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Enhanced persistence of equatorial waves via convergence coupling in the stochastic multicloud model --Manuscript Draft--

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Abstract:	<p>Recent observational and theoretical studies show a systematic relationship between tropical moist convection and measures related to large-scale convergence. It has been suggested that cloud fields in the column stochastic multicloud model compare better with observations when using predictors related to convergence rather than moist energetics (e.g. CAPE) \cite{Peters13}. Here, this work is extended to a fully prognostic multicloud model. A non-local convergence coupled formulation of the stochastic multicloud model is implemented without wind-dependent surface heat fluxes. In a series of idealized Walker cell simulations, this convergence coupling enhances the persistence of Kelvin wave analogs in dry regions of the domain while leaving the dynamics in moist regions largely unaltered. This effect is robust for changes in the amplitude of the imposed SST gradient. In essence, this method provides a \emph{soft} convergence coupling that allows for increased interaction between cumulus convection and the large-scale circulation, but does not suffer from the deleterious wave-CISK behavior of the Kuo-type moisture-convergence closures.</p>
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1 **Enhanced persistence of equatorial waves via convergence coupling in the**
2 **stochastic multcloud model**

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ABSTRACT

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11 between tropical moist convection and measures related to large-scale con-
12 vergence. It has been suggested that cloud fields in the column stochastic
13 multcloud model compare better with observations when using predictors re-
14 lated to convergence rather than moist energetics (e.g. CAPE) (Peters et al.
15 2013). Here, this work is extended to a fully prognostic multcloud model.
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17 model is implemented without wind-dependent surface heat fluxes. In a se-
18 ries of idealized Walker cell simulations, this convergence coupling enhances
19 the persistence of Kelvin wave analogs in dry regions of the domain while
20 leaving the dynamics in moist regions largely unaltered. This effect is ro-
21 bust for changes in the amplitude of the imposed SST gradient. In essence,
22 this method provides a *soft* convergence coupling that allows for increased
23 interaction between cumulus convection and the large-scale circulation, but
24 does not suffer from the deleterious wave-CISK behavior of the Kuo-type
25 moisture-convergence closures.

26 **1. Introduction**

27 Atmospheric dynamics in the tropics are characterized by the predominance of organized con-
28 vection on a wide range of scales, spanning from mesoscale systems to synoptic and planetary-
29 scale convectively coupled waves such as Kelvin waves and the Madden Julian oscillation (MJO)
30 (Nakazawa 1974; Hendon and Liebmann 1994; Wheeler and Kiladis 1999). Despite continued
31 efforts by the climate community, present coarse resolution General Circulation Models (GCMs)
32 poorly represent variability associated with tropical convection (Slingo et al. 1996; Moncrieff and
33 Klinker 1997; Scinocca and McFarlane 2004; Lau and Waliser 2005; Zhang 2005). One of the
34 main sources of error in these models arises from deficiencies in the treatment of cumulus con-
35 vection (Moncrieff and Klinker 1997; Lin et al. 2006), which has to be parameterized in coarse
36 resolution GCMs. However, marked improvement have been made in a few GCM simulations
37 recently (Khouider et al. 2011; Del Genio et al. 2012; Crueger et al. 2013; Deng et al. 2014;
38 Ajayamohan et al. 2013, 2014). Given the importance of the tropics for climate prediction and nu-
39 merical weather prediction (NWP), the search for new strategies for parameterizing the unresolved
40 effects of tropical convection has been a key focus of researchers during the last few decades.

41 Several methods have been developed to address the multiscale nature of the problem. Cloud-
42 resolving models (CRM) on fine computational grids as well as high-resolution numerical weather
43 prediction (NWP) models with improved convection parameterizations have succeeded in repre-
44 senting some aspects of organized convection (ECMWF 2003; Moncrieff et al. 2007; Slawinska
45 et al. 2014b). In addition, superparameterization (SP) methods (Grabowski and Smolarkiewicz
46 1999; Grabowski 2001, 2004; Randall et al. 2003; Majda 2007) and sparse space-time SP (Xing
47 et al. 2009; Slawinska et al. 2014a) use a cloud resolving model in each column of a large-scale
48 GCM to explicitly represent small scale processes, mesoscale processes and interactions between

49 them. However, these methods are not currently computationally viable for application to large
50 ensemble weather prediction or climate simulations. Thus, the search for computationally inex-
51 pensive and realistic convection parameterizations that are seamlessly scalable between medium
52 and coarse resolution GCMs remains a central unsolved problem in the atmospheric community
53 (Arakawa 2004).

54 A closely related issue to the parameterization problem is the development of theories relating
55 cumulus convection and the large scale variables. An early theory for this cross-scale interaction
56 is the Convective Instability of the Second Kind (CISK) idea (Charney and Eliassen 1964). CISK
57 describes a two way feedback between cumulus convection and wind convergence in the planetary
58 boundary layer. In the original formulation, this convergence is caused by Ekman pumping due
59 to the large scale geostrophically balanced circulation, but wave-CISK is a theory which is more
60 relevant to non-balanced equatorial flows (Lindzen 1974).

61 Both forms of CISK are heavily criticized in the literature in favor of an alternative known as the
62 Quasi-Equilibrium (QE) hypothesis (Arakawa and Schubert 1974; Emanuel et al. 1994; Arakawa
63 2004). In the broadest sense, QE supposes that over large spatial scales cumulus convection acts
64 to remove static instability in an atmospheric column. The static stability is typically a functional
65 of the humidity and temperature fields; therefore, for the present purposes, we define a QE param-
66 eterization as any scheme that relates total precipitation to the humidity and temperature alone. In
67 the QE context, the hypothesis of wind induced surface heat exchange (WISHE) provides a mech-
68 anism for the interaction between the large-scale circulation and cumulus convection (Emanuel
69 et al. 1994). While this mechanism is well-established for tropical cyclones, it is unclear to what
70 extent WISHE is relevant to dynamics in equatorial regions (Grabowski and Moncrieff 2001).

71 For each of the physical hypotheses above, there is a corresponding set of operational cumu-
72 lus parameterations. Broadly speaking, convection schemes can be divided into those based

73 on moisture-convergence closures (Kuo 1974), the moist adjustment idea (Manabe et al. 1965),
74 and the Quasi-equilibrium (QE) hypothesis (Arakawa and Schubert 1974; Betts and Miller 1986).
75 CISK thinking informed the moisture-convergence schemes. The QE hypothesis at its core is a
76 statement about statistical equilibrium, but the atmosphere in reality is far from equilibrium. More-
77 over, the QE hypothesis breaks down as the current GCM grid sizes approach the cumulus scale.
78 One generic design principle for treating nonequilibrium systems in atmosphere ocean science is
79 the addition of stochastic perturbation (Buizza et al. 1999; Palmer 2001; Lin and Neelin 2003;
80 Khouider et al. 2003; Majda et al. 2008; Majda and Stechmann 2008). In particular, one of the
81 more promising approaches has been the use of Markov-chain lattice models to represent unre-
82 solved sub-grid variability (Khouider et al. 2003). This type of lattice model is an extension of
83 an Ising spin-flip model used for phase transitions in material science (Majda and Khouider 2002;
84 Katsoulakis et al. 2003b), and has been successfully used to improve simple convection param-
85 eterizations (Khouider et al. 2003; Majda et al. 2008; Khouider et al. 2010; Frenkel et al. 2012,
86 2013. Another stochastic cumulus convection parameterization is that of (Plant and Craig 2008).

87 In addition to stochastic parameterization, there have been large improvements in deterministic
88 parameterizations. Some drivers of these improvements include large field campaigns such as the
89 TOGA-COARE (Moncrieff and Klinker 1997) and an enhanced understanding of organized con-
90 vection. In particular, a clearer understanding of equatorial convectively coupled waves (Wheeler
91 and Kiladis 1999; Kiladis et al. 2009; Straub and Kiladis 2002) has informed the development of
92 the multcloud parameterizations (Khouider and Majda 2006b,a, 2007, 2008a,b; Khouider et al.
93 2010; Frenkel et al. 2012). The multcloud parameterizations take advantage of the observed self
94 similarity and vertical structure of equatorial waves (Wheeler and Kiladis 1999), and have been
95 successfully blended with the Ising model stochastic parameterization approach (Frenkel et al.
96 2012, 2013) (hereafter FMK13 and FMK13). Moreover, both the deterministic and the stochas-

97 tic multcloud model (SMCM) can realistically replicate aspects of convectively coupled waves
98 and intraseasonal oscillation in a prototype GCM setting (Khouider et al. 2011; Deng et al. 2014;
99 Ajayamohan et al. 2013, 2014).

100 In this study, we revisit the controversy between CISK and QE, motivated by recent work with
101 observations from Darwin, Australia that has established a strong link between the large scale
102 convergence field and local convection (Davies et al. 2013). Moreover, this study failed to find a
103 strong link between CAPE and local precipitation. Motivated by these observations, several studies
104 have attempted to infer causality by fitting multcloud-based stochastic models to the estimated
105 cloud fraction fields (Peters et al. 2013; Dorrestijn et al. 2015; Chevrotière et al. 2014). They
106 found that large-scale pressure velocity at 500hPa from a reanalysis product is a better predictor
107 of convection over Darwin than the corresponding moist thermodynamic state. These data have
108 also been used to evaluate several operational convective mass-flux trigger functions (Suhas and
109 Zhang 2014). Moreover, there is evidence that the transition from shallow to deep convection is
110 linked to the large scale vertical moisture advection (Hagos et al. 2014 and references therein).

111 The studies above are based on based on diagnostics from a single location, but the idea of
112 convergence-coupling has been primarily criticized on a dynamical basis (Emanuel et al. 1994).
113 To address these concerns, the aim of this paper is to develop a prototype non-local stochastic
114 convection parameterization that takes into account the effects of large-scale convergence and
115 avoids the pitfalls of conventional moisture-convergence closures (Kuo 1974). The primary aim
116 here is to explore the dynamical consequences of this additional physical assumption. Because the
117 SMCM shows realistic variability in computationally inexpensive one dimensional simulations
118 (Frenkel et al. 2013), it is an idea test bed for these ideas. There has also been some recent work
119 on implementing the SMCM with convergence coupling in the ECHAM GCM (Peters et al. 2015).

