



Practical aspect for your
prediction runs / project



Realtime forecast schedule

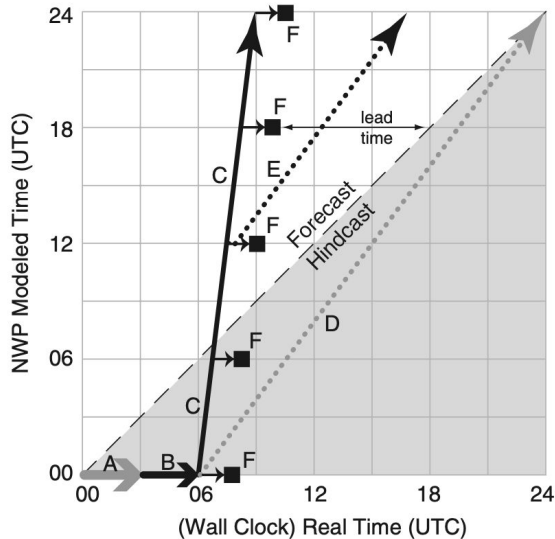


Figure 20.12

Hypothetical forecast schedule, for a 00 UTC initialization.

A: wait for weather observations to arrive.

B: data assimilation to produce the analysis (ICs).

C: coarse-mesh forecast.

D: fine-mesh forecast, initialized from 00 UTC.

E: fine-mesh forecast initialized from coarse forecast at 12 h.

F: postprocessing and creation of products (e.g., weather maps).

Fig. 20.12 shows a hypothetical forecast schedule, for a weather forecast initialized from 00 UTC synoptic observations. First, it takes a few hours (time-line A in Fig. 20.12) for all the data to be communicated from around the world to the weather forecast center (WFC). This step includes quality control, and rejection of suspected bad data.

Next, the data assimilation programs run for a few hours (B) to create a gridded analysis field. This is the optimum initial condition for the NWP model. At this point, we are ready to start making the forecast, but the initial conditions are already 6 h old compared to the present weather.

So the first part of forecast (C) is spent trying to catch up to “present”. This wasted initial forecast period is not lamented, because startup problems associated with the still-slightly-imbalanced initial conditions yield preliminary results that should be discarded anyway. Forecasts that occur AFTER the weather has already happened are known as **hindcasts**, as shown by the shaded area in Fig. 20.12.

The computer continues advancing the forecast (C) by taking small time steps. As the NWP forecast reaches key times, such as 6, 12, 18, and 24 (=00) UTC, the forecast fields are saved for post-processing and display (F). Lead time is how much the forecast is ahead of real time. For example, for coarse-mesh model (C), weather-map products (F) that are produced for a **valid time** of 18 UTC appear with a lead time of about 8 h before 18 UTC actually happens, in this hypothetical illustration.

NWP meteorologists always have the need for speed. Faster computers allow most phases of the forecast process to run faster, allowing finer-resolution forecasts over larger domains with more accuracy and greater lead time. Speed-up can also be

A: Getting observation data

B: Data Assimilation run

C: Fast / low computational cost model run

D/E: Slow / costly model run



Mesh Design tips



Grid Spacing & smallest resolved features

INFO • Resolution vs. Grid Spacing

Theoretically, the smallest horizontal wavelength you can resolve with data at discrete grid points is $2\Delta X$. However, the finite-difference equations that are used to describe advection and other dynamics in NWP models are unable to handle $2\Delta X$ waves. Namely, these waves either do not advect at all (Fig. 20.11d), or they are numerically unstable.

To avoid such unphysical behavior, small wavelength waves are numerically filtered out of the model. As a result, the smallest waves that are usually retained in NWP models are about 5 to $7\Delta X$.

Hence, the actual **resolution** (i.e., the smallest weather features that can be modeled) are about 7 times the **grid spacing**. Stated another way, if you know the size of the smallest weather system or terrain-related flow that you want to be able to forecast, then you need to design your NWP model with horizontal grid spacing ΔX smaller than $1/7$ of that size.

Sample Application

What grid size, domain size, number of grid points, and time steps would you use for a numerical model of a hurricane, and how many computations would be needed to make a 3-day forecast? How fast should your computer be? [Hint: Use info from the Hurricane chapter.]

Assume tropical thunderstorms are about 14 km in diameter



Figure 16.1
Visible-spectrum satellite picture of Hurricane Katrina over the Gulf of Mexico, taken 28 Aug 2005 at 1545 UTC. (GOES image courtesy of US DOC/NOAA.)

Stull 2017 Practical Meteorology
https://www.eoas.ubc.ca/books/Practical_Meteorology/
Chapter 20 Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP)

Mesh design

Finest resolution part

- for areas that the thunderstorm / eyewall would possibly pass
 - during the whole simulation
- Grid spacing: $\langle \text{feature length scale} \rangle / 7$

Surrounding Environment

- Affecting TC track
 - Subtropical high ?
 - Monsoon ?
 - Another TC ?
- Appropriate domain size
- Appropriate grid spacing to resolve feature needed

Assume the smallest feature you want to resolve is a thunderstorm in the eyewall. If tropical thunderstorms are about 14 km in diameter, then you would want $\Delta X = (14 \text{ km})/7 = \mathbf{2 \text{ km}}$ to horizontally resolve it.

Hurricanes can be 300 km in diameter. To model the whole hurricane and a bit of its surrounding environment, you might want a horizontal **domain of 500 km by 500 km**. This works out to $(500 \text{ km} / 2 \text{ km}) = 250$ grid points in each of the x and y directions, giving $(250)^2 = 62,500$ grid points in the horizontal. If you want a model with 50 vertical levels, then you need $(50) \cdot (62,500) = \mathbf{3,125,000 \text{ grid points total}}$.

Other settings in Mesh Specification

Estimation details

- Preview of transition
- Number of cells estimation is very preliminary
 - If you turned on "Boost orography" or "Boost coastline", the resulting number of cells may be a lot more than estimated #cells (Note the "≥" symbol)

Max. Resolution Gradient:

- If the target of simulation is to predict / analyse rain.
- Smooth transition of resolution is recommended.
- The default 1/12 may be too steep (while economical).
- Recommend 1/36 or even smoother, increasing the cost.



Aspects in Real Simulations

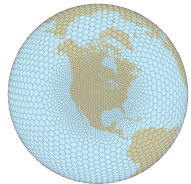


Initial Value Problem

Needs Initial Condition (IC) data given only.

Evolution of states is done by the model solely.

Atmospheric state
Land surface state (soil moisture)



Time-integration

Initial Condition
(whole 3-D domain) given

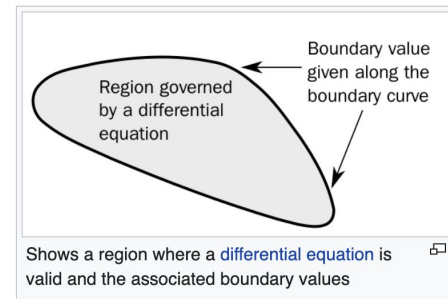
time

Boundary value problem

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

In [mathematics](#), in the field of [differential equations](#), a **boundary value problem** is a [differential equation](#) together with a set of additional [constraints](#), called the **boundary conditions**.^[1] A solution to a boundary value problem is a solution to the differential equation which also satisfies the boundary conditions.

Boundary value problems arise in several branches of physics as any physical differential equation will have them.



Lateral boundary condition (LBC) data must be given periodically (e.g. hourly, or 3 hourly) for the lateral boundary (2-D: horizontal boundary perimeter x vertical dimension)



Initial Condition

Realtime forecasting for the future

US NCEP **GFS**

- The US NCEP GFS forecast data product.
- Near real-time, some hours of delay
- With GDAS (Global Data Assimilation System)

Should have Data assimilation done
- got all available information of
observation data

Data source - For real-data Initial Condition

GFS [?](#)

License: Open Data. There are no restrictions on the use of this data.

FNL [?](#)

ERA5 [?](#)

Re-simulate historic event

ERA5

- The ECMWF ERA5 reanalysis dataset.
- The data has a 5 days delay. ERA5 data since 1979 shall be available.

FNL

- The US NCEP FNL (Final) Operational Global Analysis dataset.
- The data usually has one or two days of delay. FNL data since 2015-07-08 shall be available.

State Imbalance & Spin-up

Imported Initial Condition or Data assimilation introduced imbalanced state.

Analogy:

An extra mass of water is added to a grid cell "suddenly" (due to inference from observation data)

Then this results in spurious wave until it is dissipated.

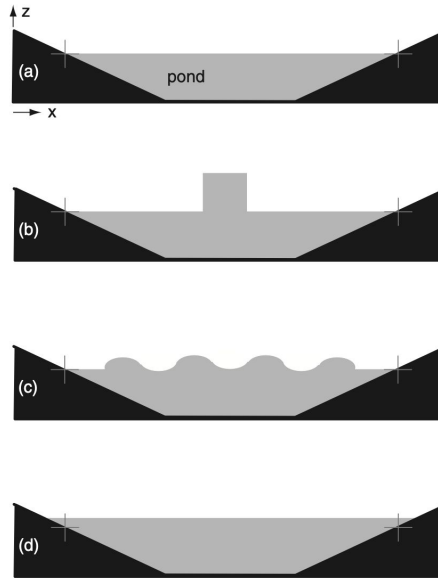


Figure 20.13
Demonstration of a dynamic system becoming balanced. (a) Balanced initial state of a pond of water (shaded grey), with no waves and no currents. (b) Extra water added in center of pond, causing the water-mass distribution to not be in equilibrium with the waves and currents. (c) Wave generation as the pond adjusts itself toward a new balanced state. (d) Final balanced state with slightly higher water everywhere, but no waves and no currents.

The transient waves and currents are an artifact of the poor initial conditions in the model, and are not representative of the true flow in the real pond. Hence, the forecast results are not to be trusted during the first few minutes of the forecast period while the model is adjusting itself to a balanced state.

Numerical forecasts of the atmosphere have the same problem, but on a longer time scale than a pond. Namely, the first 0.5 to 3 hours of a weather forecast are relatively useless while the model adjusts to imbalances in the initial conditions (see the Data Assimilation section). During this startup period, simulated atmospheric waves are bouncing around in the model, both vertically and horizontally.

After the first 3 to 12 h of forecast, the dynamics are fairly well balanced, and give essentially the same forecast as if the fields were balanced from the start. However, spurious waves in the model might also cause unjustified rejection of good data during data assimilation (see next subsection).

Throw away the data in the spin-up period

Usually, the first ~12 hours of mesoscale (around or >10km grid spacing) atmospheric simulation is regarded as the spin-up.

Don't regard it as a valid forecast. Skip the spin-up period in forecast data dissemination and analysis.

Also, the erroneous waves can generate erroneous clouds that cause erroneous precipitation, etc. The net result could be an unrealistic loss of water from the model that could reduce the chance of future cloud formation and precipitation. Change of water content is just one of many **irreversible processes** that can permanently harm the forecast.

In summary, initialization problems cause a transient period of poor forecast quality, and can permanently degrade longer-term forecast skill or cause rejection of good data. Hence, data-assimilation methods to reduce startup imbalances, such as described next, are highly desirable.



Simulation Outputs



Specify what simulation outputs to write to files

Outputs (1) ▾

Output 1

Name

Interval ⓘ 03 hr 00 min 00 sec ≤ hr min sec (Time-slices: 8)

Selected variables (0) Available variables

Please select at least 1 variable.

- diag (0/150) ▲
- diag_physics (0/203) ▲
- state (0/7) ▲
- tend (0/12) ▲
- tend_physics (0/19) ▲
- mesh (0/89) ▲

Prognostic vs Diagnostic variables

Prognostic:

- Rate of change formulated in the model.
- Need to simulate its time evolution.

Diagnostics:

- Can be calculated by other prognostic variables.

Available variables **density**

diag (0/6) ▲

state (0/1) ▼

rho_zz - Dry air density divided by d(zeta)/dz [336.60 MB]

tend (0/1) ▲

mesh (0/1) ▲

Available variables **temperature**

diag (0/22) ▲

diag_physics (0/15) ▲

state (0/1) ▼

theta_m - Moist potential temperature: theta* (1+q_v*R_v/R_d) [336.60 MB]

tend (0/3) ▲

tend_physics (0/5) ▲

$$p = \rho R T$$

pressure (N m⁻²) → ρ ← density (kg m⁻³) ← R ← "gas constant" (J K⁻¹ kg⁻¹) ← T ← temperature (K)



Available variables **pressure**

diag (0/5) ▼

pressure_p - Perturbation pressure [336.60 MB]

pressure - Pressure [336.60 MB]

pressure_base - Base state pressure [336.60 MB]

surface_pressure - Diagnosed surface pressure [6.12 MB]

mslp - Mean sea-level pressure [6.12 MB]

diag_physics (0/4) ▲

tend (0/2) ▲



Sub-Grid Scale Physics Parameterization



Physics Parameterization applies different length scales

Mesoscale (coarser than $\sim 10\text{km}$)



A number of important physical processes are not resolved by the grid.

Needs various formulations to calculate parameterized source and sink terms for the PDEs.

