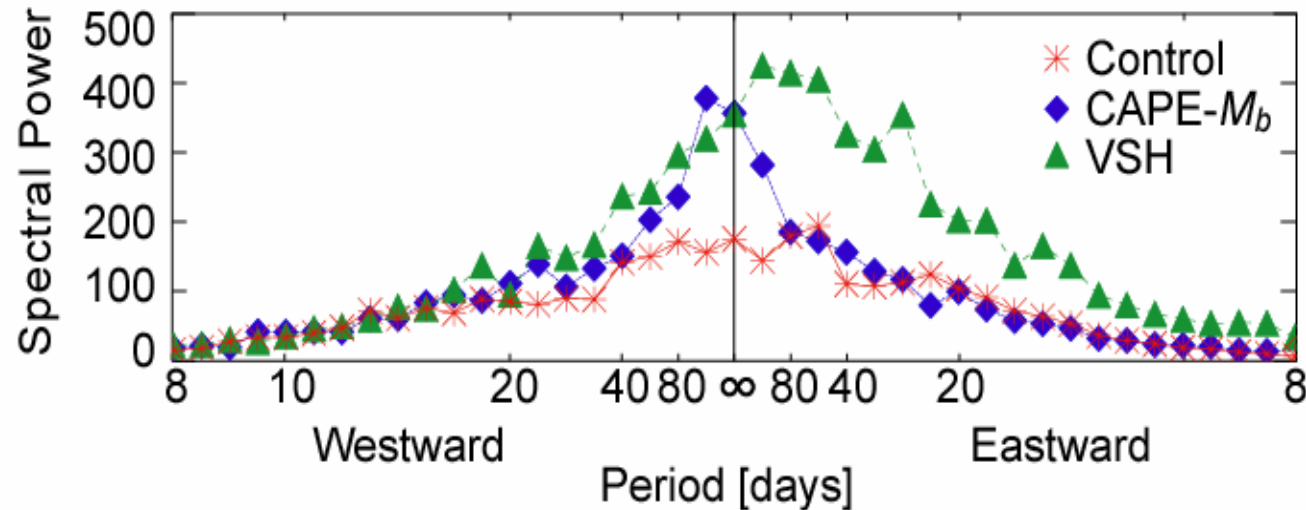


# CCM3 Equatorial wavenumber one spectral power: precipitation and-low level winds

Precipitation anomalies



850 hPa zonal wind anomalies