120 Specifically, a flexible framework for including the effects of convergence coupling in the
121 SMCM is developed. Using this framework, it is shown that coupling the interaction of congestus
122 and deep clouds to the large scale convergence leads to realistic variability. This approach blends
123 the convergence-coupling idea with the CAPE-coupling approach used in past work (Khouider
124 and Majda 2006a,b, 2008a,b;FMK12,13). In some respects, the non-local convergence coupling
125 introduced here accounts for non-local interactions between microlattice convective sites, and it
126 complements recent work along these lines (Khouider 2014).

127 In the present paper, we find that in spatially extended idealized Walker cell simulations, this
128 deep-convergence-coupled SMCM shows an overall increase in variability about the mean and an
129 enhanced low frequency variability. In particular, the coupling enhances the persistence of moist
130 gravity waves in the dry regions flanking the central warm-pool. These waves have an approximate
131 phase speed of 10 m/s and significantly warm and dry the atmosphere in their wake. There is
132 observational evidence that Kelvin waves do indeed propagate with remarkable persistence across
133 planetary zonal distances (Kiladis et al. 2009; Straub and Kiladis 2002; Wheeler and Kiladis 1999).

134 Moreover, an intermittent regime-switching behavior arises on intraseasonal time scales that
135 switches the system between epochs of regular and irregular walker cell variability as seen in
136 CRM simulations (Slawinska et al. 2014a,b). However, these benefits are only conferred when the
137 transition of congestus to deep convection is convergence coupled. Naively replacing the model's
138 implicit low-level moisture convergence coupling with an explicit dry convergence coupling leads
139 to degeneracies, such as extreme sensitivity to numerical resolution. Gains from convergence
140 coupling only occur when modelling the formation of deep rather than shallow clouds. This is
141 consistent with observations (Davies et al. 2013).

142 The paper is outlined as follows. In Section 2, two prototype parameterizations are developed
143 which, respectively, couple congestus and deep clouds to the large scale convergence. Then, Sec-

144 tion 3 describes the setup for the idealized Walker circulation experiments. Results for the schemes
145 are shown in Section 4. Particular attention is given to the deep-convergence-coupled results in
146 Section 4a, and the degenerate congestus-convergence-coupled scheme in Section 4b. Concluding
147 remarks are given in Section 5.

148 **2. Stochastic Multicloud model**

149 The multicloud model (Khouider and Majda 2006b,a, 2008b) and its stochastic vari-
150 ant (FMK12,13; Khouider et al. 2010; Deng et al. 2014) have been successful in replicating the
151 observed dynamics of organized tropical convection by coupling heating rates to the large scale
152 thermodynamic state. As hinted in the introduction, the SMCM does this by capturing stochastic
153 transitions between congestus, deep, and stratiform cloud sites (FMK12,13;Khouider et al. 2010)
154 as seen in Figure 1. It accomplishes this via a computationally-efficient coarse-grained continuous
155 time Markov chain for the fraction of congestus σ_c , deep σ_d , and stratiform σ_s sites in a given
156 numerical grid cell (Katsoulakis et al. 2003b,a; Khouider and Majda 2008b). Like the CIN model,
157 this setup distinguishes between the processes that lead to the formation of convection sites from
158 those which alter the magnitude of the heating. Therefore, stochastic convergence-coupling does
159 not necessarily entail a wave-CISK type instability in the SMCM.

160 The SMCM also allows for realistic physically-motivated interactions between cloud types
161 which are easily coupled in a explicit fashion to any deterministic quantity of choice. Using such
162 a model we can hope to address the validity of the convergence-coupling hypothesis. As such,
163 extending the work of (Peters et al. 2013) to the prognostic spatially-extended SMCM provides an
164 ideal test-bed for gauging the validity of the convergence coupling hypothesis in state-of-the-art
165 convection schemes.

166 Along these lines, Section 2a contains abbreviated description of the two baroclinic-mode dy-
167 namical core. The stochastic coupling to the large-scale thermodynamics and convergence is in-
168 troduced in Section 2b.

169 *a. Dynamical core and convection closure*

170 (Khouider and Majda 2006b,a, 2008b; Khouider et al. 2010; FMK12,13) assume three heating
171 profiles associated with the main cloud types that characterize organized tropical convective sys-
172 tems (Johnson et al. 1999): cumulus congestus clouds that heat the lower troposphere and cool the
173 upper troposphere through radiation and detrainment, deep convective towers that heat the whole
174 tropospheric depth, and the associated lagging-stratiform anvils which heat the upper troposphere
175 and cool the lower troposphere due to evaporation of stratiform rain. In its simplest form, the
176 multcloud model captures these three modes of heating using the first two vertical modes of a
177 constant stratification Boussinesq system. Therefore, the simplest version of the dynamical core
178 of the multcloud parameterizations consists of two coupled and forced shallow water systems. To
179 simplify the current study, the meridional dependence of the equations is ignored, and the simu-
180 lations are performed in a single ring of latitude. In CRM simulations (Slawinska et al. 2014b)
181 and the past work on the multcloud model, this one dimensional setup has proved sufficient to
182 generate a wide array of interesting variability. This is especially true in simulations with a non
183 uniform SST pattern.

184 The deterministic equations and closures are identical to FMK13, so we simply summarize
185 them here. For more details and intuition, see FMK13 and references therein. The equations for

186 the prognostic deterministic variables are given by

$$\frac{\partial u_1}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial \theta_1}{\partial x} = C_d u_0 u_1 - \frac{1}{\tau_R} u_1 \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{\partial u_2}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial \theta_2}{\partial x} = C_d u_0 u_2 - \frac{1}{\tau_R} u_2 \quad (2)$$

$$\frac{\partial \theta_1}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x} = P - \text{Rad}_1 \quad (3)$$

$$\frac{\partial \theta_2}{\partial t} - \frac{1}{4} \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial x} = H_c - H_s - \text{Rad}_2 \quad (4)$$

$$\frac{\partial \langle q \rangle}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \langle uq \rangle = -\frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\pi} P + \frac{D}{H_T} \quad (5)$$

$$\frac{\partial \theta_{eb}}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{h_b} (E - D) \quad (6)$$

$$\frac{\partial H_s}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{\tau_s} (\alpha_s \sigma_s H_d / \bar{\sigma}_d - H_s). \quad (7)$$

187 The velocity (u_j) and potential temperature (θ_j) equations are derived in standard fashion by
 188 Galerkin projection of the rigid-lid dry Boussinesq equations onto the first two baroclinic modes
 189 $Z(z)$ and $Z(2z)$, where $Z(z) = \sqrt{2} \cos(\pi z / H_T)$ for $0 \leq z \leq H_T$.

190 The column integrated moisture ($\langle q \rangle$) equation is relatively straightforward. The main difficulty
 191 is showing that the column integrated moisture flux can be approximated by

$$\langle uq \rangle = (u_1 + \tilde{\alpha} u_2) \langle q \rangle + \tilde{Q} (u_1 + \tilde{\lambda} u_2),$$

192 which is shown in Appendix A of (Khouider and Majda 2006b). This moisture flux includes
 193 linear and nonlinear contributions from the first and second baroclinic velocities, and includes
 194 the familiar gross moist stability \tilde{Q} as a parameter (Frierson et al. 2004).

195 The boundary layer equivalent potential temperature (θ_{eb}) is forced convective downdrafts D
 196 and the evaporation E , and has no advective contributions linear or otherwise. The multcloud
 197 formulation enters through the three heating rates H_c , H_d , and H_s which represent congestus, deep,
 198 and stratiform convective heating, respectively. These and other important diagnostic quantities
 199 are given in Table 2.

200 The reader will note that the heating rates H_d and H_c are each the product of cloud fraction
201 fields σ_d and σ_c and some measure of the energy available for convection. The energy available
202 for congestus and deep heating are distinct but closely related quantities that depend only on the
203 thermodynamic degrees of freedom θ_{eb} , q , θ_1 , and θ_2 . While diagnostic closures adequately model
204 congestus and deep heating, FMK13 showed an improvement when using lag differential equation
205 to model the stratiform heating, and this is the form used in (7). On the other hand, the cloud
206 fractions fields are treated as stochastic processes that evolve according to a set of intuitive rules
207 described in the next section (Khouider et al. 2010; FMK12,13).

208 *b. Stochastic coupling*

209 The evolution of the cloud fractions is given by a continuous time Markov-chain which has
210 transition rates that depend on the large-scale variables of the system. This approach to stochastic
211 parameterization is introduced in (Majda and Khouider 2002; Khouider et al. 2003), and can be
212 roughly thought of as introducing a state-dependent multiplicative “noise”. However, because the
213 Markov-chain is defined on a discrete state-space, the simulated pathways cannot be described
214 using an Langevin equation with white-noise (Gardiner 2009).

215 The stochastic parameterization attempts to model sub grid-scale dynamics explicitly by defin-
216 ing a lattice within each coarse grid cell. The underlying PDE ((1)-(7)) is discretized onto a regular
217 numerical mesh, and each grid cell is further divided into a rectangular $\ell \times \ell$ lattice. Each element
218 of this lattice is occupied by either a congestus, deep, or stratiform cloud or by a clear-sky site,
219 which are represented respectively by the integers 1, 2, 3, and 0 (clear-sky). A continuous time
220 Markov-chain, that allows for transitions between these four states at a certain rate is defined on
221 this discrete state-space. These sorts of models have been used in material science and chemistry

222 to model the reaction of different chemical species (Gillespie 1977), but the approach here is to
 223 couple the transition rates between clouds to a PDE ((1)-(7)) via the large-scale resolved variables.