Grey zone for Cumulus parameterization

Grey zone for Gravity Wave Drag

Convection-permitting (finer than $\sim 4\text{km}$)



Many physical processes are resolved by the grid.

Turn off those parameterization

... even finer

Grey zone for Boundary Layer turbulence

Variable-resolution mesh needs
Scale-aware parameterization schemes

Challenging - frontier research underway.
Existing schemes are not perfect, a long way to improve.

Brief introduction of NWP Physics

Stull 2016 Practical Meteorology

Table 20-1. Some physics parameterizations in NWP.

Process	Approximation Methods
Cloud Coverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subgrid-scale cloud coverage as a function of resolved relative humidity. Affects the radiation budget.
Precipitation & Cloud Microphysics	<p>Considers conversions between water vapor, cloud ice, snow, cloud water, rain water, and graupel + hail. Affects large-scale condensation, latent heating, and precipitation based on resolved supersaturation. Methods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> bulk (assumes a size distribution of hydrometeors); or bin (separate forecasts for each sub-range of hydrometeor sizes).
Deep Convection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approximations for cumuliform clouds (including thunderstorms) that are narrower than grid-cell width but which span many grid layers in the vertical (i.e., are unresolved in the horizontal but resolved in the vertical), as function of moisture, stability and winds. Affects vertical mixing, precipitation, latent heating, & cloud coverage.

Radiation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impose solar radiation based on Earth's orbit & solar emissions. Include absorption, scattering, & reflection from clouds, aerosols and the surface. Divide IR radiation spectrum into small number of wide wavelength bands, and track up- and down-welling radiation in each band as absorbed and emitted from/to each grid layer. Affects heating of air & Earth's surface. 	Surface	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use albedo, roughness, etc. from statistical average of varied land use. Snow cover, vegetation greenness, etc. based on resolved heat & water budget.
Turbulence	<p>Subgrid turbulence intensity as function of resolved winds and buoyancy. Fluxes of heat, moisture, momentum as function of turbulence and resolved temperature, water, & winds. Methods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> local down-gradient eddy diffusivity; higher-order local closure; or nonlocal (transilient turb.) mixing. 	Sub-surface heat & water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use climatological average. Or forecast heat conduction & water flow in rivers, lakes, glaciers, subsurface, etc.
Atmospheric Boundary Layer (ABL)	<p>Vertical profiles of temperature, humidity, and wind as a function of resolved state and turbulence, based on forecasts of ABL depth. Methods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> bulk; similarity theory. 	Mountain-wave Drag	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vertical momentum flux as function of resolved topography, winds and static stability.

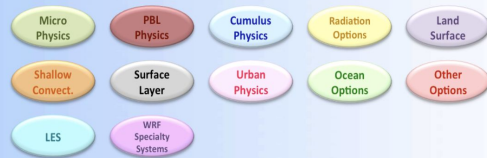
Available choices in WRF

https://www2.mmm.ucar.edu/wrf/users/physics/phys_references.html

(Full list and reference to paper)

WRF MODEL PHYSICS OPTIONS AND REFERENCES

For quick navigation, click buttons below:



Micro Physics Options (*mp_physics*)

Kessler Scheme	option 1	Kessler, E., 1969: On the distribution and continuity of water substance in atmospheric circulations. <i>Meteor. Monogr.</i> , 32 , Amer. Meteor. Soc. doi:10.1007/978-1-935704-36-2_1 PDF
Purdue Lin Scheme	option 2	Chen, S.-H. and W.-Y. Sun, 2002: A one-dimensional time dependent cloud model. <i>J. Meteor. Soc. Japan.</i> , 80 (1), 99–118. doi:10.2151/jmsj.80.99 PDF
WRF Single-moment 3-class and 5-class Schemes	options 3 & 4	Hong, Song-You, Jimmy Dudhia, and Shu-Hua Chen, 2004: A revised approach to ice microphysical processes for the bulk parameterization of clouds and precipitation. <i>Mon. Wea. Rev.</i> , 132 , 103–120. doi:10.1175/1520-0493(2004)132<0103:ARATIM>2.0.CO;2 PDF
Eta (Farrier) Scheme	option 5	NOAA, cited 2001: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Changes to the NCEP Meso Eta Analysis and Forecast System: Increase in resolution, new cloud microphysics, modified precipitation assimilation, modified 3DVAR analysis. [Available online at http://www.emc.ncep.noaa.gov/mmb/mmb01/eta12tbb/]
WRF Single-moment 6-class Scheme	option 6	Hong, S.-Y., and J.-O. J. Lim, 2006: The WRF single-moment 6-class microphysics scheme (WSM6). <i>J. Korean Meteor. Soc.</i> , 42 , 129–151. PDF

Cumulus Parameterization Options (*cu_physics*)

Kain-Fritsch Scheme	option 1	Kain, John S., 2004: The Kain-Fritsch convective parameterization: An update. <i>J. Appl. Meteor.</i> , 43 , 170–181. doi:10.1175/1520-0450(2004)043<0170:TKCPAU>2.0.CO;2 PDF
Moisture-advection-based Trigger for Kain-Fritsch Cumulus Scheme	kfeta_trigger = 2	Ma, Lei-Ming, and Zhe-Min Tan, 2009: Improving the behavior of the cumulus parameterization for tropical cyclone prediction: Convection trigger. <i>Atmos. Res.</i> , 92 , 190–211. doi:10.1016/j.atmosres.2008.09.022 PDF
RH-dependent Additional Perturbation to option 1 for the Kain-Fritsch Scheme	kfeta_trigger = 3	

New Tiedtke Scheme	option 16	Zhang, C. and Y. Wang, 2017: Projected Future Changes of Tropical Cyclone Activity over the Western North and South Pacific in a 20-km-Mesh Regional Climate Model. <i>J. Climate</i> , 30 , 5923–5941. doi:10.1175/JCLI-D-16-0597.1 PDF
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Planetary Boundary Layer (PBL) Physics Options (*bl_pbl_physics*)

Yonsei University Scheme (YSU)	option 1	Hong, Song-You, Yign Noh, Jimmy Dudhia, 2006: A new vertical diffusion package with an explicit treatment of entrainment processes. <i>Mon. Wea. Rev.</i> , 134 , 2318–2341. doi:10.1175/MWR3199.1 PDF
Mellor-Yamada-Janjic Scheme (MYJ)	option 2	Janjic, Zavisla I., 1994: The Step-Mountain Eta Coordinate Model: Further developments of the convection, viscous sublayer, and turbulence closure schemes. <i>Mon. Wea. Rev.</i> , 122 , 927–945. doi:10.1175/1520-0493(1994)122%3C0927:TSMECM%3e2.0.CO;2 PDF
		Mesinger, F., 1993: Forecasting upper tropospheric turbulence within the framework of the Mellor-Yamada 2.5 closure. <i>Res. Activ. in Atmos. and Ocean. Mod., WMO, Geneva, CAS/JSC WGNE Rep. No. 18</i> , 4:28–4:29. PDF

Land Surface Options (*sf_surface_physics*)

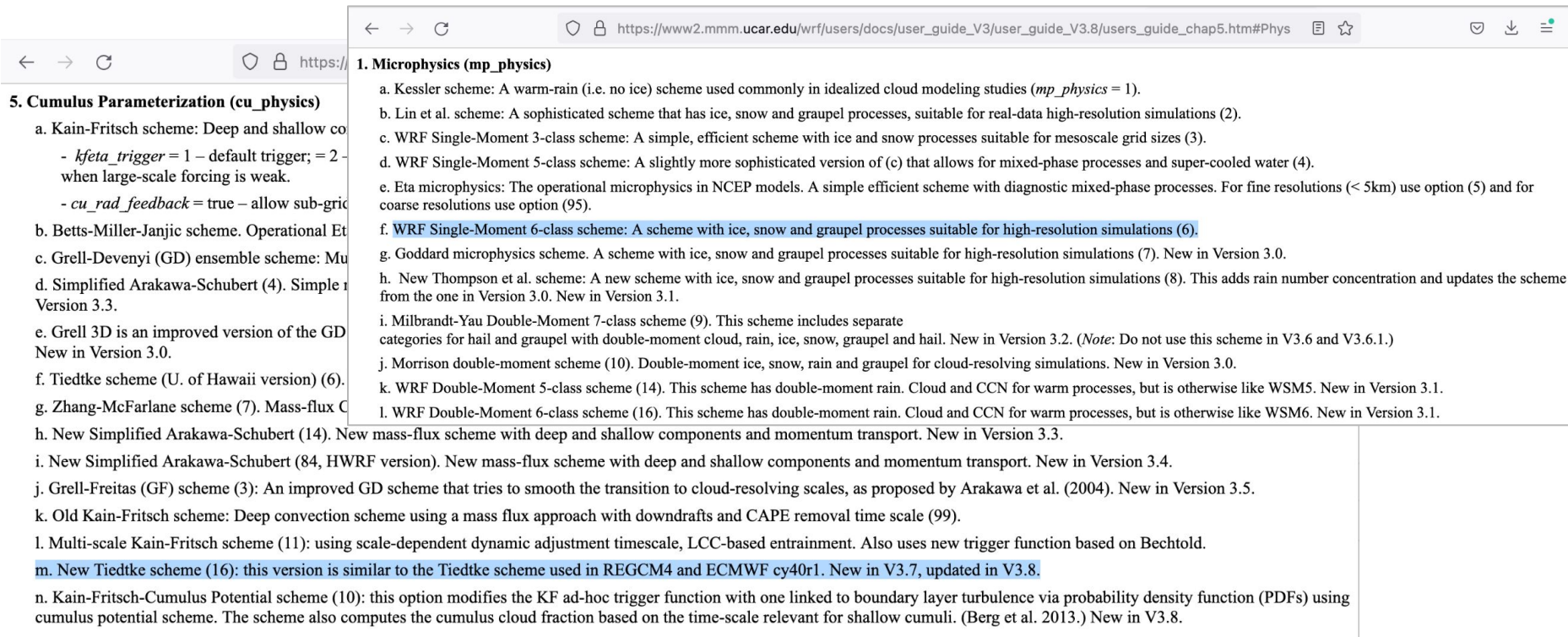
5-layer Thermal Diffusion Scheme	option 1	Dudhia, Jimmy, 1996: A multi-layer soil temperature model for MM5. The Sixth PSU/NCAR Mesoscale Model Users' Workshop. PDF
Unified Noah Land Surface Model	option 2	Tewari, M., F. Chen, W. Wang, J. Dudhia, M. A. LeMone, K. Mitchell, M. Ek, G. Gayno, J. Wegiel, and R. H. Cuenca, 2004: Implementation and verification of the unified NOAA land surface model in the WRF model. <i>20th conference on weather analysis and forecasting/16th conference on numerical weather prediction</i> , pp. 11–15. PDF

Accumulation of science community's contributions - very numerous.

Available choices in WRF

https://www2.mmm.ucar.edu/wrf/users/docs/user_guide_V3/user_guide_V3.8/users_guide_chap5.htm#Phys

(Short description of models and options)



The image shows a screenshot of a web browser displaying the WRF user guide page for microphysics options. The browser's address bar shows the URL: https://www2.mmm.ucar.edu/wrf/users/docs/user_guide_V3/user_guide_V3.8/users_guide_chap5.htm#Phys. The page content is titled "1. Microphysics (mp_physics)" and lists various schemes and options. The text is as follows:

5. Cumulus Parameterization (cu_physics)

- a. Kain-Fritsch scheme: Deep and shallow convection parameterization. Options:
 - `kfeta_trigger = 1` – default trigger; = 2 – when large-scale forcing is weak.
 - `cu_rad_feedback = true` – allow sub-grid scale radiative cooling.
- b. Betts-Miller-Janjic scheme. Operational Eta model.
- c. Grell-Devenyi (GD) ensemble scheme: Multiple deep convection schemes. New in Version 3.3.
- d. Simplified Arakawa-Schubert (4). Simple mass-flux scheme. New in Version 3.3.
- e. Grell 3D is an improved version of the GD scheme. New in Version 3.0.
- f. Tiedtke scheme (U. of Hawaii version) (6). New mass-flux scheme with deep and shallow components and momentum transport. New in Version 3.3.
- g. Zhang-McFarlane scheme (7). Mass-flux scheme with deep and shallow components and momentum transport. New in Version 3.3.
- h. New Simplified Arakawa-Schubert (14). New mass-flux scheme with deep and shallow components and momentum transport. New in Version 3.4.
- i. New Simplified Arakawa-Schubert (84, HWRF version). New mass-flux scheme with deep and shallow components and momentum transport. New in Version 3.4.
- j. Grell-Freitas (GF) scheme (3): An improved GD scheme that tries to smooth the transition to cloud-resolving scales, as proposed by Arakawa et al. (2004). New in Version 3.5.
- k. Old Kain-Fritsch scheme: Deep convection scheme using a mass flux approach with downdrafts and CAPE removal time scale (99).
- l. Multi-scale Kain-Fritsch scheme (11): using scale-dependent dynamic adjustment timescale, LCC-based entrainment. Also uses new trigger function based on Bechtold.
- m. New Tiedtke scheme (16): this version is similar to the Tiedtke scheme used in REGCM4 and ECMWF cy40r1. New in V3.7, updated in V3.8.
- n. Kain-Fritsch-Cumulus Potential scheme (10): this option modifies the KF ad-hoc trigger function with one linked to boundary layer turbulence via probability density function (PDFs) using cumulus potential scheme. The scheme also computes the cumulus cloud fraction based on the time-scale relevant for shallow cumuli. (Berg et al. 2013.) New in V3.8.