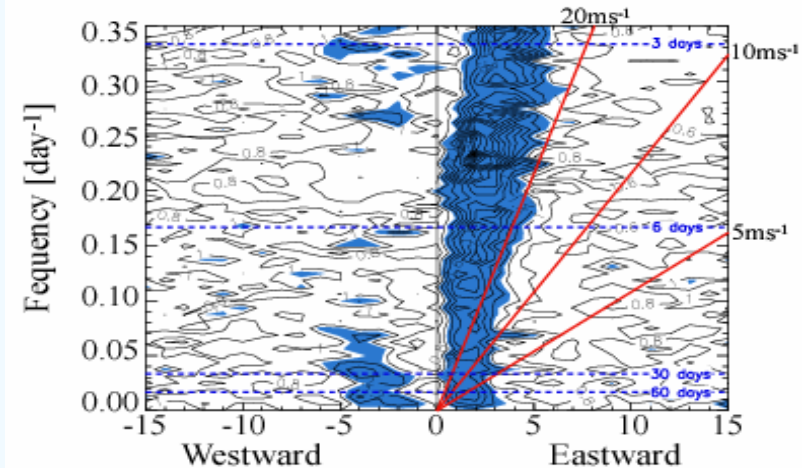
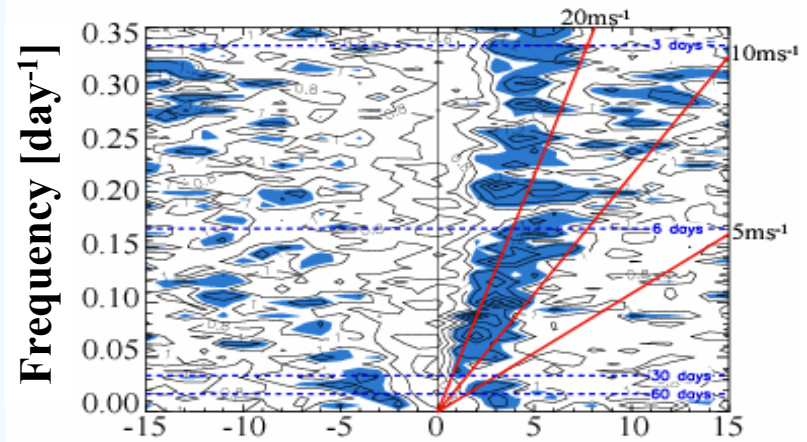
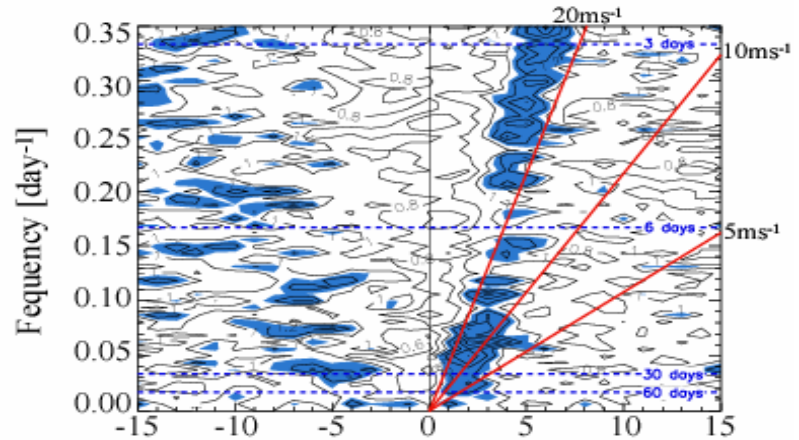
# CCM3 OLR (7.5N-7.5S) Power spectral density $\div$ Background