224 The SMCM allows for a few different transitions between the cloud types. With the associated
 225 transition rate in parenthesis, these transitions are:

- 226 1. Formation of a congestus cloud from clear sky (R_{01})
- 227 2. Formation of a deep cloud from clear sky (R_{02})
- 228 3. Conversion from a congestus to a deep cloud (R_{12})
- 229 4. Conversion from a deep to a stratiform cloud (R_{23})
- 230 5. Decay of congestus (R_{10}), deep (R_{20}), or stratiform clouds. (R_{30})

231 In (FMK12,13), these transition rates depend only on the large-scale thermodynamic quantities
 232 so that

$$R_{ij} = R_{ij}(q, \theta_{eb}, \theta_1, \theta_2), \quad i, j \in [0, 1, 2, 3]$$

233 The precise details of these formula are constrained by a set of intuitive rules which are based on
 234 observations of cloud dynamics in the tropics (e.g. Johnson et al. 1999; Mapes 2000; Khouider
 235 and Majda 2006b, and references therein). In general, moisture and θ_{eb} will tend to promote active
 236 convection, and high tropospheric temperatures will tend to discourage it.

237 The present study concludes that the conversion from congestus to deep (R_{12}) is the critical
 238 transition for convergence coupling. However, more generally, a modification can be introduced
 239 so that

$$R_{ij} = R_{ij}(q, \theta_{eb}, \theta_1, \theta_2, W_{ij}) \tag{8}$$

240 where W_{ij} is a proxy which depends on the large-scale convergence.

241 *c. Transition rates with convergence coupling*

242 Before delving into the definition of W_{ij} in (8), it is useful to note the precise form of the vertical
 243 velocity w in any two baroclinic mode Boussinesq model. Mass continuity requires that w at a
 244 height z be given by

$$w = - \int_0^z \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} dz' = \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}_1 Z'(z) + \frac{1}{2} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}_2 Z'(2z), \quad (9)$$

245 where $Z(z) = \sqrt{2} \cos(\pi z/H_t)$ is as given in the previous section.

246 As mentioned before, convergence coupling is traditionally seen as providing a mechanism for
 247 interactions between the convective and large scale motions. The radius over which this interac-
 248 tion occurs should be a parameter of the convection scheme rather than a function of the grid size.
 249 Simply evaluating the *grid-scale* convergence using centered differences will not be sufficient
 250 because the differencing implicitly depends on the grid-size. This effect is ameliorated by aver-
 251 aging the *grid-scale* convergence over a given “interaction” radius R . Specifically, the *large-scale*
 252 convergence for given location and height is given by

$$W^R(x, z) = \frac{1}{2R} \int_{x-R}^{x+R} w dx = Z'(z) \Delta_R u_1 + \frac{1}{2} Z'(2z) \Delta_R u_2, \quad (10)$$

253 with the backward centered difference operator $\Delta_R f = (f(x-R) - f(x+R))/2R$. This approach
 254 also allows reasonable comparison between models with different grid sizes. With this machinery
 255 in hand, it is possible to pose the transition rates for the stochastic process.

256 In general, the convergence coupling will effect the formation of deep clouds, formation of
 257 congestus clouds, and the transition between the two. We currently do not include any convergence
 258 coupling for the decay of clouds or the formation of stratiform clouds, but this is a potential topic
 259 of future research. With these physical assumptions, the general formulation of the convergence

260 coupled transition rates is given by

$$R_{01} = \frac{1}{\tau_{01}} \Gamma(C_l) \Gamma(D) \Gamma(W_{01}) \quad (11)$$

$$R_{12} = \frac{1}{\tau_{12}} \Gamma(C) (1 - \Gamma(D)) \Gamma(W_{12}) \quad (12)$$

$$R_{02} = \frac{1}{\tau_{02}} \Gamma(C) (1 - \Gamma(D)) \Gamma(W_{02}) \quad (13)$$

261 where $\Gamma(x) := 1 - \exp(-x)$. $\Gamma(x)$ is designed to normalize the tendency of each factor and satisfies
 262 $0 < \Gamma(x) \leq 1$. The only difference between these rates and those of FMK13 is the additional factor
 263 $\Gamma(W_{ij})$. The other transitions are left unaltered, and a comprehensive list of the transition rates is
 264 available in Table 3.

265 The convection propensities W_{01} , W_{12} , and W_{02} represent the large scale convergence evaluated
 266 at the vertical level relevant to the transition. Specifically,

$$W_{ij}(x) = \bar{W} + \tau_w \cdot [W^R(x, z_{ij})]^+, \quad (14)$$

267 where z_{ij} is the vertical level governing the transition, τ_w is the strength of the convergence cou-
 268 pling, and \bar{W} is a constant mean propensity for convergence. Here, we assume that the formation of
 269 congestus clouds, the formation of deep clouds, and the transition from congestus to deep clouds
 270 occur in order of increasing height. In all cases, these heights are within the free troposphere and
 271 generally include a contribution from both the first and second baroclinic convergence fields. For
 272 a schematic view of the convergence coupled stochastic multicloud model see Figure 1. For com-
 273 pleteness, Table 1 contains a comprehensive list of parameters which includes parameters from
 274 FMK13 as well as the newly introduced convergence coupling parameters.

275 In the formulation above, R_{01} , R_{02} , and R_{12} each involve the product of three different factors (cf.
 276 Tab. 3). One factor $\Gamma(W_{ij})$ is related to the large scale convergence, while the other two are related
 277 to the grid-scale thermodynamics. This setup is general, but it is not clear that all three transitions

278 considered in (11)–(13) should be coupled to the large-scale convergence simultaneously. To
279 address this ambiguity, this paper will study three different kinds of stochastic setups.

280 1) THERMODYNAMICS-ONLY COUPLING (THERMO)

281 A thermodynamics-only setup is a base case for that yields results that are nearly identical to
282 FMK13. This setup is obtained by setting $\tau_w = 0$ which implies that $W_{ij} = \bar{W}$ a constant value.

283 2) CCON CONVERGENCE COUPLING (CCON)

284 Another possible setup is one that couples the formation of congestus clouds to the large
285 scale convergence alone. In FMK13 and other works (Khouider and Majda 2006a,b; Khouider
286 et al. 2010), it is shown that the thermodynamic-only SMCM already features an implicit low-
287 level moisture convergence mechanism resulting from second-baroclinic contribution to (5) and
288 the moisture-dependence of C_l . Wholesale replacing this *implicit* moisture-convergence mech-
289 anism with an *explicit* dry-convergence coupling fundamentally alters the underlying cloud for-
290 mation mechanism of the SMCM, and provides an interesting albeit unrealistic test-bed for the
291 convergence-coupling idea. The CCON setup yields intriguing improvements for some parameter
292 regimes, but, as expected, suffers from extreme sensitivity to these same parameters.

293 In particular, this setup fixes $W_{02} = W_{12} = \bar{W} = -\log(.99)$ and $C_l = \bar{C}$.

294 3) DEEP CONVERGENCE COUPLING (DCON)

295 These degeneracies are not present when the transition from congestus to deep clouds is coupled
296 to the large-scale convergence. As will be seen in subsequent sections, this DCON stochastic
297 setup allows for the benefits of the THERMO simulations while altering the dynamics of large
298 scale convectively coupled waves in a realistic and intriguing fashion. The DCON setup consists
299 of fixing $W_{01} = W_{02} = \bar{W} = -\log(.8)$ while allowing C , C_l , and W_{12} to vary.

300 **3. Idealized Walker circulation simulations**

301 The past work on convergence coupling is typically focused on its role mediating interactions
302 between convection, tropical cyclones (Charney and Eliassen 1964), and synoptic scale equatorial
303 waves (Lindzen 1974). Therefore, we expect the convergence coupling designed here to show
304 interesting characteristics in simulations with an imposed large scale circulation. In the SMCM,
305 a planetary-scale SST pattern that mimics the so-called Indonesian “warm pool” will force an
306 idealized version of the Walker circulation. This is a standard test bed for simplified convection
307 parameterizations (Khouider et al. 2003; FMK13).

308 Because there is no surface sensible heat flux in the SMCM, the only impact of elevated SST
309 is through the evaporation term (c.f. Table 2). The sea surface saturation equivalent potential
310 temperature for a warm pool simulation takes the form

$$\theta_{eb}^*(x) = A_{SST} \cos\left(\frac{4\pi x}{40000}\right) + 10K, \quad (15)$$

311 within an interval of 20,000 km of the 40,000 km domain, and $\theta_{eb}^* = 10 - A_{SST}$ elsewhere as
312 in (Khouider and Majda 2006b, 2008b; FMK12,13). Unless otherwise stated $A_{SST} = 5K$. This
313 setup mimics the Indian Ocean-Western Pacific warm pool, and has yielded interesting Walker-
314 like circulations in FMK13.

315 Time series of 1000 days are generated for each formulation of the transition rates, using a time
316 step of 30 seconds and a total of 1000 grid cells spread over a 40,000 km equatorial domain. The
317 number of stochastic elements per coarse grid cell is $\ell^2 = 30^2 = 900$. Unless otherwise stated, the
318 convergence coupling strength is fixed at $\tau_w = 10$ hr, and the interaction radius is fixed at $R = 240$
319 km. These and other parameters are given in Table 1.

320 The numerical method used here is same as that used in FMK13. Namely, an operator splitting
321 strategy is used which alternates solutions of the hyperbolic terms, source terms, and stochastic

322 process. The conservative terms are discretized and solved by a non-oscillatory central differ-
323 encing scheme while the remaining deterministic forcing terms are handled by a second-order
324 Runge-Kutta method (Khouider and Majda 2005a,b). The stochastic component of the scheme is
325 resolved using Gillespie’s exact algorithm (Gillespie 1975). For more details on the algorithm see
326 (Khouider et al. 2010; FMK12,13).

327 Here, we note that combining convergence-coupling for the congestus *and* deep transitions in-
328 variably results in a strong numerical instability for reasonable values of Δt and τ_w . This is why
329 we only consider the CCON and DCON stochastic setups, rather than some combination of the
330 two.