Available choices in MPAS-A / CPAS

Table 6.3: Possible options for individual physics parameterizations. Namelist variables should be added to the &physics namelist record.

Parameterization	Namelist variable	Possible options	Details
Convection	config_convection_scheme	<code>cu_tiedtke</code>	Tiedtke (WRF 3.8.1)
		<code>cu_ntiedtke</code>	New Tiedtke (WRF 4.0.3)
		<code>cu_grell_freitas</code>	Modified version of scale-aware Grell-Freitas (WRF 3.6.1)
		<code>cu_kain_fritsch</code>	Kain-Fritsch (WRF 3.2.1)
Microphysics	config_microp_scheme	<code>mp_wsm6</code>	WSM 6-class (WRF 4.1)
		<code>mp_thompson</code>	Thompson non-aerosol aware (WRF 3.8.1)
		<code>mp_kessler</code>	Kessler
Land surface	config_lsm_scheme	<code>noah</code>	Noah (WRF 4.0.3)
Boundary layer	config_pbl_scheme	<code>bl_ysu</code>	YSU (WRF 4.0.3)
		<code>bl_mynn</code>	MYNN (WRF 3.6.1)
Surface layer	config_sfclayer_scheme	<code>sf_monin_obukhov</code> <code>sf_mynn</code>	Monin-Obukhov (WRF 4.0.3) MYNN (WRF 3.6.1)
Radiation, LW	config_radt_lw_scheme	<code>rrtmg_lw</code>	RRTMG (WRF 3.8.1)
		<code>cam_lw</code>	CAM (WRF 3.3.1)
Radiation, SW	config_radt_sw_scheme	<code>rrtmg_sw</code>	RRTMG (WRF 3.8.1)
		<code>cam_sw</code>	CAM (WRF 3.3.1)
Cloud fraction for radiation	config_radt_cld_scheme	<code>cld_fraction</code>	Xu and Randall (1996)
		<code>cld_incidence</code>	0/1 cloud fraction depending on $q_c + q_i$
Gravity wave drag by orography	config_gwdo_scheme	<code>bl_ysu_gwdo</code>	YSU (WRF 4.0.3)

Physics Suite

Model options ▾

Physics Suite

Mesoscale reference ?

Convection permitting ?

None ?

Mesoscale reference

Parameterization	Scheme
Convection	New Tiedtke
Microphysics	WSM6
Land surface	Noah
Boundary layer	YSU
Surface layer	Monin-Obukhov
Radiation, LW	RRTMG
Radiation, SW	RRTMG
Cloud fraction for radiation	Xu-Randall
Gravity wave drag by orography	YSU

Convection permitting

Parameterization	Scheme
Convection	Grell-Freitas
Microphysics	Thompson (non-aerosol aware)
Land surface	Noah
Boundary layer	MYNN
Surface layer	MYNN
Radiation, LW	RRTMG
Radiation, SW	RRTMG
Cloud fraction for radiation	Xu-Randall
Gravity wave drag by orography	YSU

Do the grid cells resolve cumulus?

Small grid spacing (<3km)

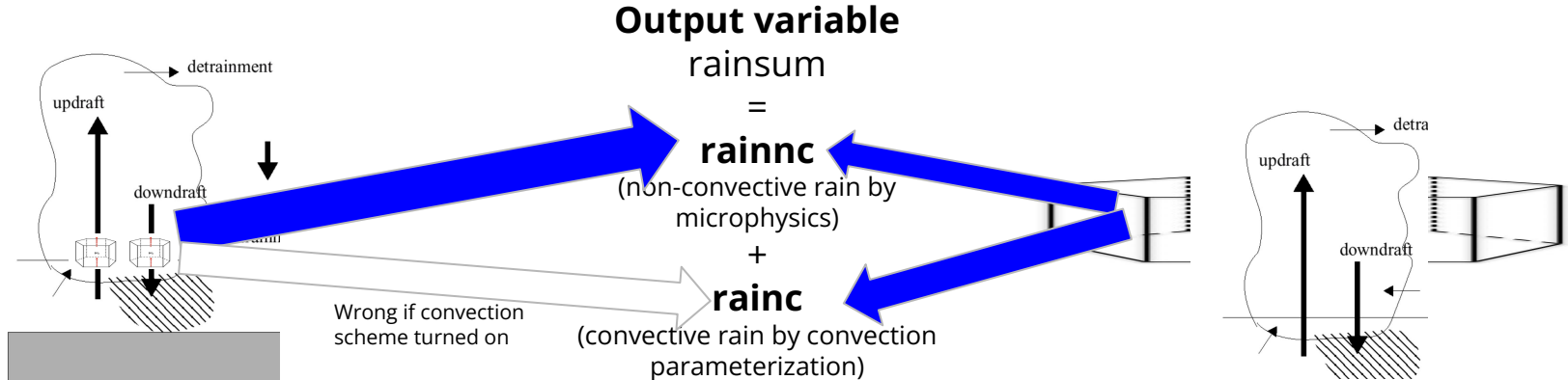
Convection resolving / permitting.
Updraft and downdraft may be simulated.

Precipitation calculated by Microphysics alone.
Turn off convection parameterization

Large grid spacing (>10km)

Grid columns completely contain convective clouds.
Convection not resolved, needs parameterization.

Precipitation calculated by
Microphysics + convection parameterization



✓ `rainnc` - Accumulated total grid-scale precipitation [6.12 MB]

✓ `rainc` - Accumulated convective precipitation [6.12 MB]

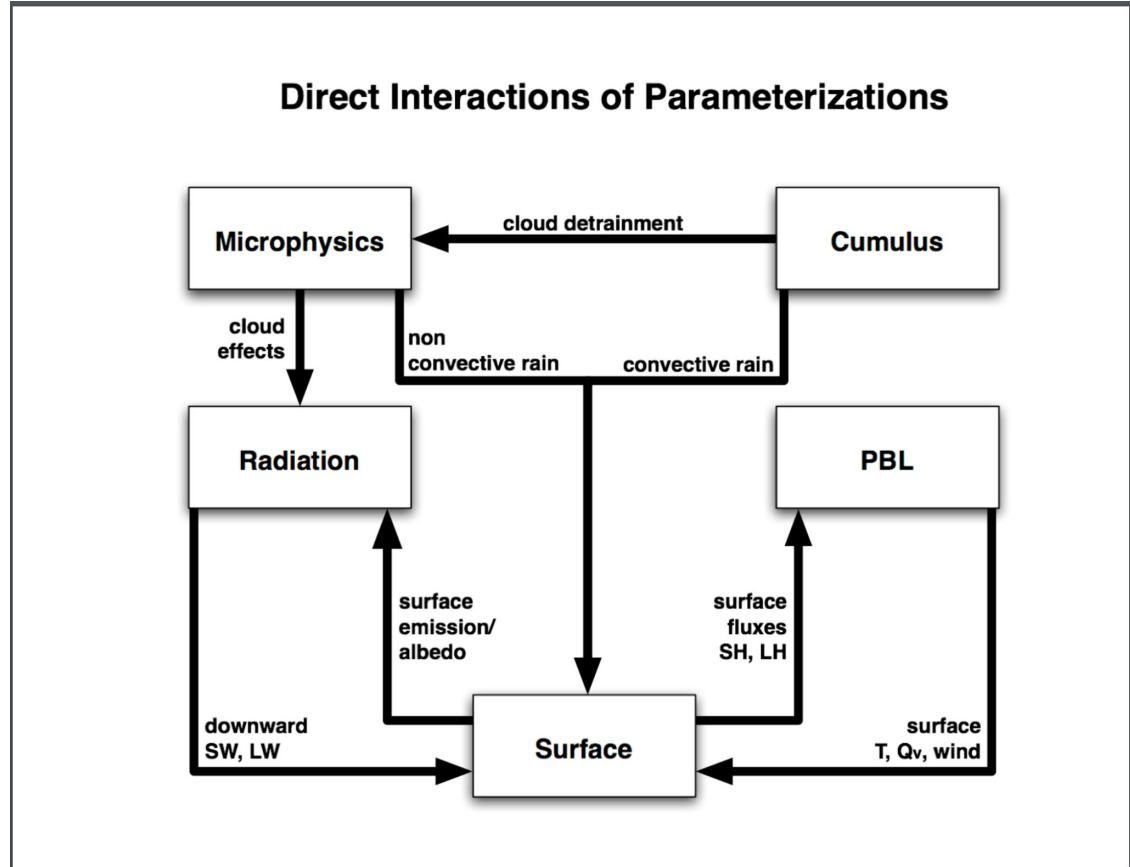
Interactions of Parameterizations

Moisture distribution may also be affected by other modules.

Cloud affects radiation.

https://homepages.see.leeds.ac.uk/~lecag/wiser/sample_wiser_files.dir/Physics_Dudhia.ppt.pdf

Overview of WRF Physics



Microphysics

A emulation of the processes by which moisture is removed from the air, based on other thermodynamic and kinematic fields represented within a model.

Clouds can be resolved but hydrometeors are subgrid

Parameterize micro-scale phenomena like:

- Moisture saturation
- Droplet formation & growth / evaporation
- Raindrop / snow / graupel / hail falling

Need to represent hydrometeor particle size distribution.

github.com/MPAS-Dev/MPAS-Model/blob/master/src/core_atmosphere/Registry.xml



```
<var_array name="scalars" type="real" dimensions="nVertLevels nCells Time">
  <var name="qv" array_group="moist" units="kg kg^{-1}"
    description="Water vapor mixing ratio"/>

  <var name="qc" array_group="moist" units="kg kg^{-1}"
    description="Cloud water mixing ratio"
    packages="bl_mynn_in;bl_ysu_in;cu_tiedtke_in;mp_kessler_in;mp_thompson_in;mp_wsm6_in"/>

  <var name="qr" array_group="moist" units="kg kg^{-1}"
    description="Rain water mixing ratio"
    packages="mp_kessler_in;mp_thompson_in;mp_wsm6_in"/>

  <var name="qi" array_group="moist" units="kg kg^{-1}"
    description="Ice mixing ratio"
    packages="bl_mynn_in;bl_ysu_in;cu_tiedtke_in;mp_thompson_in;mp_wsm6_in"/>

  <var name="qs" array_group="moist" units="kg kg^{-1}"
    description="Snow mixing ratio"
    packages="mp_thompson_in;mp_wsm6_in"/>

  <var name="qg" array_group="moist" units="kg kg^{-1}"
    description="Graupel mixing ratio"
    packages="mp_thompson_in;mp_wsm6_in"/>

  <var name="ni" array_group="number" units="nb kg^{-1}"
    description="Cloud ice number concentration"
    packages="bl_mynn_in;mp_thompson_in"/>

  <var name="nr" array_group="number" units="nb kg^{-1}"
    description="Rain number concentration"
    packages="mp_thompson_in"/>
</var_array>
```


Simple to complex cloud models

Physics only ?

Physics + Chemistry?

Water only? Aerosol?

Simple: "Single moment":

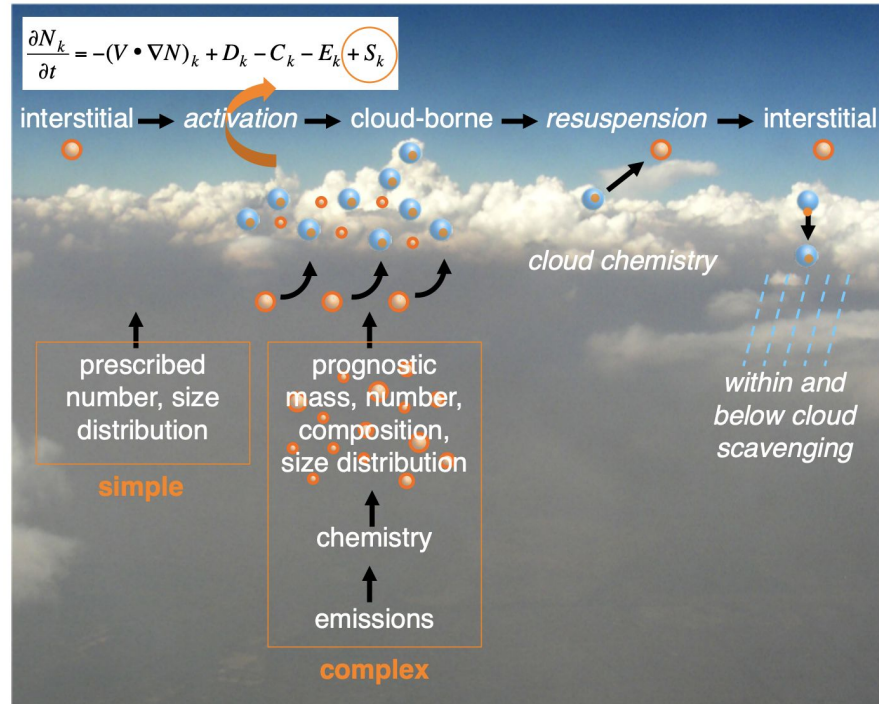
moisture distribution described by mass ratio only.

