## Role of Scatterometer Data in Tropical Meteorology

- MJO and Tropical Cyclone Studies –

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# MJO

## **Tropical Intraseasonal Oscillation**

Eastward-moving Active Convection from Indian Ocean to Western Pacific



- Takes 1-2 month to move around the tropical globe
- Detected by Madden and Julian in 1971
- Called "Madden-Julian Oscillation" or "Tropical Intraseasonal Oscillation"
- Not well simulated in the model



<sup>(</sup>Madden and Julian, 1972)

#### Lin et al., 2006, J. Clim.

















#### 14 IPCC-4 Models for MJO











ZONAL WAVENUMBER

# MYSTERY OF MJO

MJO is a largest organized convection system (zonal wavenumber of 1 – 2) over the globe, but we do not know the organization mechanism into a planetary scale.

It is really hard to draw the whole picture of it, due to its planetary scale. The data are usually band-pass filtered in time, to try to understand the behavior, but it does not help, because MJO is a mutli-scale phenomenon, composed by moist Kelvin waves.

Most atmospheric GCMs can simulate moist Kelvin waves, but not MJO. Why?

Pre-conditioning, or MJO-genesis is not well known.

## Latent Heating Characteristics of MJO



Morita et al. (2006)

#### Hendon & Salby, 1994, JAS



### ZHANG AND SONG, 2009 GRL

0.8-0.7-0.6-0.5-0.4-0.3-0.2-0.1 0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 0.6 0.7 0.8



NHK: No Shallow Convection Scheme by Hack(1994)

# WIDE PERIODICITY OF MJO

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#### One Fast Kelvin (Super Cluster with CCs)



+

**Slow MJO** 



Several Fast Kelvi (Super Clusters)

15-20 m/s

8-10 m/s

# CLUSTERING OF KELVIN WAVES







**MJO with MKW Clustering** 

No MJO, many MKWs

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# MJO BY SCATTEROMETERS

Pre-conditioning over the Indian Ocean would be a key? Indian Ocean: Genesis Region Coupling of moist Kelvin waves with convection Kelvin-wave westerlies west of MJO
 Trade wind easterlies east of MJO Detailed Circulation Analysis by Scatterometers



- Scanning scatterometer/radiometer
  - Measure near-surface winds, rain, atmospheric water vapor at ~ 10 km spatial resolution
    - Dual band scatterometer: wind & rain
    - Multichannel radiometer: water vapor & rain
  - 100 min sampling, 6-9 contiguous samples of equatorial band
    - Low inclination angle orbit, wide swath
  - Low technological risk



# Tropical Cyclones

#### MTSAT-1R 17:45z20sep2008 IR1



GrADS: COLA/IGE

30

200

#### MTSAT-1R 17:45z20sep2008 IR1



GrADS: COLA/IGE

30

200

#### T0814 wspd 850 (12Z20SEP2008 initial 6h FCST)





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# More Frequent Stronger TCs are Coming?

Questions

Best Track Intensity Data, based on Dvorak Method, are reliable?

Same Intensity for Same Typhoon in JTWC and JMA over WP?

Longer Series of Scatterometer Data are Important!

#### P. J. Webster et al., Science 309, 1844 - 1846 (2005)



Fig. 4. Intensity of hurricanes according to the Saffir-Simpson scale (categories 1 to 5)

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## Wu et al.(2006)



## Wu et al.(2006)



## Wu et al.(2006)



## **Differences in Dvorak Cls**

#### Nakazawa and Hoshino (2009)



http://www.jstage.jst.go.jp/article/sola/5/0/33/\_pdf

## More Severe TCs in late 21st Centuries



# TC BY SCATTEROMETERS

Better Performance in Higher Winds is a KEY!

- Operational Use
  - Data Assimilation

Representations of TCs are getting better
Sometimes the data are rejected... Why?
Research Use

Long-term Trend Analysis on TC Intensity Changes
 Structural Changes of TC Wind Distributions
 TC Genesis under Weak Wind Conditions