331 4. Results

332 First, we will provide a qualitative overview of the dynamics of the three stochastic setups. The
333 anomalies from the temporal mean of the first baroclinic velocity (u_1) for THERMO, DCON,
334 and CCON are available in Figure 2, and the corresponding climatological mean and variance are
335 shown in Figure 3.

336 All stochastic setups show interesting variability about the mean, but the nature of the variability
337 is subtly altered between the simulations. All three simulations show small-scale wave activity in
338 the center of the domain (e.g. the high SST region), corresponding to a background of convective
339 activity. However, the simulations differ in the behavior of large convectively coupled waves
340 (CCWs) at the edges of the elevated SST region. The THERMO simulation has the same behavior
341 as previously seen in (FMK12,13) with strong second-baroclinic heating around 20,000 km which
342 transitions to deep heating in the form of CCWs around 25,000 km (not shown). In the u_1 field, the
343 most salient feature is the strong and regular convectively coupled waves that depart the warm-pool
344 region every 12 days in strictly alternating order.

345 Adding convergence coupling to either the congestus (CCON) or deep (DCON) transitions,
346 results in breakdown of this order. The CCON regime represents a more drastic alteration and
347 features strong CCWs on many different scales interacting with each other without the emergence
348 of a clear periodicity. The DCON regime provides a more subtle alteration that causes the regular
349 waves to leave the warm-pool at double the period (24 days) and to propagate further into the dry
350 region. Occasionally, one of these waves will circle the domain entirely to re-interact with the
351 warm-pool as can be seen around day 930. This interaction initiates a transition to a more chaotic
352 regime for long periods of time. This *enhanced persistence* of the CCWs is the primary result of
353 this study.

354 The simulations have a roughly comparable mean u_1 climatology (6 m/s) except for the CCON
355 simulation, which has a peak mean u_1 of ~ 4 m/s. On the other hand, the second baroclinic u_2
356 structure changes substantially between the simulations. While the DCON setup is quite similar
357 to the base case THERMO setup, the CCON simulation does not feature the characteristic double-
358 peak in the second baroclinic velocity component.

359 The total variability about the mean also differs subtly between the setups. The THERMO and
360 DCON schemes show a triple peaked variability structure that is due to a triple peak in convec-
361 tive heating seen in past results (FMK12,13). On the other hand, the CCON setup shows larger
362 variability throughout the domain, but with a much flatter peak. However, as will be shown later,
363 the CCON setup is degenerate and extremely sensitive to parameters, and we emphasize that it is
364 important to favor *realistic* over larger variability.

365 *a. Deep convergence coupled DCON*

366 In the formulation above, two key parameters were introduced: R and τ_w . Of these two, the
367 parameter τ_w explicitly tunes the strength of the convergence coupling through Eq. 14, while R has

368 a more subtle effect. In this section, we study the effect of varying τ_w , which we will often refer
369 to as the “convection strength” or “strength parameter”, in the context of the deep-convergence-
370 coupled DCON simulations. In particular, we perform simulations fixed at $R = 240$ km and for
371 $\tau_w = 0, 1, 10, 100,$ and 1000 hr. Of course, $\tau_w = 0$ implies that the convergence coupling is
372 disabled, which is the same as the THERMO setup following (14).

373 This deep-convergence-coupled setup shows improved low-frequency variability and intermit-
374 tent dynamics as is readily visible in the anomalous u_1 Hovmoller diagrams shown in Figure 4.
375 From left-to-right with increasing τ_w , the Hovmoller diagrams represent a continuum from or-
376 der to disorder. As discussed in the previous section, the majority of the variability in the
377 thermodynamics-only (THERMO) simulation ($\tau_w = 0$) is comprised of large CCWs that emanate
378 from the warm-pool region at regular ~ 12 day intervals. Moreover, these CCWs alternatively
379 propagate eastwards and then westwards in perfect sequence. For $\tau_w = 1$, this structure is still
380 somewhat visible, but the coherence and regularity of these waves is weakened. With $\tau_w = 10$,
381 large CCWs similar to those in THERMO, but with a 2x longer time scale, alternatively propagate
382 east/west until one circles the domain and interacts once more on the warm-pool region (see day
383 930). This interaction then initiates a series of many small and large CCWs, which are released
384 from the center of the domain. This behavior is markedly more chaotic and features variability on
385 longer time scales than the regular east-then-west waves in the THERMO. The effect is increas-
386 ingly pronounced for $\tau_w = 100$ and 1000 .

387 The u_1 climatology shown in upper panel of Figure 5 reflects this increased variability outside
388 the warm-pool region. While the mean fields of the convergence-coupled simulations do show a
389 slightly stronger circulation between $15,000$ km and $25,000$ km, the result is quite subtle. On the
390 other hand, there is a large increase in variability with τ_w , especially outside of the warm-pool
391 region. This is evidently due to the propagating CCWs visible in Figure 4.

392 1) ENHANCED PERSISTENCE OF EQUATORIAL WAVES

393 In this section, we present qualitative and quantitative evidence for the enhanced persistence of
394 the CCWs in the regions between 25000 and 35000 km and between 5000 and 15000 km. We will
395 hereafter refer to these regions as the “flanks” of the warm-pool.

396 The large CCWs in the flank regions of the convergence-coupled simulations have an interesting
397 phase speed and wave structure. Figure 6 shows a zoomed-in Hovmoller diagram of one such ex-
398 ample in the $\tau_w = 10$ simulation. The wave is generated in the warm pool, and—as it propagates
399 eastward—its phase speed is reduced when it exits the warm pool region around 25,000 km. More-
400 over, the wave appears to be partially sustained by reciprocal interactions with the warm-pool via
401 fast-moving gravity waves. This is a consequence of the convergence-coupling which enables the
402 interaction of dry-waves with moist-waves. The dynamical fields are averaged along the traveling
403 wave in the two marked segments and the resulting wave structure is plotted in Figure 7. As the
404 wave leaves the warm pool and slows, it transitions from congestus-dominated to deep-dominated
405 heating. This occurs because the available energy in the dry region for congestus convection is
406 much lower than that available for deep convection.

407 The persistence of these waves can be quantified using the lagged correlation structure of the
408 data. From Figure 7, it is clear that the signature of the large CCWs in the flank regions is an
409 efficient conversion from congestus heating (H_c) to deep heating (H_d). This effect can be quantified
410 by seeing how well H_c for a particular spatial location x_0 predicts H_d in other spatial locations. In
411 particular, the diagnostic we use is the lagged correlation function given by

$$\rho(x, \tau; x_0) = \text{Corr}(H_c(x_0, t), H_d(x, t + \tau)). \quad (16)$$

412 To identify waves propagating the in the flank regions, a seed location of $x_0 = 30,000$ km is
413 used. The results for the THERMO and DCON simulations are available in Figure 8. These plots

414 are quite similar to the Hovmoller diagrams shown in Figure 3 and 4, but filter for CCWs in the
415 flank region and represent an average over many individual wave events. For both THERMO and
416 DCON, the large CCW near the x_0 is clearly visible as a line of high correlation coefficients that
417 extends towards the center of the domain. In the THERMO simulation, the waves appear to dry and
418 decohere around the seed of $x_0 = 30,000$ km. For the DCON simulation, these waves propagate
419 with the same phase speed for an additional 7 days until the correlations vanish around 35,000
420 km. Because this result is an average over all flank region CCWs and provides a quantitative
421 confirmation of the qualitative results in Figures 4 and 6.

422 Another interesting consequence of the convergence coupling is that it appears to reduce long
423 distance lagged correlations. In the THERMO results, the seed location strongly correlates with a
424 wave around 15000 km on the other side of the warm pool. This is likely because the flank region
425 CCWs in the THERMO scheme are much more strongly linked to convective activity in the warm
426 pool region between 15000 km and 25000 km. There are no similar long distance correlations
427 in the DCON scheme, so the DCON scheme appears to discourage this link. Put another way,
428 convergence coupling encourages interaction with local atmosphere in the flank regions, rather
429 than slaving it to the convective activity in the warm pool.

430 2) SENSITIVITY TO SST GRADIENT

431 A simple way to enhance persistence in an idealized Walker cell simulation is to make the dry
432 regions moister by reducing the amplitude of the imposed SST pattern. Here, this is accomplished
433 by reducing A_{SST} from 5 to 4.5 K, which amounts to a 1 K reduction in the difference between
434 moist and dry region θ_{eb}^* . In this section, we show that the persistence enhancement due to con-
435 vergence coupling is distinct from this effect.

436 The lagged correlation results for the THERMO and DCON setups are available in Figure 9.
 437 The wave persistence is indeed enhanced in the THERMO simulation with a weaker warm pool,
 438 but there are still important differences between the setups. The wave in the THERMO simulation
 439 shows a broader correlation structure in time near the $x_0 = 30,000$ km and it shows correlations
 440 with a westward propagating wave at a lag of 5 days. Qualitatively the correlation structure is
 441 similar to that seen in Figure 8.

442 The DCON simulation, on the other hand, shows a very localized wave which does not correlate
 443 with any westward waves. This mirrors the results in the previous section. Moreover, the wave
 444 shows strong lag correlations with an eastward traveling wave at $x = 0$ km, at a lag of 7.5 days. This
 445 eastward traveling wave is likely generated in the dry region by convergence due to dry gravity
 446 waves emanating from the CCW around $x = 30,000$ km. This reemergence of moist waves is not
 447 present in the THERMO simulations, and it is clear that the enhanced persistence via convergence
 448 coupling is a distinct effect.