Unit: kg/kg

weight of moisture / weight of dry air

Aerosol-Cloud Interactions in grid-scale clouds

General Description and Assumptions



Simple:

- ▶ chem_opt=0
- ▶ progn = 1
- ▶ naer = specified

Complex:

- ▶ chem_opt = 9-12, 32, 34, 35, 41-43, 132, 202, 203, 503, 504, 601, 611
- ▶ progn = 1
- ▶ naer = ignored

coupled to 2 microphysics schemes:
Lin and Morrison

24

https://ruc.noaa.gov/wrf/wrf-chem/wrf_tutorial_2018/AerosolInteractions.pdf
WRF-Chem tutorial

Available variables

scalars

state (0/1) ▾

scalars - Includes 6 active variables: qv, qc, qr, qi, qs, qg [2,019.62 MB]

More complicated cloud model

“Double moment”

moisture distribution described by mass ratio $\{q\bullet\}$ and number concentration $\{n\bullet\}$.


Unit: number of droplets / weight of dry air

Available variables scalars

state (0/1) ▾

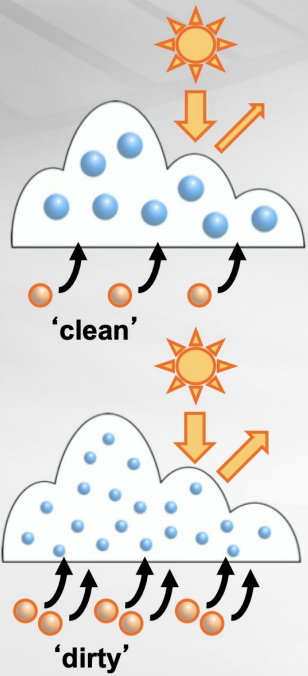
scalars - Includes 8 active variables: qv, qc, qr, qi, qs, qg, ni, nr [2,692.83 MB]

tend (0/1) ▲




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Part 2: Aerosol Indirect Effects



'clean'

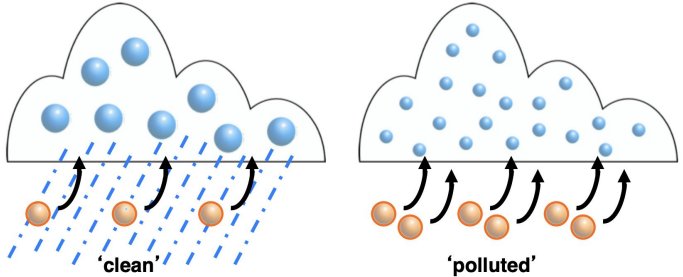
'dirty'



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Second Indirect Effect

► Influence of cloud optical depth through influence of droplet number on mean droplet size and hence initiation of precipitation



'clean'

'polluted'

qndrop → cldphy_1d.f → praut → qr → precr

module_mp_lin.F autoconversion rate rain mixing ratio

(subroutines for Goddard scheme)

36

The number of activated aerosols affects the cloud drop size distribution, and consequently cloud albedo and radiation budget

23

Convection Parameterization

Cumulus Schemes

- Use for grid columns that completely contain convective clouds
- Re-distribute air in column to account for vertical convective fluxes
 - Updrafts take boundary layer air upwards
 - Downdrafts take mid-level air downwards
- Schemes have to determine
 - When to trigger a convective column
 - How fast to make the convection act

Triggers

- Clouds only activate in columns that meet certain criteria
 - Presence of some convective available potential energy (CAPE) in sounding
 - Not too much convective inhibition (CIN) in sounding (cap strength)
 - Minimum cloud depth from parcel ascent

https://homepages.see.leeds.ac.uk/~lecag/wiser/sample_wiser_files.dir/Physics_Dudhia.ppt.pdf

Overview of WRF Physics, Dudhia NCAR

Convection Parameterization Con't

Closures

- Closure determine cloud strength (mass-flux) based on various methods
 - Clouds remove CAPE over time
 - Specified CAPE-removal time scale (KF, Tiedtke, ZM, BMJ)
 - Quasi-equilibrium (Arakawa-Schubert) with large-scale destabilization $d(\text{CAPE})/dt$ (SAS, NSAS)
 - Column moisture convergence
 - Low-level large-scale ascent (mass convergence)

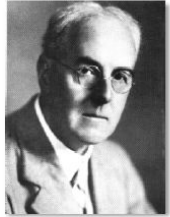
Ensemble methods

- GF, G3 and GD use ensemble of triggers and closures possibly with with varying parameters (effectively up to 144 members)
- Take mean of ensemble to feed back to model
- In principle, can be tuned to emphasize various members under different conditions

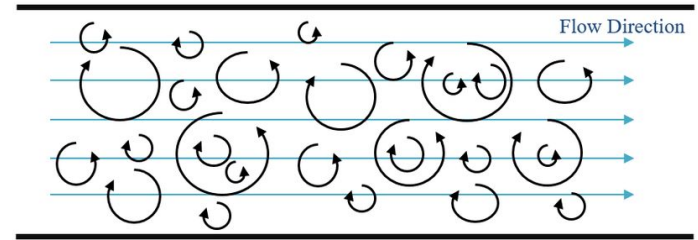
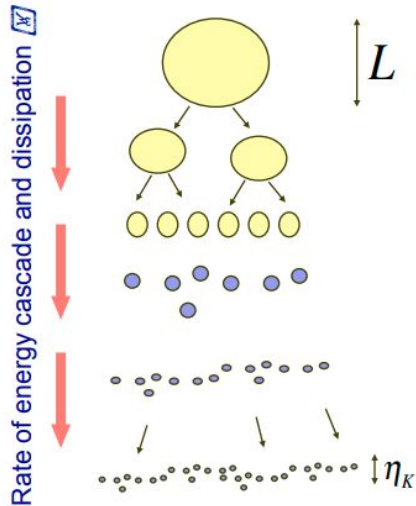
Turbulence (Richardson 1922)



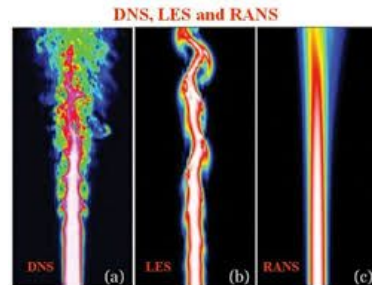
Eddies of different sizes.



Lewis Fry Richardson



Numerical approaches



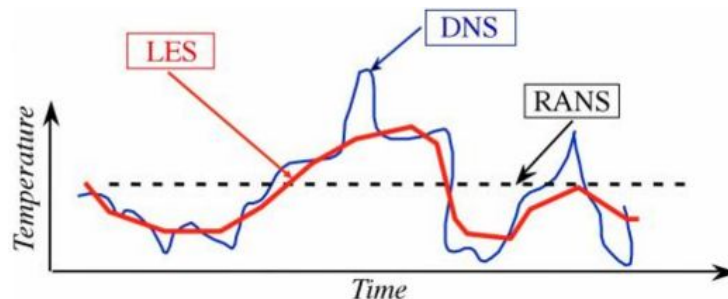
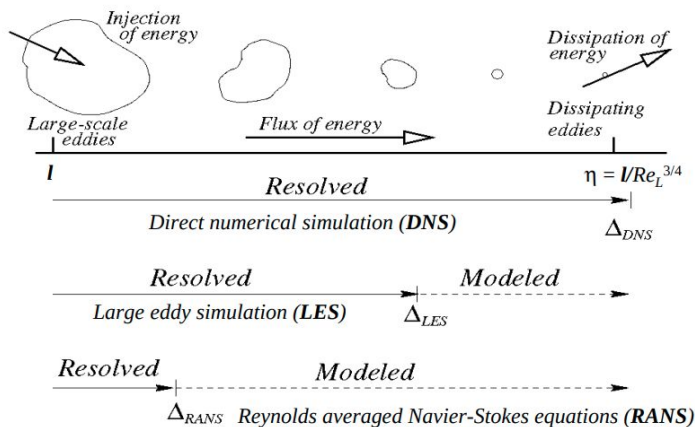
- Direct numerical simulation (DNS)

- Large eddy simulation (LES) first explored by Deardorff (1970) $\tilde{u}_i(\mathbf{x}, t) = G_\Delta * u_i = \int G_\Delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}') u_i(\mathbf{x}') d^3 \mathbf{x}'$

- Reynolds-averaged Navier-Stokes equation (RANS)

$$\widehat{\bar{u}}(\omega) = \widehat{G}(\omega) \widehat{u}(\omega)$$

$$\overline{\bar{u}} \neq \bar{u}, \quad \overline{u\bar{v}} \neq \bar{u}\bar{v}$$



Reynolds-Averaged Navier-Stokes equations (RANS)

Reynolds decomposition of the flow variables into mean and perturbation parts, Reynolds, Osborne (1895)

The flow variables can be u , v , w , T and θ ,
(averaging over a grid volume and period of time)

$$u_i(x_k, t) = U_i(x_k) + u'(x_k, t)$$

$$U_i(x_k) = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T u(x_k, t) dt$$

RANS

averaging over a grid volume and period of time.

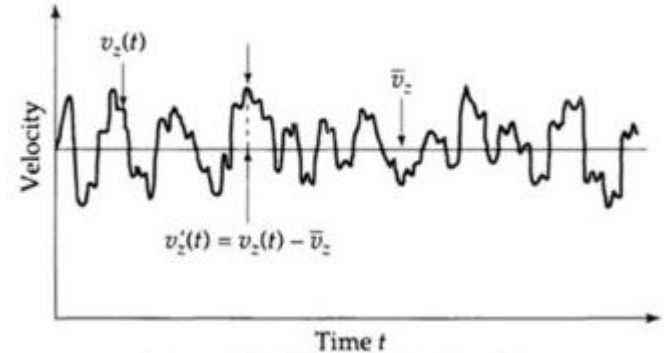
$$\overline{\phi'} = 0$$

$$\overline{\phi'} = \overline{\psi'} = 0, \quad \overline{\phi\psi} = \overline{\phi}\overline{\psi} + \overline{\phi'\psi'}, \quad \overline{\phi\phi'} = \overline{\psi\psi'} = \overline{\phi\psi'} = \overline{\psi\phi'} = 0 \quad (2.4)$$

$$\overline{\phi^2} = \overline{\phi}^2 + \overline{\phi'^2}, \quad \overline{\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial t}} = \frac{\partial\overline{\phi}}{\partial t}, \quad \overline{\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial x_i}} = \frac{\partial\overline{\phi}}{\partial x_i} \quad (2.5)$$

$$\overline{u}_i = \frac{1}{T} \int_t^{t+T} u_i dt$$

$$\frac{1}{T} \int_t^{t+T} u'_i dt = 0$$



RANS

$$\frac{\partial u_i}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (u_i u_j) = - \frac{\partial p}{\partial x_i} + \nu \frac{\partial^2 u_i}{\partial x_j \partial x_j}$$

$$\frac{\partial \bar{u}_i}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (\overline{u_i u_j}) = - \frac{\partial \bar{p}}{\partial x_i} + \nu \frac{\partial^2 \bar{u}_i}{\partial x_j \partial x_j}$$

$$u = \bar{u} + u'$$

$$w = \bar{w} + w'$$

$$p = \bar{p} + p'$$

$$\overline{u_i u_j} = \overline{(\bar{u}_i + u'_i)(\bar{u}_j + u'_j)} = \overline{\bar{u}_i \bar{u}_j} + \overline{\bar{u}_i u'_j} + \overline{u'_i \bar{u}_j} + \overline{u'_i u'_j} = \bar{u}_i \bar{u}_j + \overline{u'_i u'_j}$$

$$\frac{\partial \bar{u}_i}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (\bar{u}_i \bar{u}_j) = - \frac{\partial \bar{p}}{\partial x_i} + \nu \frac{\partial^2 \bar{u}_i}{\partial x_j \partial x_j} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (\overline{u'_i u'_j})$$

u' , w' are correlated

$$\overline{w'} = 0$$

$$\overline{u'} = 0$$

but...

$$\overline{w' u'} \neq 0$$

Reynolds-stress term

$$\frac{\partial(\overline{u'_i u'_j})}{\partial x_j}$$

$$\frac{\partial \bar{u}_i}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}(\bar{u}_i \bar{u}_j) = -\frac{\partial \bar{p}}{\partial x_i} + \nu \frac{\partial^2 \bar{u}_i}{\partial x_j \partial x_j} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}(\overline{u'_i u'_j})$$

-Viscous force (molecular viscosity, diffusion by molecular motions). $\frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left[\nu \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial z} \right]$

-The complete form is Reynolds-stress tensor, is symmetric, the diagonal components are normal stress and off-diagonal components are shear stress.