Control run

CAPE- $M_b$  scheme

VSH scheme

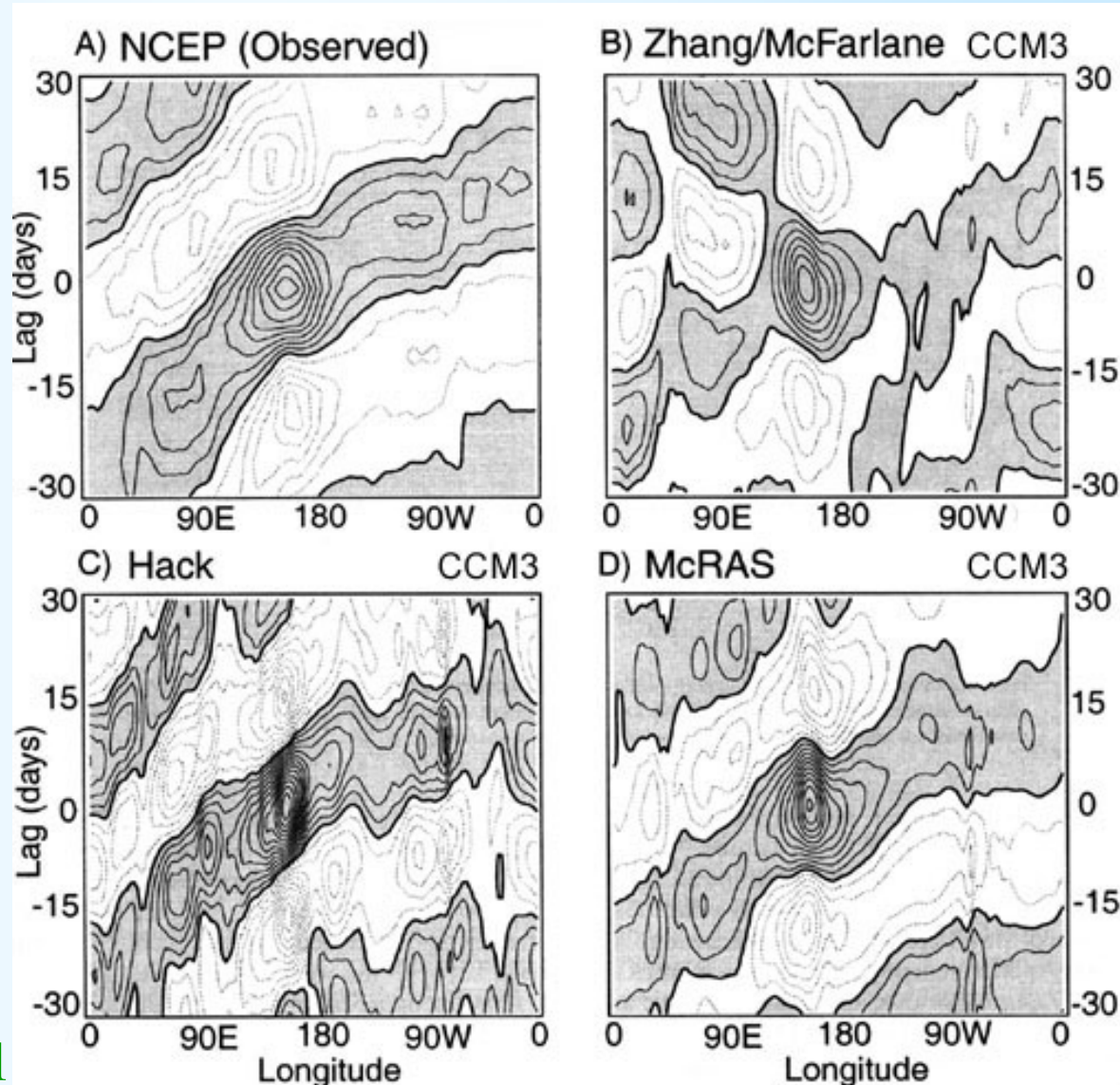
Analysis following  
Wheeler & Kiladis (1999)



Zonal Wavenumber

# Equatorial zonal wind at 850mb ( $u_{850}$ ) regressed on $u_{850}$ avg. near 155E (10S-10N)

NCEP (Dec-May) vs. CCM3 with three deep convective parameterizations (perpetual March)