449 3) MOISTURE BUDGET

450 The differences between QE and CISK lies in relationships between the various terms in the
 451 column integrated moisture budget (Emanuel et al. 1994; Arakawa 2004). In the present context,
 452 this is given by (5), which we repeat here for convenience,

$$\frac{\partial \langle q \rangle}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \langle uq \rangle = -\frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\pi} P + \frac{D}{H_T}$$

453 Examining the lagged correlation structure of the various terms in the moisture budget also pro-
 454 vides insight into the enhanced persistence of the CCWs. Specifically, the lagged cross-correlation
 455 of vertically integrated moisture convergence $\nabla \cdot \langle uq \rangle$ and precipitation P is revealing. Unlike, the
 456 wave propagation diagrams in Figure 8, this quantity is calculated for each spatial location sepa-

457 rately, and is given by

$$\rho(x,t) = \text{Corr}(\nabla \cdot \langle uq \rangle(x,t), P(x,t)). \quad (17)$$

458 Figure 10 contains this quantity for the standard THERMO and DCON simulations.

459 Both simulations have similar structure, with three general types of relationship between $\nabla \cdot \langle uq \rangle$
460 and P . First, moisture convergence is negatively correlated with precipitation in the warm pool
461 region, which is a result of the heavy congestus and stratiform heating in this region. In the dry
462 regions near 0 km, the moisture convergence and precipitation are positively correlated for several
463 lags. Finally, the flank regions (e.g. 27000km) show an interesting regime where $\rho(x, \pm\tau) < 0$
464 for $\tau > .25$ days, but $\nabla \cdot \langle uq \rangle$ and P are positively correlated for shorter lags. This last moisture
465 budget regime corresponds to the passage of a wave like that seen Figures 6, 7, and 8. For the
466 current purposes, CISK is defined by a two way feedback between moisture convergence and
467 precipitation. However, in the flank region regime, moisture convergence predicts total heating,
468 but total heating is anticorrelated with precipitation for larger lags.

469 As the THERMO simulations show, even a QE-based scheme can have regions where the mois-
470 ture budget shows some characteristics of CISK (e.g. 0 km), and other regions where surface
471 fluxes are of primary importance (e.g. warm pool). Moreover, because the same three regimes are
472 present in both the THERMO and DCON simulations, it is clear that the method of convergence
473 coupling considered here does not fundamentally change the thermodynamics of the scheme. In
474 other words, DCON does not act like the Kuo-like moisture-convergence closure that was crit-
475 icized in (Emanuel et al. 1994). The DCON scheme simply alters the location of these three
476 moisture budget regimes, and the flank region moisture budget regime covers a much larger swath
477 of the domain (e.g. 25000 km to 35000 km). This is precisely the same region where the CCW
478 propagation was enhanced (cf. Figure 8).

479 *b. Congestus convergence coupled CCON*

480 At this point, we digress to explore an interesting negative result. Namely, we claim that cou-
481 pling congestus clouds to the convergence is highly *unrealistic*, and should be avoided in the devel-
482 opment of prototype cumulus parameterizations. Given the results of Figures 2 and 3, one might
483 naively expect that the CCON regime, which replaces the *moist* convergence mechanism with a
484 *dry* convergence mechanism, to perform comparably to a deep-coupled regime. This is, however,
485 not the case, because unlike the deep-coupled setup, the CCON setup shows strong sensitivities to
486 the key parameters τ_w and R .

487 The CCON setup is overly sensitive to the convergence coupling strength parameter (τ_w). A
488 fact that the climatology of u_1 available in Figure 11 clearly demonstrates. As τ_w is increased,
489 the strengths of the mean circulation and the variability are noticeably decreased. The CCON
490 parameterization appears to shut down the circulation for these large values of τ_w . One potential
491 explanation for this malignant behavior can be seen by varying the parameter R .

492 The interaction radius (R) explicitly controls the scales over which the large-scale convergence
493 field interacts with the grid-scale convection. Ideally, one would prefer the dynamics to internally
494 set this scale. In other simulations (not shown), the DCON scheme was insensitive to this parame-
495 ter. Moreover, convection in the warm pool region is essentially unaltered in the DCON simulation
496 compared to the control (THERMO). On the other hand, convection in the warm pool region in
497 the CCON simulation is strongly dependent on R .

498 In this section, we demonstrate the interaction radius sensitivity by performing numerical ex-
499 periments for interaction radii $R = 80, 160, 240,$ and 480 km with a fixed value $\tau_w = 10$ hours.
500 The zoomed-in 15 day snapshots of the congestus cloud fractions (σ_c) shown in Figure 12 provide
501 a possible explanation for this. Compared to the THERMO simulation, the cloud fractions are

502 smaller overall, and show a noisier background state. In particular, the cloud fractions are slaved
503 to dry waves that emanate from the larger CCWs and propagate with a speed of 25 m/s. These dry
504 waves carry elevated cloud fractions which occasionally interact to produce large enough cloud
505 fractions to initiate a large CCW. Both the dry and convectively coupled waves noticeably increase
506 in horizontal extent (decrease wave number) with R .

507 These larger waves appear to interact more strongly with one another than with the mean circu-
508 lation, which increases the variability, but decreases the strength of the climatological circulation.
509 This profound sensitivity to the parameters R and τ_w reflects the explicit role convergence-coupling
510 plays when attached to the formation of congestus clouds. In fact, this scheme shows evidence of
511 grid-scale convection as R is decreased, which is a hallmark of CISK. This is in contrast to the
512 attractive results seen above for the deep-convergence-coupled (DCON) formulation.

513 **5. Conclusions**

514 In this study, we have modified the stochastic multcloud model to include the non-local effects
515 of convergence coupling. This is motivated by recent work showing the importance of the con-
516 vergence coupling in column multcloud models run in a diagnostic setting (Peters et al. 2013;
517 Dorrestijn et al. 2015). However, these diagnostic studies cannot address the dynamical criticisms
518 of convergence coupling provided by (Emanuel et al. 1994) and others. The present study ad-
519 dresses these traditional criticisms by implementing convergence coupling in a fully prognostic
520 spatially extended setting.

521 We conclude that the addition of convergence coupling does have beneficial effects if imple-
522 mented in the correct way. To be specific, coupling the transition from congestus to deep clouds
523 to both the large-scale convergence and local CAPE, enhances the persistence of convectively
524 coupled waves in nonlinear idealized warm pool simulations. Because there is no rotation in the

525 model, these waves are analogous to equatorial Kelvin waves in the real atmosphere. Therefore,
526 the *soft* non-local convergence coupling presented here potentially describes the remarkable abil-
527 ity of atmospheric Kelvin waves to sometimes propagate unimpeded across the eastern Pacific and
528 the Andes mountain range (Straub and Kiladis 2002; Kiladis et al. 2009).

529 This scheme also shows an attractive, but subtle, sensitivity to the convergence coupling strength
530 (τ_w), which results in chaotic time-series with rich low-frequency content. This behavior likely re-
531 sults because the convergence-coupling enables a reciprocal interaction of dry and moist waves.
532 The interaction of moist and dry waves is a well known mechanism to create “gregarious” multi-
533 scale organized convection (Mapes 1993; Stechmann and Majda 2009). Moreover, it is desirable
534 that the setup shows low sensitivity to the tuning parameter R , the interaction radius. Indeed,
535 extreme sensitivity to this and other parameters is a key symptom of the degenerate congestus-
536 convergence-coupled scheme. The latter serves as an example of how *not* to implement conver-
537 gence coupling as shown in Section 4b.

538 The deep convergence coupled setup does not fundamentally alter the thermodynamics of con-
539 vection compared to the original multcloud formulation. This form of non-local convergence cou-
540 pling is not a moisture-convergence closure like the Kuo schemes, and it does not show unattractive
541 CISK-like behavior, as shown in Section 4a. Indeed the current results complement the evidence
542 that the transition from shallow to deep convection is promoted by vertical moisture transport (Ha-
543 gos et al. 2014). On the other hand, coupling the congestus clouds to the convergence field shows
544 unattractive characteristics reminiscent of CISK. This reflects the intuition that the formation of
545 congestus clouds is driven boundary layer dynamics rather than the free tropospheric convergence
546 field.

547 It is unknown how the addition of rotation and another horizontal spatial dimension will effect
548 these results on non-local convergence coupling, so extending the present work to a more realistic

549 atmospheric simulation is an interesting avenue of future research. There is existing work on
550 implementing the stochastic multicloud model in a full atmospheric GCM (Ajayamohan et al. 2013,
551 2014; Deng et al. 2014; Peters et al. 2015) that can be leveraged for these purposes. Also, while the
552 model studied here includes the effects of stratiform heating, the formation of stratiform clouds is
553 not explicitly coupled to the winds in any way. Coupling the stratiform clouds to vertical velocity
554 and/or shear in idealized Walker circulation simulations is another interesting research direction.

555 In summary, this paper indicates that non-local convergence coupling potentially plays an im-
556 portant role in mediating interactions between convection and a large-scale SST driven circulation.
557 This mechanism is distinct from the wind induced surface heating mechanism. We stress here that
558 in models with non-homogeneous SSTs, the relationships between terms in the moisture budget
559 often depends on the region. In moist regions with high SST, surface heat fluxes can play a key
560 role, but in drier/colder regions precipitation is frequently associated with large-scale moisture
561 convergence. Coupling the transition from congestus to deep clouds appears to beneficially alter
562 dynamics in these drier regions, while leaving convection in the moist regions largely untouched.