$$R_{ij} = -\rho \begin{pmatrix} \overline{u' u'} & \overline{u' v'} & \overline{u' w'} \\ \overline{v' u'} & \overline{v' v'} & \overline{v' w'} \\ \overline{w' u'} & \overline{w' v'} & \overline{w' w'} \end{pmatrix}$$

Theories at a glance (details skipped)

Eddy viscosity coefficient

$$\overline{(u'w')} = -K_m \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial z}$$

Prandtl Mixing Length Theory

$$K_m = l_v^2 \left| \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial z} \right|$$

Friction velocity on surface layer

$$u_*^2 \equiv \left| \overline{(u'w')} \right|_s$$

log wind profile

$$\bar{u} = \frac{u_*}{\kappa} \ln \left(\frac{z-d}{z_0} \right)$$

Monin-Obukhov Length

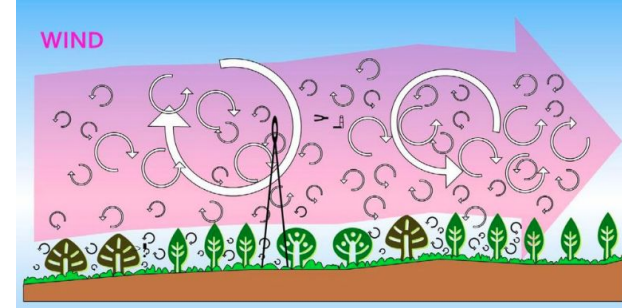
$$L \equiv \frac{-u_*^3 \bar{\theta}_v}{\kappa g \overline{(w'\theta'_v)}_s}$$

Modification of log wind profile

$$\frac{d\bar{u}}{dz} = \frac{u_*}{\kappa z} \phi_m$$

$$d\bar{u} = \frac{u_*}{\kappa} \left[\frac{dz}{z} - (1 - \phi_m) \frac{dz/L}{z/L} \right]$$

$$\bar{u} = \frac{u_*}{\kappa} \left[\ln \frac{z}{z_0} - \psi_m \right]$$



$$u_{10m} = u_a \frac{\ln \left(\frac{10+z_0}{z_0} \right) - \psi_m \left(\frac{10+z_0}{L} \right) + \psi_m \left(\frac{z_0}{L} \right)}{\ln \left(\frac{z+z_0}{z_0} \right) - \psi_m \left(\frac{z+z_0}{L} \right) + \psi_m \left(\frac{z_0}{L} \right)}, \quad (24)$$

$$\theta_{2m} = \theta_g + (\theta_a - \theta_g) \times \frac{\ln \left(\frac{2+z_0}{z_0} \right) - \psi_h \left(\frac{2+z_0}{L} \right) + \psi_h \left(\frac{z_0}{L} \right)}{\ln \left(\frac{z+z_0}{z_0} \right) - \psi_h \left(\frac{z+z_0}{L} \right) + \psi_h \left(\frac{z_0}{L} \right)}, \quad (25)$$

$$q_{2m} = q_g + (q_a - q_g) \times \frac{\ln \left(\frac{\rho c_p k u_*^2}{c_s} + \frac{2}{z_l} \right) - \psi_h \left(\frac{2}{L} \right) + \psi_h \left(\frac{z_l}{L} \right)}{\ln \left(\frac{\rho c_p k u_* z}{c_s} + \frac{z}{z_l} \right) - \psi_h \left(\frac{z}{L} \right) + \psi_h \left(\frac{z_l}{L} \right)}. \quad (26)$$

Review surface layer scheme

Surface layer	<code>config_sfclayer_scheme</code>	<code>sf_monin_obukhov</code>	Monin-Obukhov (WRF 4.0.3)
		<code>sf_mynn</code>	MYNN (WRF 3.6.1)

Mesoscale reference physics suite – MPAS V7.0

Surface Layer: (Monin Obukhov): module `sf_sfclay.F` as in WRF 4.0.3

PBL: YSU as in WRF 4.0.3

Land Surface Model (NOAH 4-layers): as in WRF 4.0.3.

Gravity Wave Drag: YSU gravity wave drag scheme, as in WRF 4.0.3

Convection: new Tiedtke (nTiedtke), as in WRF 4.0.3

Microphysics: WSM6: as in WRF 4.1

Radiation: RRTMG sw as in WRF 3.8.1; RRTMG lw as in WRF 3.8.1

Cloud fraction for radiation: Xu-Randall

Ocean Mixed Layer: modified and extended from WRFV3.6



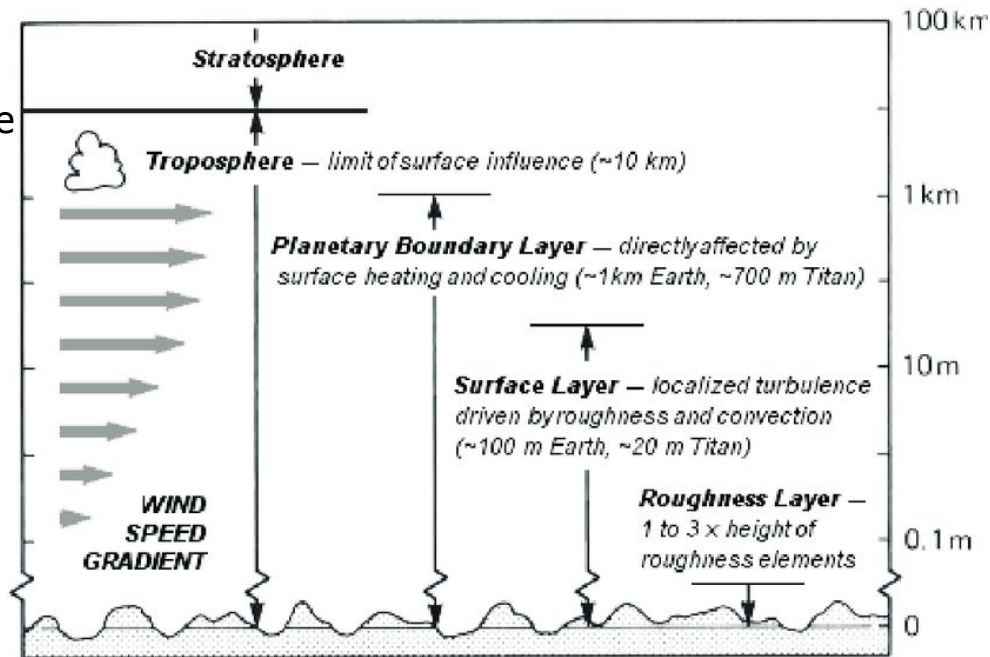
PBL schemes



Planetary Boundary Layer Scheme

- Monin-Obukhov length L Obukhov, A.M. (1946)
 - $L > 0$, when it is stable atmosphere
 - $L < 0$, when it is an unstable atmosphere
- PBL height
- Diurnal cycle

$$L \equiv \frac{-u_*^3 \bar{\theta}_v}{\kappa g (w' \theta'_v)_s}$$



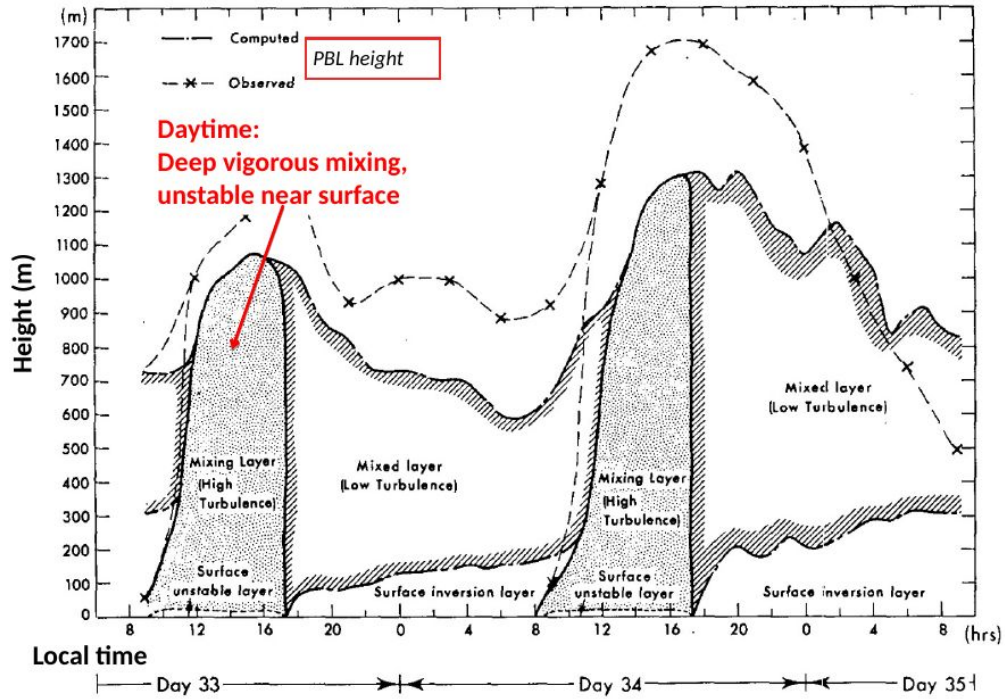
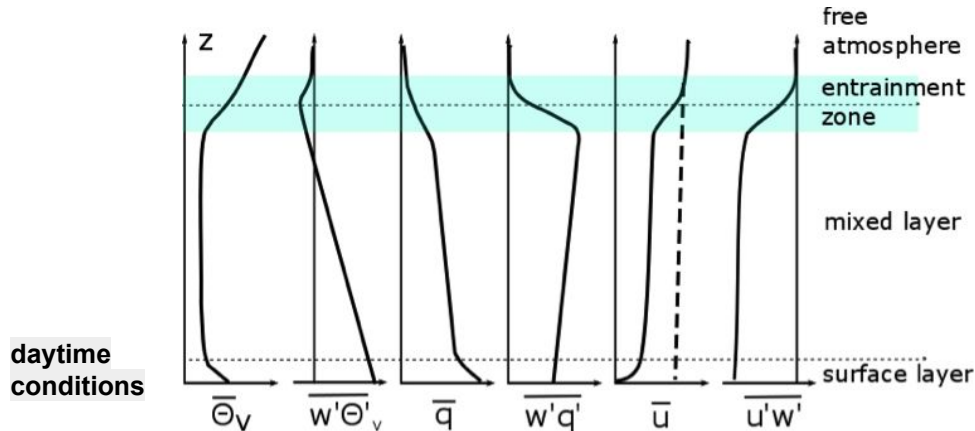


FIG. 33. Time evolution of the computed (basic case) and observed mixed layer height.

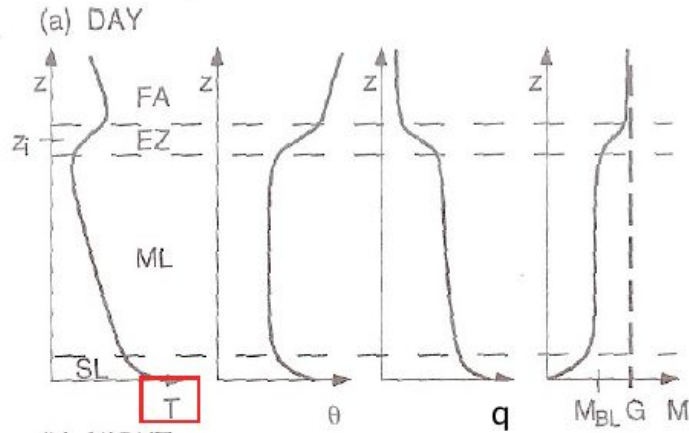
PBL-Daytime(Afternoon)

- Strong surface heating, the virtual potential temperature will decrease with height near the surface ground. (close to surface layer)
- Moreover, the convective turbulence or eddies mixes efficiently and it is in the mixed layer.
- Vertical profiles of virtual potential temperature, vapor mixing ratio and horizontal momentum. (time-averaged is better)

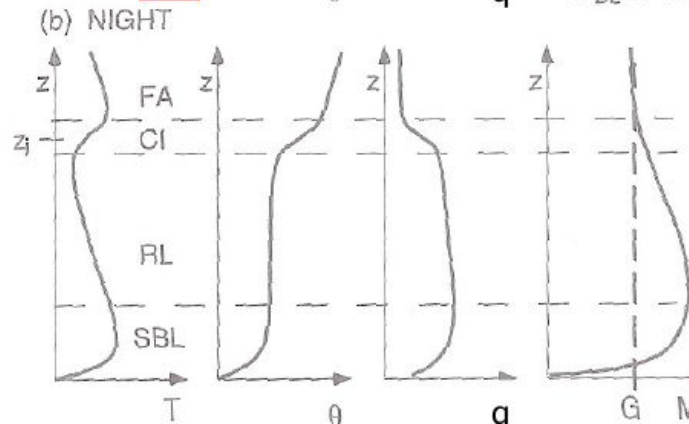


Contrast day vs. night

Daytime



Nighttime



RL = residual layer
SBL = stable BL

Stull text (2000)

Modeling PBL -- YSU scheme Yonsei University Scheme

1. K-profile parameterization (KPP) over the depth of PBL
2. Another is based on turbulence kinetic energy (TKE)

The KPP was discussed as non-local K -theory [1986] and is supported by large eddy simulation.
In surface layer scheme, K_m is defined as,

$$\overline{(u'w')} = -K_m \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial z}$$

$$K_m = l_v^2 \left| \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial z} \right|$$

and a simple KPP formula of K_m is,

$$K_m = k w_s z \left(1 - \frac{z}{h} \right)^p,$$

κ is von Karman constant(=0.4),

z is height from surface,

h is PBL depth,

$p=2$ in usual,

w_s is velocity scale at surface (u^* is friction velocity

and ϕ_m is stability correction in surface layer)

$$w_s = (u_*^3 + \phi_m k w_{*b}^3 z/h)^{1/3},$$

Troen, I., and L. Mahrt, 1986: A simple model of the atmospheric boundary layer sensitivity to surface evaporation. Bound. Layer Meteor., 37, 129–148.