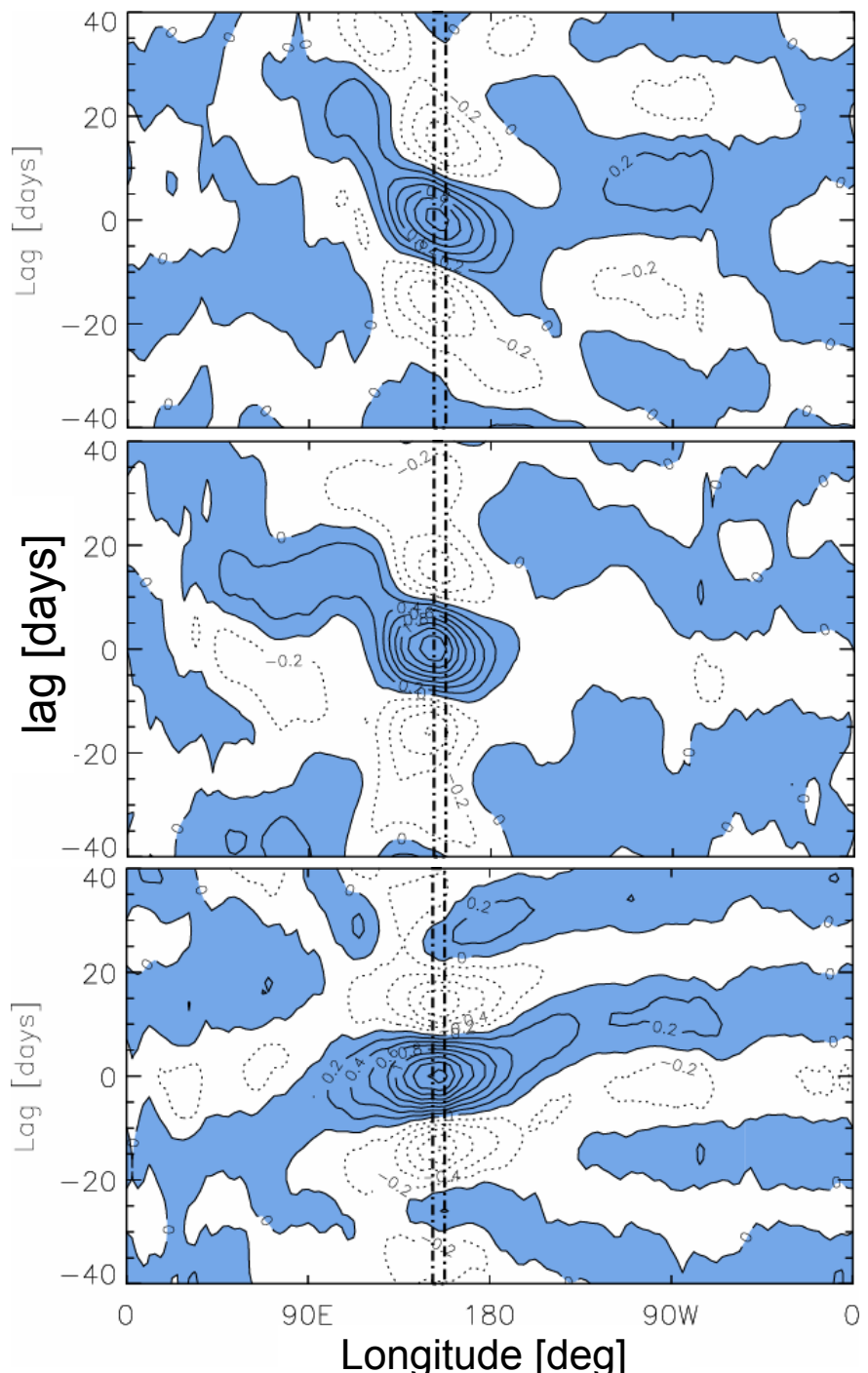


**CCM3 Equatorial zonal  
wind at 850mb ( $u_{850}$ )  
regressed on  $u_{850}$  avg.  
near 155E (10S-10N)**

**Control run**

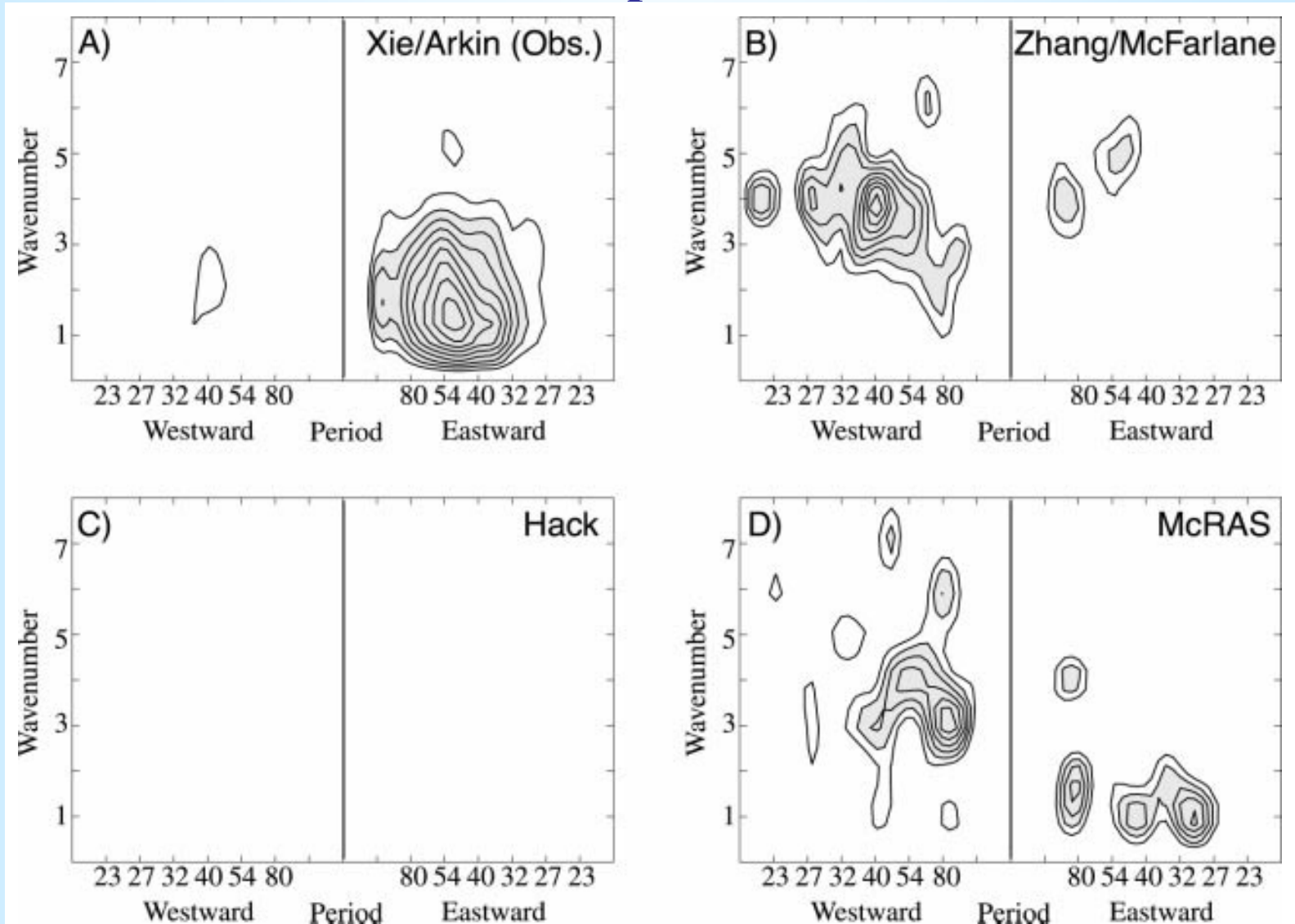
**CAPE- $M_b$  scheme**

**VSH scheme**



# Power spectral density CCM3 vs. obs.

## Three convective parameterizations





# Summary: Empirical approach

- Heating strongly interacts with the large-scale.
  - e.g., dynamics reduces variance relative to “no-dynamics” calculation in some cases and increases it in others
  - **can't estimate heating probability distribution from data and calibrate scheme offline since dynamics so strongly changes properties (favors physics-motivated approach).**
- Large-scale dynamics tends to adjust mean toward a climatology intrinsic to the model ➔ reduced sensitivity to stochastic component; preservation of mean of deterministic scheme not an important property of stochastic scheme.
- **Intraseasonal variability can be strongly impacted by inclusion of stochastic component, but there is parameter sensitivity.**



# Summary: Physics-motivated approach

- Even simple version, e.g., CAPE scheme, can yield encouraging results (incl. probability distribution of heating)--but there is parameter sensitivity.
- Autocorrelation time of the stochastic processes matters.
  - Longer autocorrelation time, on the order of a day, yields more impact and better results for the CAPE scheme example in the QTCM. Suggests importance of mesoscale processes?
- Stoch. forcing arising physically from small-scales can be a significant source of intraseasonal variability--but nature depends strongly on interaction with large-scale
- Variations in vertical structure yield signature more suggestive of dry wave types with precip. by-product

# Where to go....

- modify Relaxed Arakawa-Schubert but including updraft history--will this give physical basis to time autocorrelation and vertical variation of heating?
- evaluate buoyancy decay closure vs. “goes ‘til it can’t”
- impacts on transports, strat-trop, chemistry,...?
- “convective entities”: e.g., randomly initiated simplified model of mesoscale system within grid cell?

**Percent of TRMM precip. from mesoscale convective systems**

Nesbitt et al., 2002