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750 **LIST OF TABLES**

751 **Table 1.** Default constants and parameters common to all multicloud simulations dis-
752 cussed in this report. The horizontal rules divide deterministic, stochastic pa-
753 rameters from FMK13, convergence coupling parameters, and numerical pa-
754 rameters, respectively. Largely reproduced from FMK13. 37

755 **Table 2.** Summary of important diagnostic quantities in (1)-(7). 38

756 **Table 3.** Stochastic transition rates with multiplicative convergence coupling. Compare
757 to Table 2 from FMK13. 39

Parameter	Value	Description
$h_b/H_m/H_T$	500 m / 5 km/ 16 km	ABL depth/ average depth of the mid-troposphere/ Free troposphere depth
Q_{R1}	1 K/day	First baroclinic radiative cooling rate
Q_{R2}	Determined at RCE	Second baroclinic radiative cooling rate
ξ_s/ξ_c	0.4/0	Stratiform/Congestus contribution to first baroclinic mode
\bar{Q}	0.9	Background moisture stratification
$\tilde{\lambda}/\tilde{\alpha}$	0.8/0.1	Coefficient of u_2 in linear / nonlinear moisture convergence
m_0	Determined at RCE	Large-scale background downdraft velocity scale
μ	0.25	Contribution of convective downdrafts to D
α_s/α_c	0.25/ 0.1	Stratiform/Congestus adjustment coefficient
τ_R/τ_D	75 days / 50 days	Rayleigh drag / Newtonian cooling time scale
τ_s/τ_c	3 hours / 2 hour	Stratiform /Congestus adjustment time scale
τ_{conv}	2 hours	Convective time scale
τ_e	Determined by RCE	Surface evaporation time scale
\bar{Q}	Determined at RCE	Bulk convective heating at RCE
$\bar{\theta}_{eb} - \bar{\theta}_{em}$	11 K	Mean (RCE) Dryness of the atmosphere
θ^-/θ^+	10 K /20 K	Deterministic moisture switch threshold values
A/B	1/0	Deterministic moisture switch parameters
a_1/a_2	0.50 / 0.50	Relative contribution of θ_{eb} / q to deep convection
a_0/a'_0	2 / 1.5	Dry convective buoyancy frequency in deep/congestus heating equations.
γ_2/γ'_2	0.1 / 2	Relative contribution of θ_2 to deep /congestus heating
α_2	0.1	Relative contribution of θ_2 to θ_{em}
C_d	0.001	Surface drag coefficient
u_0	2 m/s	Strength of turbulent fluctuations
$\tilde{\alpha}$	≈ 15 K	Unit scale of temperature
$CAPE_0$	400 J/Kg	Reference values of CAPE
T_0	30 K	Reference values of dryness
τ_{01}	1 hr	Timescale for formation of congestus clouds
τ_{02}	3 hr	Timescale for formation of deep clouds
τ_{12}	1 hr	Timescale for congestus-to-deep transition
τ_{23}	3 hr	Timescale for deep-to-stratiform transition
τ_{10}	1 hr	Timescale for death of congestus clouds
τ_{20}	3 hr	Timescale for death of deep clouds
τ_{30}	3 hr	Timescale for death of stratiform clouds
τ_w	10 hours	Strength of convergence coupling
R	240 km	Radius of convergence coupling
\bar{W}	$-\log(.8)$	RCE convergence propensity
z_{01}	2 km	Height of convergence-driven formation of congestus heating
z_{02}	4 km	Height of convergence-driven formation of deep heating
z_{12}	8 km	Height of convergence-driven transition from congestus to deep heating
L	40,000 km	Length of domain
Δx	40 km	Grid spacing
Δt	0.5 minutes	Maximum time step
n_x	1000	Number of grid cells
ℓ^2	$900 = 30^2$	Number of stochastic sites

758 TABLE 1. Default constants and parameters common to all multicloud simulations discussed in this report.
759 The horizontal rules divide deterministic, stochastic parameters from FMK13, convergence coupling parameters,
760 and numerical parameters, respectively. Largely reproduced from FMK13.

Description	Expression
Midlevel θ_e	$\theta_{em} = q + \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\pi}(\theta_1 + \alpha_2\theta_2)$
Precipitation	$P = H_d + \xi_s H_s + \xi_c H_c$
Downdrafts	$D = m_0(1 + \mu(H_s - H_c)/Q_{R01})^+(\theta_{eb} - \theta_{em})$
Evaporation	$\frac{E}{h_b} = \frac{1}{\tau_e}(\theta_{eb}^* - \theta_{eb})$
Radiation	$\text{Rad}_1 = Q_{R01} - \frac{\theta_1}{\tau_D}$, and $\text{Rad}_2 = Q_{R02} - \frac{\theta_2}{\tau_D}$
CAPE	$CAPE = \overline{CAPE} + R(\theta_{eb} - \gamma(\theta_1 + \gamma_2\theta_2))$
Lower level CAPE	$CAPE_l = \overline{CAPE} + R(\theta_{eb} - \gamma(\theta_1 + \gamma_2\theta_2))$
Deep heating	$H_d = \left[\sigma_d \bar{Q} + \frac{\sigma_d \alpha_0}{\sigma_d \alpha_0} (a_1 \theta_{eb} + a_2 q - a_0(\theta_1 + \gamma_2 \theta_2)) \right]^+$
Congestus heating	$H_c = \sigma_c \frac{\alpha_c}{H_m} \sqrt{CAPE_l^+}$

TABLE 2. Summary of important diagnostic quantities in (1)-(7).

Transition rate	Time scale(h)
Formation of congestus	$R_{01} = \frac{1}{\tau_{01}} \Gamma(C_l) \Gamma(D) \Gamma(W_{01})$
Decay of congestus	$R_{10} = \frac{1}{\tau_{10}} \Gamma(D)$
Conversion of congestus to deep	$R_{12} = \frac{1}{\tau_{12}} \Gamma(C)(1 - \Gamma(D)) \Gamma(W_{12})$
Formation of deep	$R_{02} = \frac{1}{\tau_{02}} \Gamma(C)(1 - \Gamma(D)) \Gamma(W_{02})$
Conversion of deep to stratiform	$R_{23} = \frac{1}{\tau_{23}}$
Decay of deep	$R_{20} = \frac{1}{\tau_{20}} (1 - \Gamma(C))$
Decay of stratiform	$R_{30} = \frac{1}{\tau_{30}}$

761 TABLE 3. Stochastic transition rates with multiplicative convergence coupling. Compare to Table 2 from
762 FMK13.

763 **LIST OF FIGURES**

764 **Fig. 1.** Schematic of the convergence coupling formulation in terms of velocity convergences at
765 different height levels z_{ij} . In this schematic, the $1 \rightarrow 2$ transition from congestus to deep
766 clouds is coupled to the convergence at a greater height than the $0 \rightarrow 2$ formation of deep
767 clouds because the former develops from the moistening of the mid-troposphere by conges-
768 tus clouds. Stratiform clouds are not coupled directly to the non-local convergence or the
769 local thermodynamic state. Adapted from KM06a. 42

770 **Fig. 2.** u_1 anomaly Hovmoller diagrams of the last 200 days of simulations of the three stochastic
771 setups. The mixed non-local convergence-coupled setups (CCON and DCON) have more
772 chaotic and variable time signals than the thermodynamic-only (THERMO) simulation. 43

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774 has slightly higher mean velocities near the flanks of the warm pool. The congestus coupling
775 reduces the strength of the mean circulation compared to THERMO. 44

776 **Fig. 4.** u_1 anomaly Hovmoller diagrams for the thermodynamic-only (THERMO) simulation, and
777 the deep-convergence-coupled (DCON) simulations with the convergence coupling strength
778 τ_w increasing in each panel from left to right. The tendency of convectively coupled waves
779 to depart the warm pool at regular 12 day intervals in precisely alternating directions is
780 increasingly disrupted for large values of τ_w . Moreover, in the $\tau_w = 10$ simulation the domi-
781 nate waves depart the warm pool at longer 25-day interval (days 820-900), and there is
782 change in regime towards smaller waves around day 930. 45

783 **Fig. 5.** u_1 climatology for varying τ_w for the deep-convergence coupled (DCON) simulations.
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785 1, 10, 100, and 1000 are gray with lighter shades indicating larger τ_w . The DCON vari-
786 ability is everywhere larger than the THERMO variability, with an especially strong effect
787 outside the warm pool. The variability tends to increase for larger convergence-coupling
788 strength τ_w 46

789 **Fig. 6.** A strong convectively coupled wave for the deep-convergence-coupled (DCON) regime.
790 A 30 day snapshot of the moisture field q including the temporal mean is plotted. As seen
791 below in Figure 7, the wave changes vertical structure as it passes from the edge of the warm
792 pool (A) into the dry region (B), and the phase speed reduces from 13.5 m/s to 9.5 m/s. This
793 wave interacts with the warm pool region via fast-moving dry waves, typical examples of
794 which are marked using dashed lines. 47

795 **Fig. 7.** Vertical and horizontal wave structure for the convectively coupled wave shown in Figure 6.
796 These plots are averaged along the labeled lines in that figure. Inside the warm pool (A),
797 the wave shows strong congestus heating, which transforms into deep heating outside of the
798 warm-pool (B). A reduction in phase-speed from 13.5 to 9.5 m/s accompanies this transition. 48

799 **Fig. 8.** The lagged correlation between congestus heating at $x = 30,000$ km and deep heating else-
800 where in the domain for $A_{SST} = 5$ K. This is a signature of large convectively coupled waves
801 which feature a robust transition from congestus to deep heating. The DCON wave propa-
802 gates much more coherently into the dry region. 49

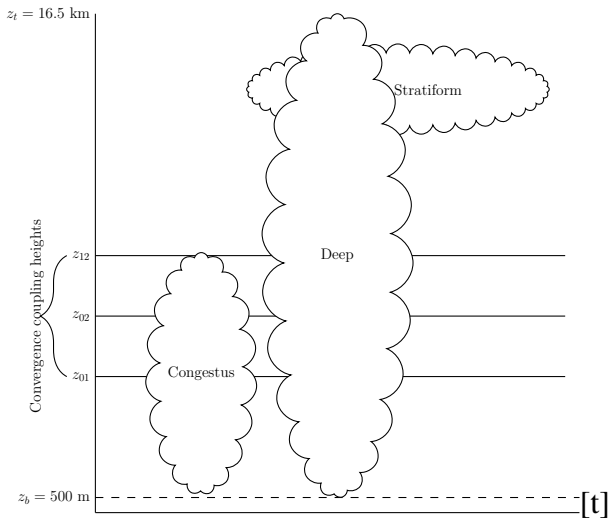
803 **Fig. 9.** Like Figure 8 but for a warm-pool amplitude of $A_{SST} = 4.5$ K. 50

804 **Fig. 10.** Lagged correlation between moisture convergence and precipitation. Unlike Figure 8, the
805 autocorrelation function for each spatial location is calculated independently. The key fea-