The typical variation of eddy viscosity K

From observation,

YSU (diagnostic scheme) imposes this
 MYJ (prognostic scheme) tries to develop it

$$K_m = kw_s z \left(1 - \frac{z}{h}\right)^p,$$

$$w_s = (u_*^3 + \phi_m kw_{*b}^3 z/h)^{1/3},$$

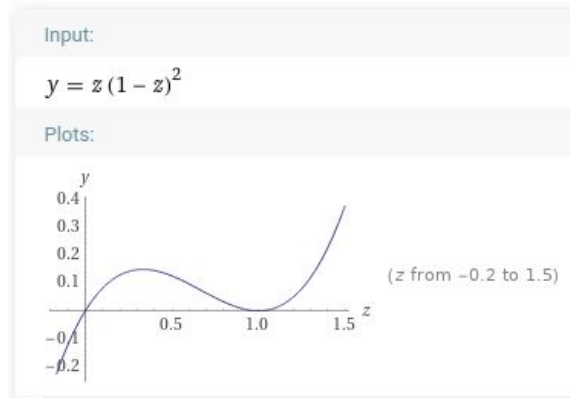
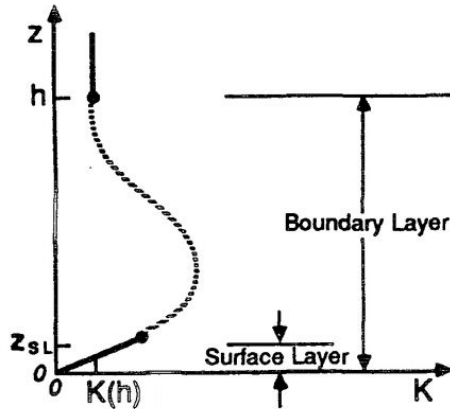


FIG. 1. Typical variation of eddy viscosity K with height in the boundary layer proposed by O'Brien (1970). Adopted from Stull (1988).

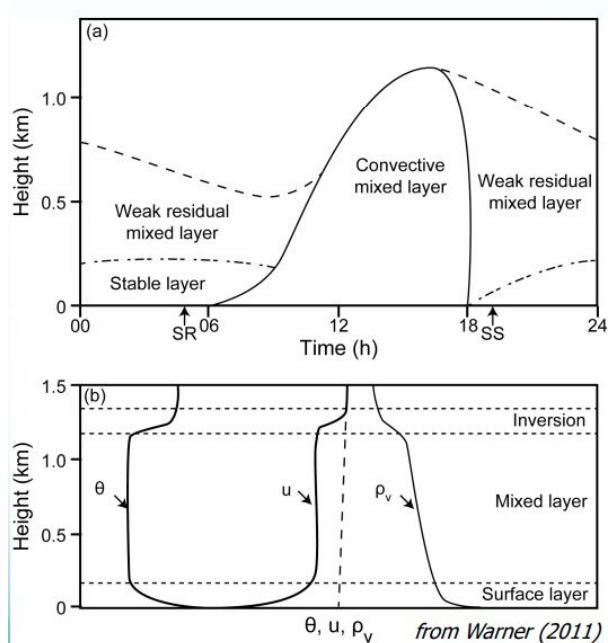
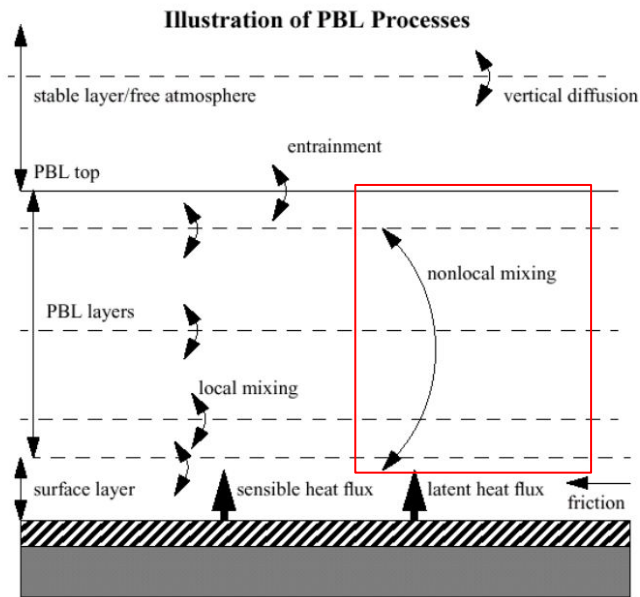
u^* is the surface friction velocity
 w^* is the convective velocity scale
 on surface
 b is moist air

moist air, $w_{*b} = [(g/\theta_{va})(\overline{w'\theta'_v})_0 h]^{1/3}$.

label a is at the lowest model level,
 label 0 is near surface

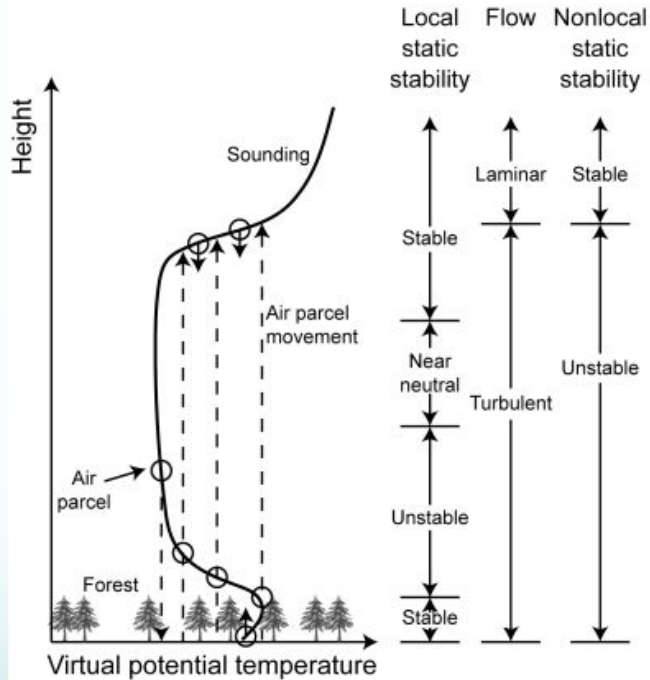
Counter-gradient term

In YSU, the counter-gradient term is applied to temperature, water vapor mixing ratio and momentum. (details on /physics_wrf/module_bl_ysu.F)

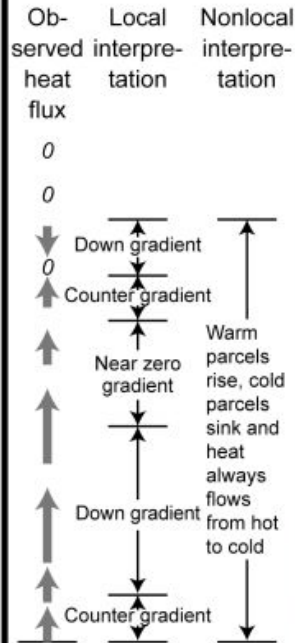


PBL Structure and Heat flux

(a) Stability determination from a sounding



(b) Heat flux



$$\overline{w'\phi'}^{\Delta} = -K_{\phi} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z} + F_{w\phi}^{NL}$$

(1) Term for local (L) transport by small eddies
 (2) Term for nonlocal (NL) transport by large eddies

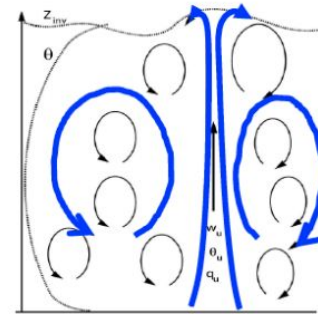


FIG. 1. Sketch of a convective updraft embedded in a turbulent eddy structure.

Figure is taken from Siebesma et al. (2007, JAS)

Explicitly included in **nonlocal PBL parameterizations**
 (i.e., Mass-flux term or counter-gradient gamma)

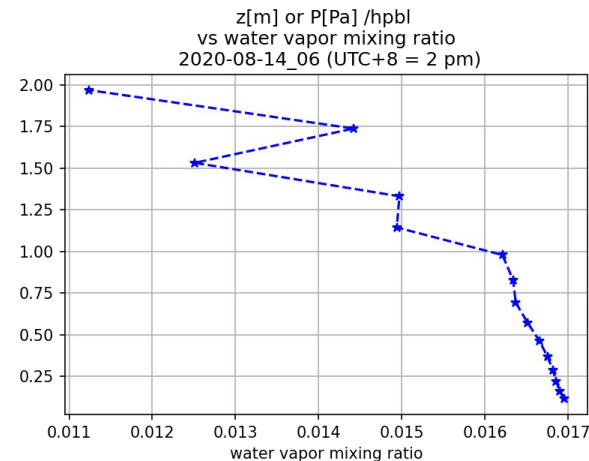
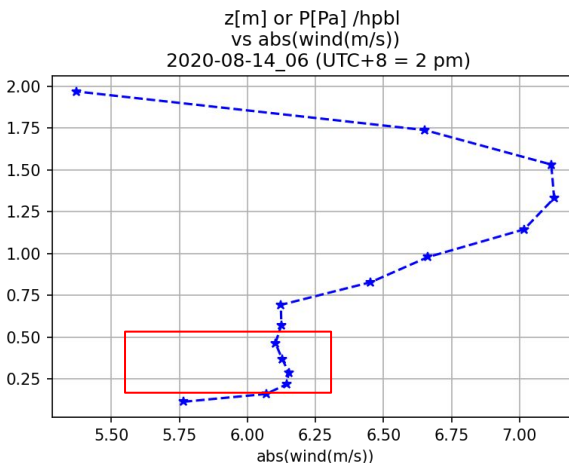
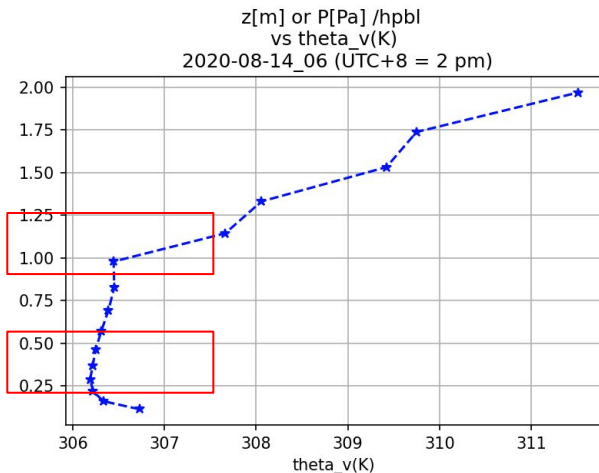
PBL-Daytime(Afternoon)--Example

Parameterization	Scheme
Convection	New Tiedtke
Microphysics	WSM6
Land surface	Noah
Boundary layer	YSU
Surface layer	Monin-Obukhov
Radiation, LW	RRTMG
Radiation, SW	RRTMG
Cloud fraction for radiation	Xu-Randall
Gravity wave drag by orography	YSU

92-25km mesh, it may not be finer enough

HK 2020-8-14-06 (UTC+8 = 2 pm) by Physics Suite: mesoscale reference (YSU)