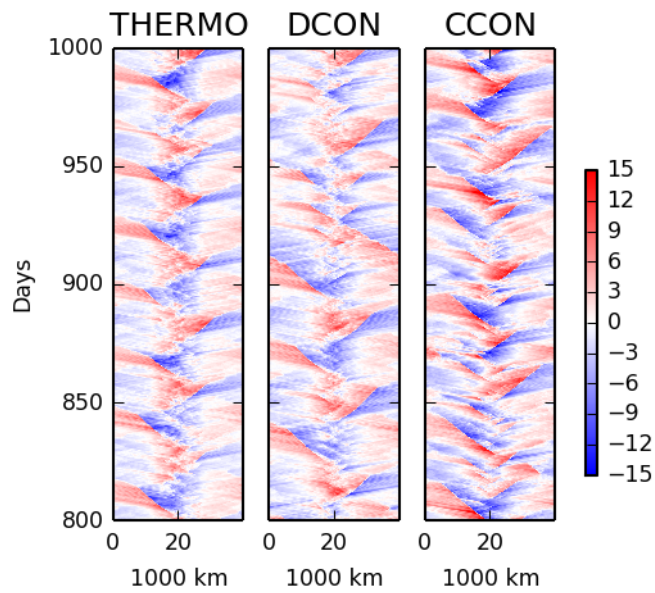
806 ture is that the region where moisture convergence predicts precipitation is much larger in
807 the DCON simulation. 51

808 **Fig. 11.** Climatology for u_1 for CCON simulations with varying τ_w for fixed $R = 240$ km. Blue is the
809 control THERMO simulation. CCON is run with $\tau_w = 10, 100,$ and $300,$ which are plotted
810 in gray with lighter shades indicating higher τ_w 52

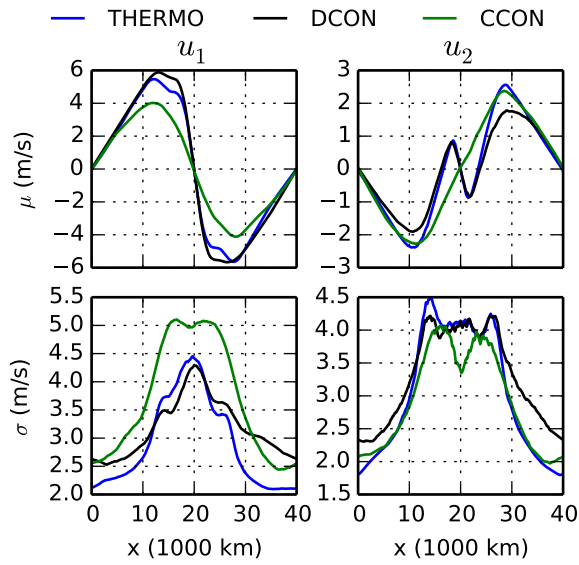
811 **Fig. 12.** σ_c Hovmoller diagrams for the congestus convergence-coupled (CCON) setup for various
812 interaction radii R with fixed $\tau_w = 10$ hr. The upper left panel shows the control THERMO
813 simulation, while the other three panels contain the CCON simulations. In the CCON pan-
814 els, fast moving second baroclinic dry waves with a phase speed of approximately 25 m/s
815 propagate away from slower moving convectively coupled waves. The horizontal scale of
816 both the dry and convectively coupled waves increases notably with R 53



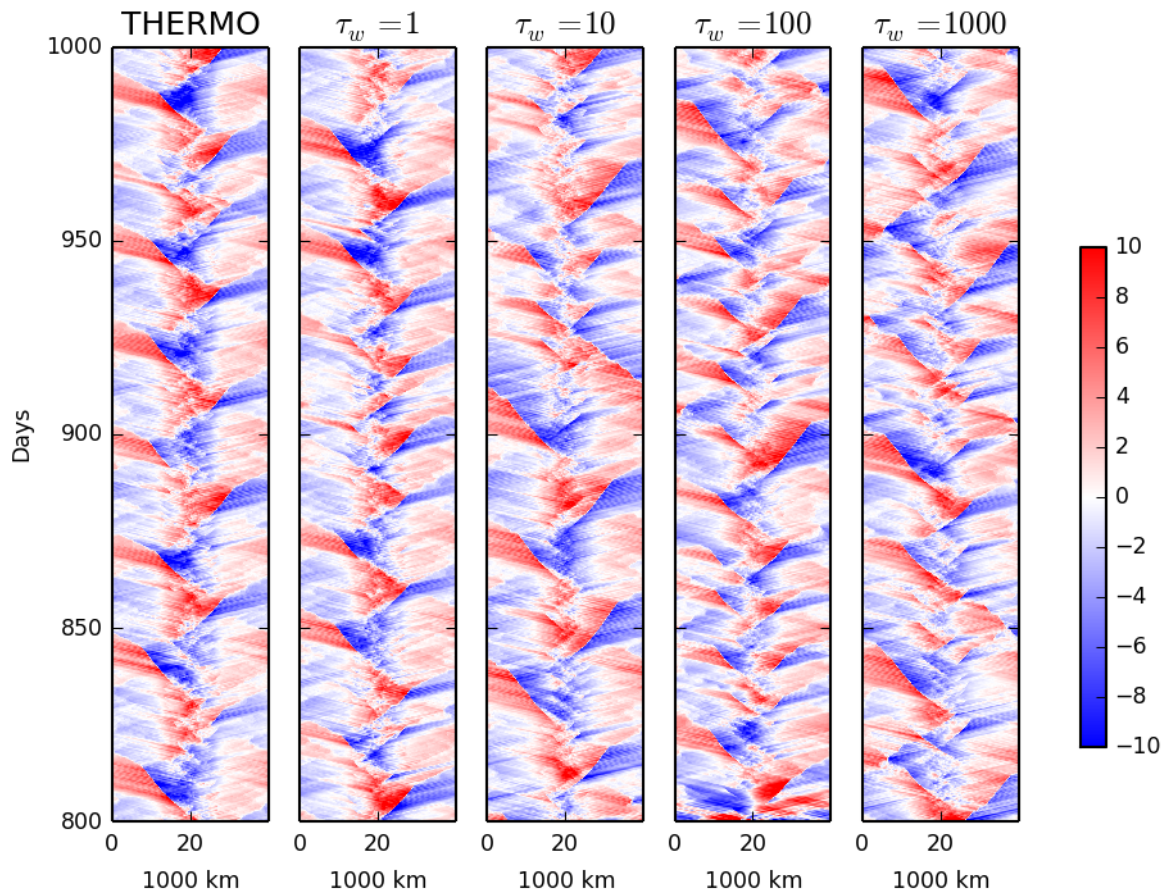
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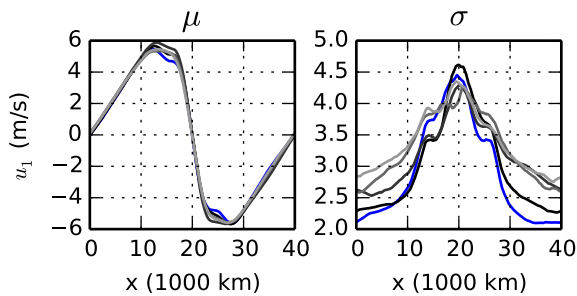
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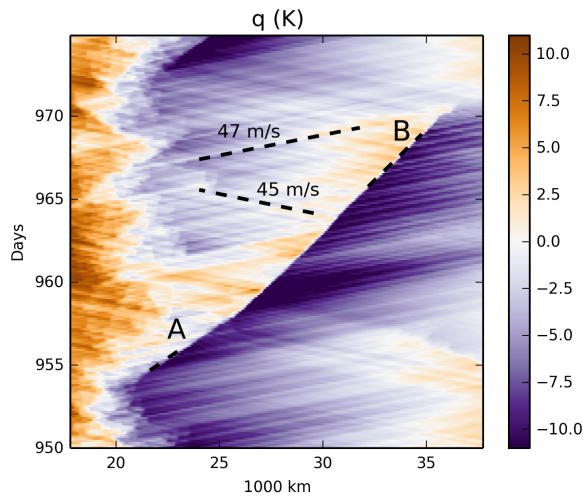
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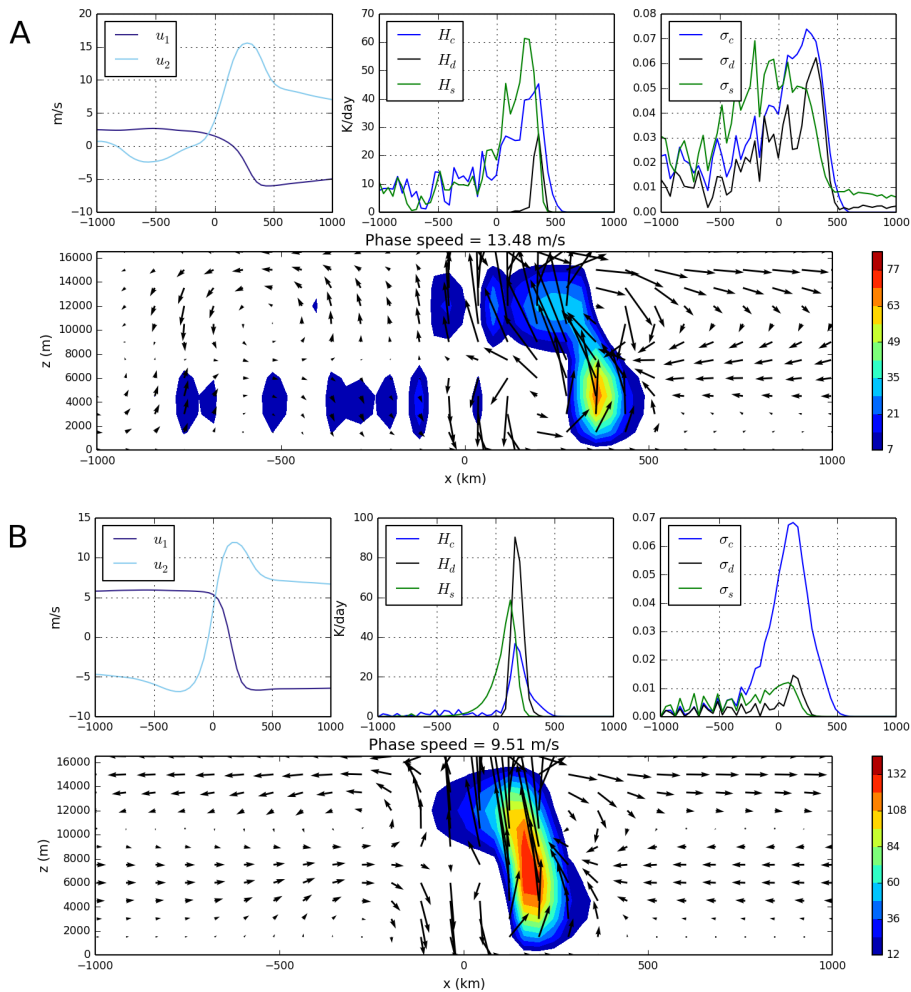
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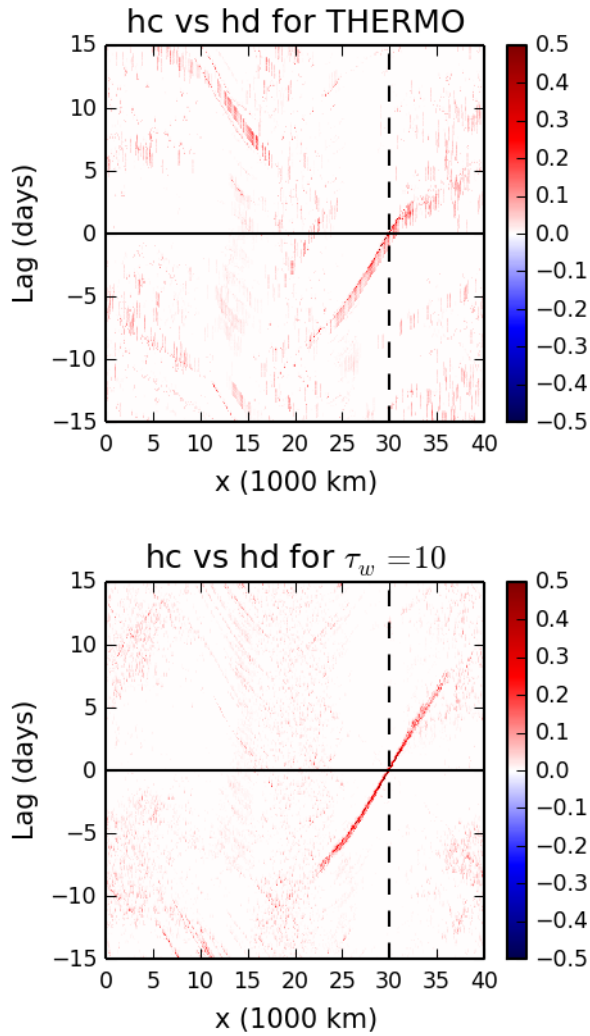
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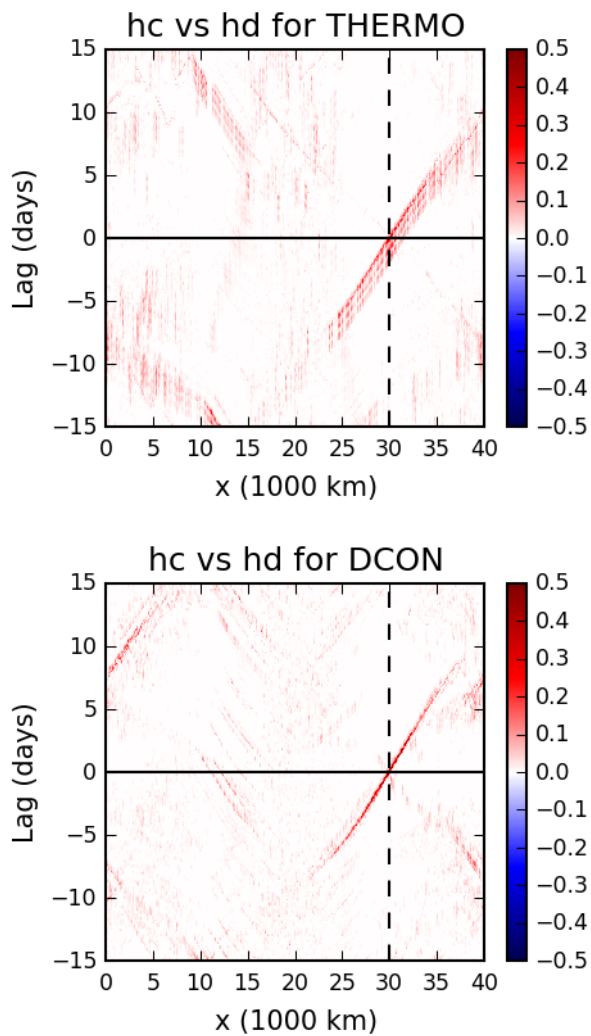
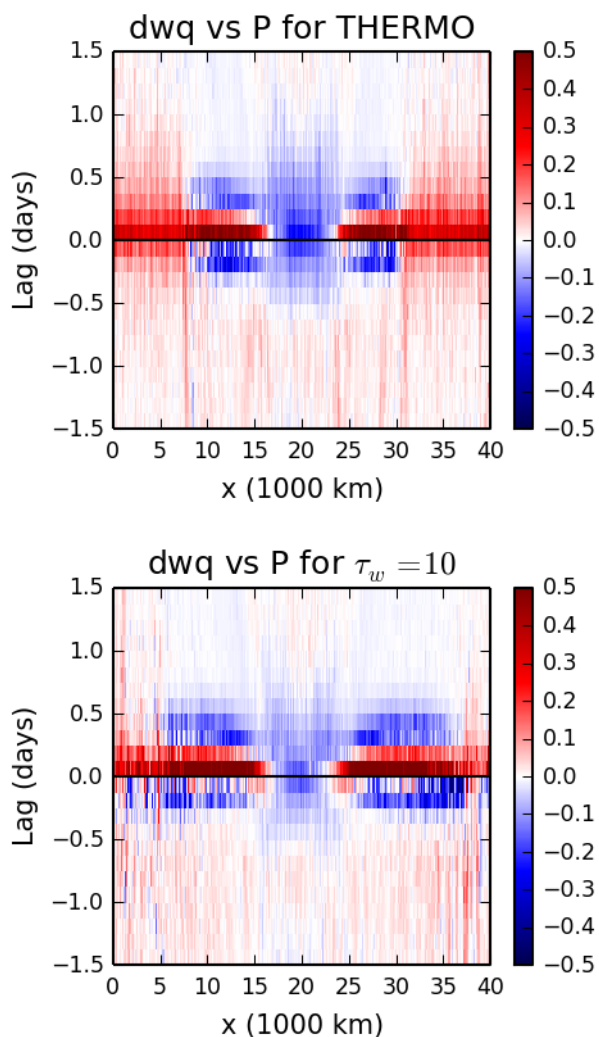
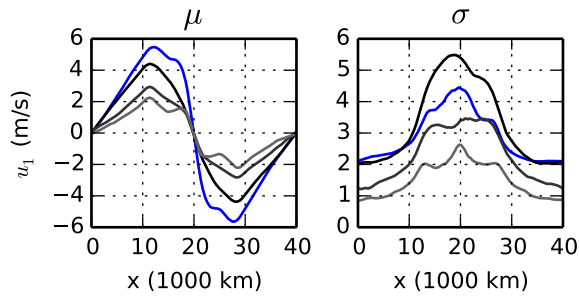


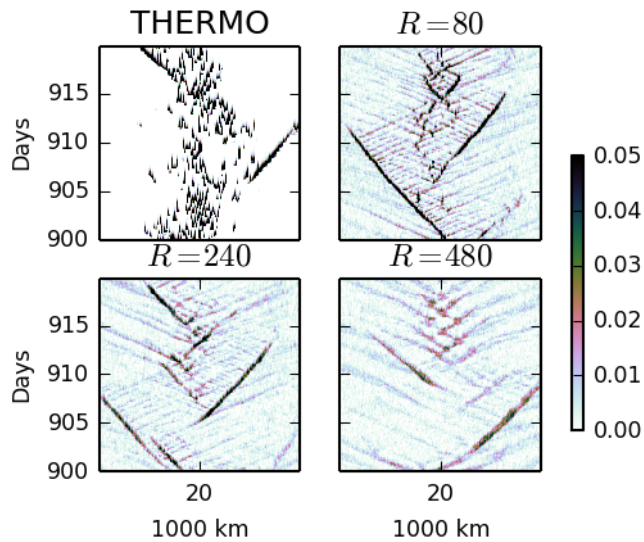
FIG. 9. Like Figure 8 but for a warm-pool amplitude of $A_{SST} = 4.5$ K.



851 FIG. 10. Lagged correlation between moisture convergence and precipitation. Unlike Figure 8, the autocor-
 852 relation function for each spatial location is calculated independently. The key feature is that the region where
 853 moisture convergence predicts precipitation is much larger in the DCON simulation.



854 FIG. 11. Climatology for u_1 for CCON simulations with varying τ_w for fixed $R = 240$ km. Blue is the control
 855 THERMO simulation. CCON is run with $\tau_w = 10, 100,$ and $300,$ which are plotted in gray with lighter shades
 856 indicating higher τ_w .



857 FIG. 12. σ_c Hovmoller diagrams for the congestus convergence-coupled (CCON) setup for various interaction
 858 radii R with fixed $\tau_w = 10$ hr. The upper left panel shows the control THERMO simulation, while the other three
 859 panels contain the CCON simulations. In the CCON panels, fast moving second baroclinic dry waves with a
 860 phase speed of approximately 25 m/s propagate away from slower moving convectively coupled waves. The
 861 horizontal scale of both the dry and convectively coupled waves increases notably with R .