Unstable atmosphere: PBL height (hpbl = 1070.5765 m)



vertical diffusion coefficient K_h , K_m

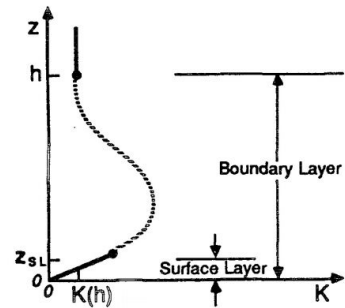
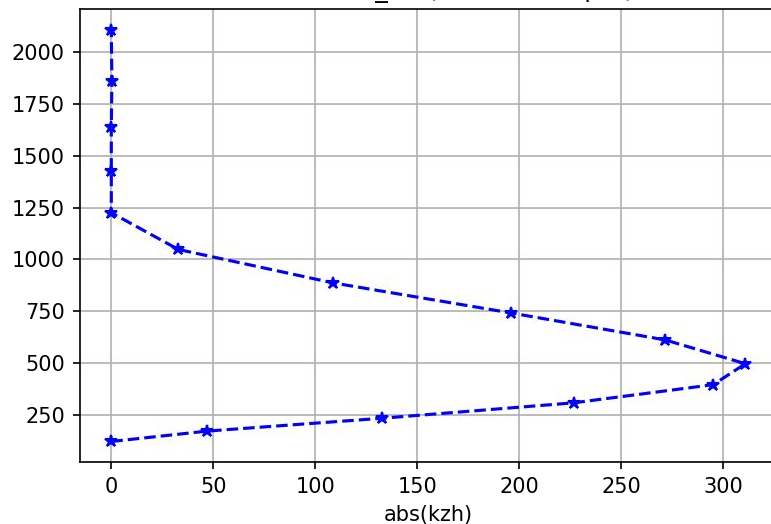
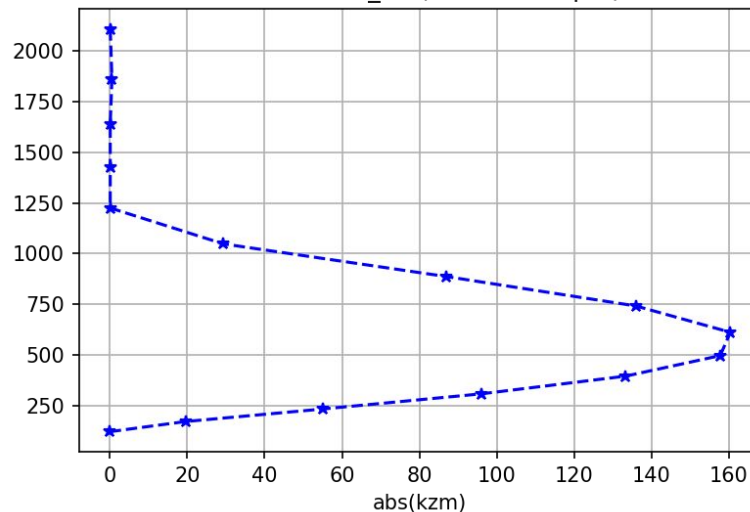


FIG. 1. Typical variation of eddy viscosity K with height in the boundary layer proposed by O'Brien (1970). Adopted from Stull (1988).

z [m] or P [Pa]
vs $\text{abs}(kzh)$
2020-08-14_06 (UTC+8 = 2 pm)



z [m] or P [Pa]
vs $\text{abs}(kzm)$
2020-08-14_06 (UTC+8 = 2 pm)

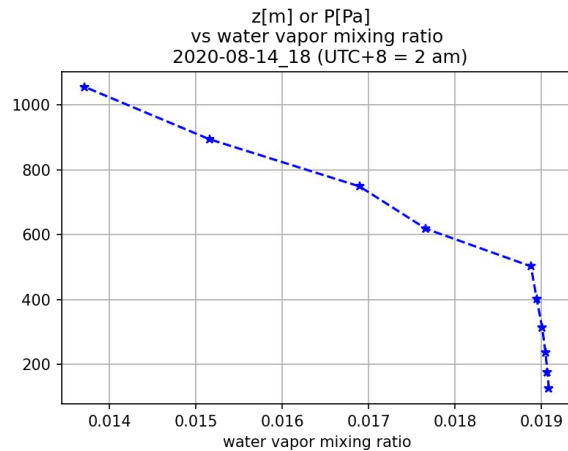
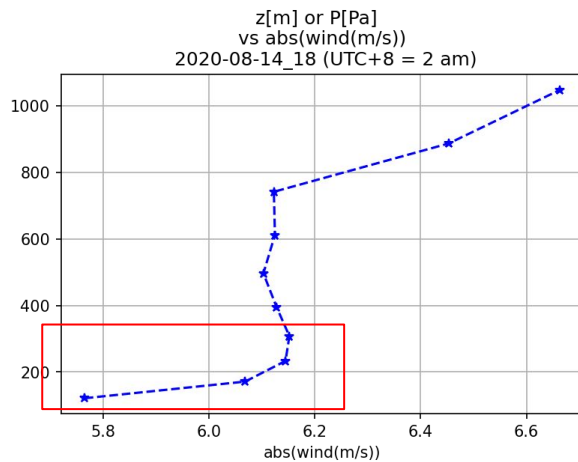
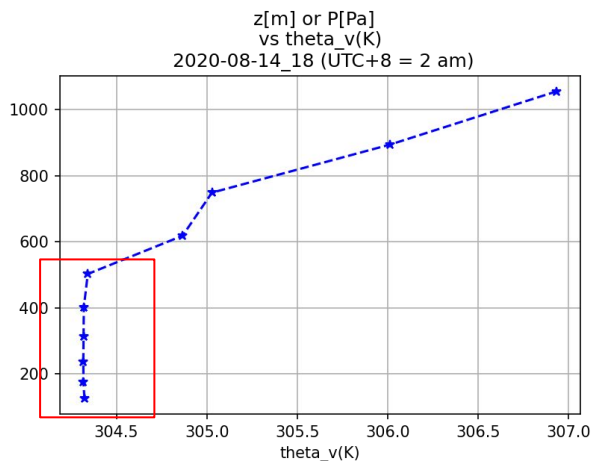


(Unstable atmosphere: PBL height(h_{pbl}) = 1070.5765 m)

PBL-Nighttime--Example: HK

HK 2020-8-14-18 (UTC+8 = 2 am) by Physics Suite: mesoscale reference(YSU)

stable atmosphere: PBL height(hpbl = 337.11786 m)



vertical diffusion coefficient K_h , K_m

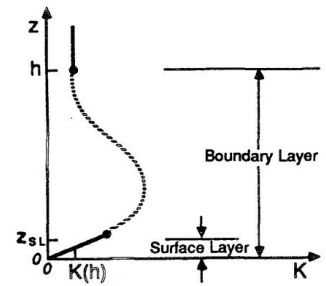
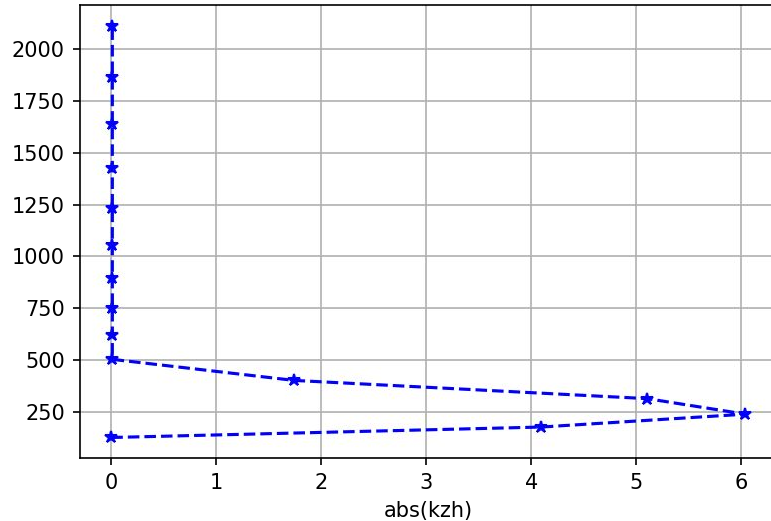
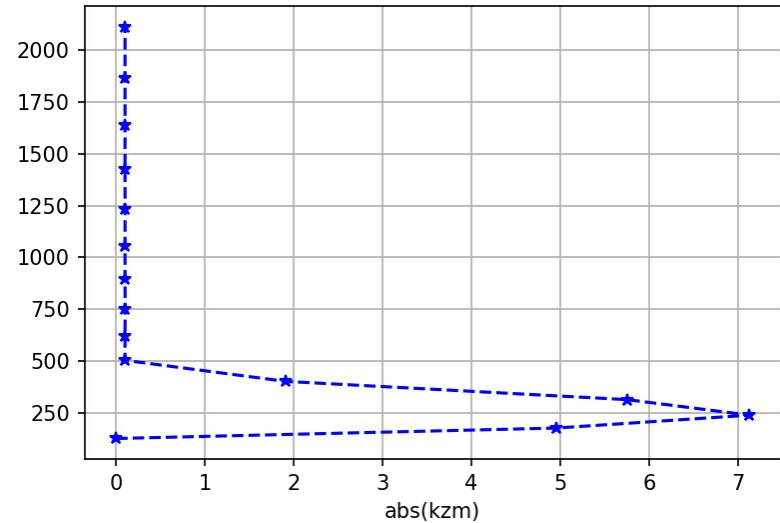


FIG. 1. Typical variation of eddy viscosity K with height in the boundary layer proposed by O'Brien (1970). Adopted from Stull (1988).

z[m] or P[Pa]
vs abs(kzh)
2020-08-14_18 (UTC+8 = 2 am)



z[m] or P[Pa]
vs abs(kzm)
2020-08-14_18 (UTC+8 = 2 am)



stable atmosphere: PBL height(hpbl = 337.11786 m)

Wind speed with height

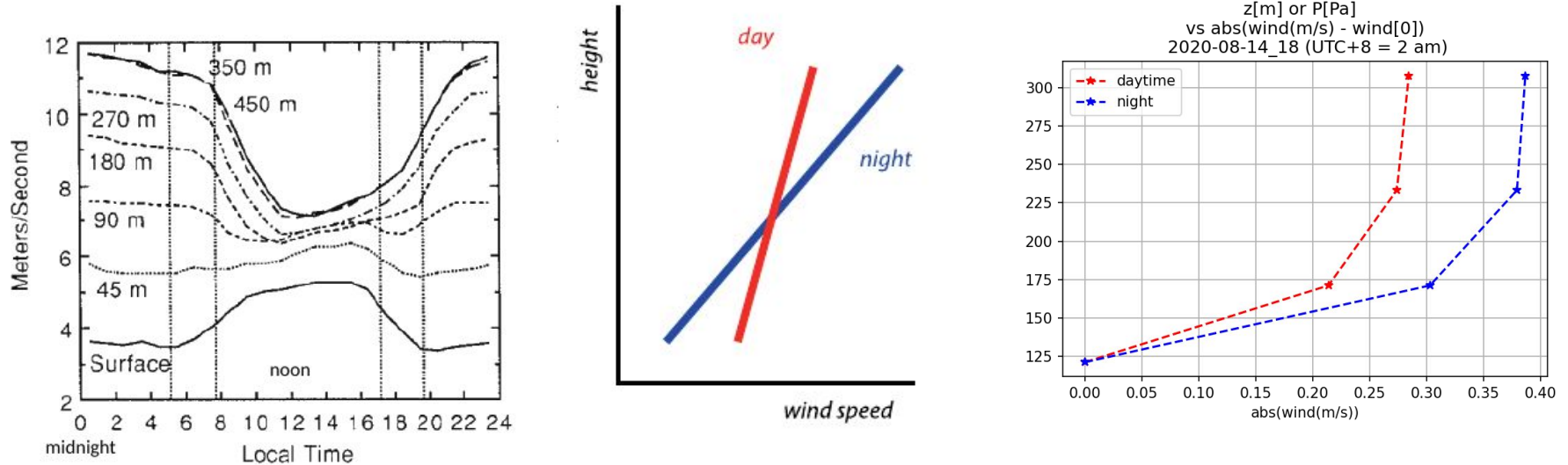


Fig. 4.9 Diurnal cycle of wind speed as a function of height measured from a tower in Oklahoma City and averaged over the period June 1966 to May 1967. [Adapted from Crawford and Hudson (1973). Reprinted with permission from the American Meteorological Society.]



How to learn more on Physics Parameterization Schemes



How to learn more about Physics Parameterizations?

The hard ways:

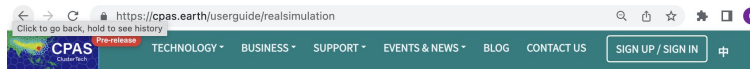
- Original papers:
 - E.g. How are diagnostics u_{10} calculated
 - "Surface layer model"
- Reference found in (some) source code
 - Some source code has a documentation header section.
 - Not all source code are well-documented

A more digestible way:

- Regular conferences
 - E.g. the P3 microphysics scheme
- Google search for slides and presentations
 - E.g. scale-aware gravity wave drag scheme

Hard: Finding originating papers - CPAS

CPAS: [User Guide - Real Simulation page](https://cpas.earth/userguide/realsimulation)



PHYSICS SUITES

Please refer to

- MPAS-A user guide v7.0 - pp. 22-23

Mesoscale reference	The same set of parameterization schemes as the 'mesoscale_reference' physics suite in MPAS-A.
Convection permitting	The same set of parameterization schemes as the 'convection_permitting' physics suite in MPAS-A.
None	All physics parameterizations turned 'off'; intended for idealized simulations.

CONVECTION SCHEMES

Suite	Follow the default of the suite.
Scale-aware new Tiedtke	Similar to the Tiedtke scheme used in REGCM4 and ECMWF cy40r1. See: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Zhang, C. and Y. Wang, 2017: Projected Future Changes of Tropical Cyclone Activity over the Western North and South Pacific in a 20-km-Mesh Regional Climate Model. J. Climate, 30, 5923-5941. doi:10.1175/JCLI-D-16-0597.1• The scale-awareness formulation from this link.
Scale-aware Tiedtke	Mass-flux type scheme with CAPE-removal time scale, shallow component and momentum transport. See: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Zhang, Chunxi, Yuqing Wang, and Kevin Hamilton, 2011: Improved representation of boundary layer clouds over the southeast pacific in ARW-WRF using a modified Tiedtke cumulus parameterization scheme. Mon. Wea. Rev., 139, 3489-3513. doi:10.1175/MWR-D-10-05091.1• The scale-awareness formulation from this link.
Kain-Fritsch	Deep and shallow convection sub-grid scheme using a mass flux approach with downdrafts and CAPE removal time scale. See: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kain, John S., 2004: The Kain-Fritsch convective parameterization: An update. J. Appl. Meteor., 43, 170-181. doi:10.1175/1520-0450(2004)043<0170:TKCPAL>2.0.CO;2
Scale-aware Grell-Freitas	Modified version of scale-aware Grell-Freitas, which is an improved GD (Grell-Devenyi) scheme that tries to smooth the transition to cloud-resolving scales. See: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grell, G. A. and Freitas, S. R., 2014: A scale and aerosol aware stochastic convective parameterization for weather and air quality modeling. Atmos. Chem. Phys., 14, 5233-5250, doi:10.5194/acp-14-5233-2014.

PBL (PLANETARY BOUNDARY LAYER) SCHEMES

PBL (PLANETARY BOUNDARY LAYER) SCHEMES

Suite	Follow the default of the suite.
YSU	Non-local-K scheme with explicit entrainment layer and parabolic K profile in unstable mixed layer. See: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hong, Song-You, Yign Noh, Jimy Dudhia, 2006: A new vertical diffusion package with an explicit treatment of entrainment processes. Mon. Wea. Rev., 134, 2318-2341. doi:10.1175/MWR3199.1
MYNN	Predicts sub-grid TKE (Turbulence Kinetic Energy) terms. See: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nakanishi, M., and H. Niino, 2009: Development of an improved turbulence closure model for the atmospheric boundary layer. J. Meteor. Soc. Japan, 87, 895-912. doi:10.2151/jmsj.87.895

Just a summary of information from WRF for user's convenience.

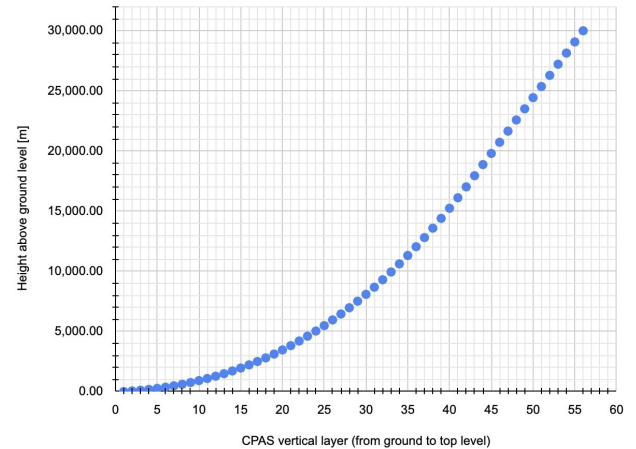
Question: how are t2m, u10, v10 calculated?

Short answer:

- by the "Surface Layer" scheme
- the lowest layer is usually higher than 10m and surely higher than 2m.

CPAS vertical layer (k)	Height above ground [unit: m]
1	0.00
2	46.94
3	106.24
4	178.37
5	263.80
6	362.99
7	476.40
8	604.51
9	747.76
10	906.64
11	1,081.60
12	1,273.11
13	1,481.63
14	1,707.64
15	1,951.58
16	2,213.94
17	2,495.16
18	2,795.73
19	3,116.10
20	3,456.73
21	3,818.10
22	4,200.66
23	4,604.89
24	5,031.24
25	5,480.19
26	5,952.19
27	6,447.71
28	6,967.22
29	7,511.18
30	8,080.05
31	8,674.31
32	9,294.41
33	9,940.82
34	10,614.00
35	11,314.42
36	12,042.55

CPAS default vertical layers



Calculation prepared in a spreadsheet:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1nqeD9ws1xjlxNMmVYHJJ4IhopKEwCZsqjS2Cbi1Ys4>

Hard: Finding originating papers - WRF

WRF: [Physics Reference page](https://www2.mmm.ucar.edu/wrf/users/physics/phys_references.html)

← → ↻ https://www2.mmm.ucar.edu/wrf/users/physics/phys_references.html

WRF USERS PAGE

Home Model System User Support Download Doc / Pub Physics Support Forum WRF Forecast Links

WRF MODEL PHYSICS OPTIONS AND REFERENCES

For quick navigation, click buttons below:

Micro Physics
PBL Physics
Cumulus Physics
Radiation Options
Land Surface

Shallow Convect.
Surface Layer
Urban Physics
Ocean Options
Other Options

LES
WRF Specialty Systems

Micro Physics Options (*mp_physics*)

Kessler Scheme	option 1	Kessler, E., 1969: On the distribution and continuity of water substance in atmospheric circulations. <i>Meteor. Monogr.</i> , 32 , Amer. Meteor. Soc. doi:10.1007/978-1-935704-36-2_1 PDF
Purdue Lin Scheme	option 2	Chen, S.-H. and W.-Y. Sun, 2002: A one-dimensional time dependent cloud model. <i>J. Meteor. Soc. Japan.</i> , 80 (1), 99–118. doi:10.2151/jmsj.80_99 PDF

https://www2.mmm.ucar.edu/wrf/users/physics/phys_references.html#SL

Surface Layer Options (*sf_sfclay_physics*)

Revised MM5 Scheme	option 1	Jimenez, Pedro A., Jimmy Dudhia, J. Fidel Gonzalez-Rouco, Jorge Navarro, Juan P. Montavez, and Elena Garcia-Bustamante, 2012: A revised scheme for the WRF surface layer formulation. <i>Mon. Wea. Rev.</i> , 140 , 898–918. doi:10.1175/MWR-D-11-00056.1 PDF
Eta Similarity Scheme	option 2	<p>Monin A. S., and A. M. Obukhov, 1954: Basic laws of turbulent mixing in the surface layer of the atmosphere. <i>Contrib Geophys Inst Acad Sci USSR</i> 151:163–187 (in Russian) PDF</p> <p>Janjic, Z. I., 1994: The step-mountain Eta coordinate model: further developments of the convection, viscous sublayer and turbulence closure schemes. <i>Mon. Wea. Rev.</i>, 122, 927–945. doi:10.1175/1520-0493(1994)122<0927:TSMCEM>2.0.CO;2 PDF</p> <p>Janjic, Z. I., 1996: The surface layer in the NCEP Eta Model. <i>Eleventh conference on numerical weather prediction, Norfolk, VA, 19–23 August 1996. Amer Meteor Soc, Boston, MA</i>, pp 354–355. PDF</p> <p>Janjic, Z. I., 2002: Nonsingular implementation of the Mellor-Yamada Level 2.5 Scheme in the NCEP Meso model. <i>NCEP Office Note No. 437</i>, 61 pp. PDF</p>
NCEP Global Forecast System Scheme	option 3	
QNSE Scheme	option 4	
MYNN Scheme	option 5	

Hard: Finding source code and references

MPAS github

https://github.com/MPAS-Dev/MPAS-Model/tree/master/src/core_atmosphere/physics/physics_wrf

Commit Message	Author	Date
Merge branch 'atmosphere/snstav_reproducibility' into hotfix-v7.2 (PR #...)	mgduda	5fda633 on Oct 30, 2021
LICENSE	Atmosphere: move the core_atmos_physics directory to a subdirectory o...	9 years ago
Makefile	Add missing dependency for module_sf_noah_seaice.o in physics_wrf/Mak...	3 years ago
libmassv.F	Atmosphere: move the core_atmos_physics directory to a subdirectory o...	9 years ago
module_bl_gwdo.F	Fix out-of-bounds array access when GWDO scheme was run with multiple...	3 years ago

Code with documentation header

```
1 ! -----
2 !
3 !wrf:model_layer:physics
4 !
5 !#####tiedtke scheme#####
6 ! m.tiedtke e.c.m.w.f. 1989
7 ! j.morcrette 1992
8 !
9 ! modifications
10 ! C. zhang & Yuqing Wang 2011-2017
11 !
12 ! modified from IPRC IRAM - yuqing wang, university of hawaii
13 ! & ICTP REGCM4.4
14 !
15 ! The current version is stable. There are many updates to the old Tiedtke scheme (cu_physics=6)
16 ! update notes:
17 ! the new Tiedtke scheme is similar to the Tiedtke scheme used in REGCM4 and ECMWF cy40r1.
18 ! the major differences to the old Tiedtke (cu_physics=6) scheme are,
19 ! (a) New trigger functions for deep and shallow convections (Jakob and Siebesma 2003;
20 ! Bechtold et al. 2004, 2008, 2014).
21 ! (b) Non-equilibrium situations are considered in the closure for deep convection
22 ! (Bechtold et al. 2014).
23 ! (c) New convection time scale for the deep convection closure (Bechtold et al. 2008).
24 ! (d) New entrainment and detrainment rates for all convection types (Bechtold et al. 2008).
25 ! (e) New formula for the conversion from cloud water/ice to rain/snow (Sundqvist 1978).
26 ! (f) Different way to include cloud scale pressure gradients (Gregory et al. 1997;
27 ! Wu and Yanai 1994)
28 !
29 ! other reference: tiedtke (1989, mwr, 117, 1779-1800)
30 ! IFS documentation - cy33r1, cy37r2, cy38r1, cy40r1
31 !
32 ! =====
33 ! Note for climate simulation of Tropical Cyclones
34 ! This version of Tiedtke scheme was tested with YSU PBL scheme, RRTMG radation
35 ! schemes, and WSM6 microphysics schemes, at horizontal resolution around 20 km
```


Digestible way: Google search and look for ...

(Yearly) NCAR WRF & MPAS workshop

[2019 Agenda](#) [2020 Agenda](#) [2021 Agenda](#) [2022 Agenda](#)

2.6	Using hierarchical time-stepping to utilize MPAS-A computational resources for customized extreme variable-resolution meshes. Ng, Ka-Ki, Kwan-Shu Tse, Yuk Sing Lui, Wai-Nang Leung, Chi Chiu Cheung, and Sze-Chuan Suen , <i>ClusterTech Limited, Hong Kong</i> presentation
------------	--

Session: Physics Developments / Challenges

First Chair: Wayne Angevine, *CIRES/CU Boulder and NOAA/ESRL*

Second Chair (after break): Lulin Xue, *NCAR*

9:00-9:30	An Overview of Physical Parameterization Development for the Unified Forecast System. Joe Olson , <i>NOAA</i> Presentation pdf
9:30-9:50	Evaluation of Planetary Boundary Layer (PBL) Parameterizations Using Large-eddy Simulations (LES) in a Broad Range of Conditions. George Bryan , <i>NCAR/MMM</i> Presentation pdf
9:50-10:10	The E-epsilon PBL Scheme in the WRF Model. Chunxi Zhang , <i>NOAA/NCEP/EMC</i> Presentation pdf
10:10-10:30	Simulations Across Scales over Complex Terrain: Lessons Learned from a Perdigo Case Study. Patrick Hawbecker , Branko Kosovic, Domingo Muñoz-Esparza, Jeremy Sauer, Jimmy Dudhia, Edward G. Patton, <i>RAL/NCAR</i> Presentation pdf
10:30-10:50	<i>Break</i>
10:50-11:20	Microphysics: Basics of microphysics in weather and climate models. Hugh Morrison , <i>MMM/NCAR</i> Presentation pdf
11:20-11:40	Does WRF Have a Warm Rain Problem? Robert Conrick , <i>University of Washington</i> Short Abstract Presentation pdf
11:40-12:00	The Predicted Particle Properties (P3) Microphysics Scheme – Applications for Research and Operational NWP. Jason Milbrandt , <i>Environment Canada</i> Presentation pdf

Program for the Joint WRF/MPAS Users' Workshop 2020 (Virtual)

Location: online

Date: 8 – 9 June 2020

Click on titles below for access to .pdf presentations

Monday, 8 June, 1:00 – 3:30 P.M. (All times are Mountain times) WRF Lecture Series: Learning about Scale-Aware Physics Chair: Jimmy Dudhia	
1:00 – 1:15	An Introduction to Scale-Aware Physics. Dudhia, J., <i>Mesoscale and Microscale Meteorology Laboratory (MMM), National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR)</i> Presentation Recording
1:15 – 1:45	Deep, middle, low, and dx: almost resolving convection but not quite... Grell, G., <i>Global System Laboratory, Earth System Research Laboratories (ESRL), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)</i> Presentation Recording
1:45 – 2:15	Dependence of deep convection schemes on horizontal grid-spacing in MPAS: Difference in formulation, impact on forecasts. Fowler, L., <i>MMM/NCAR</i> Presentation Recording
2:15 – 2:30	<i>Break</i>
2:30 – 3:00	A Scale-Aware Treatment of Subgrid Mixing in the WRF Model. Bao, J.-W., <i>Physical Science Laboratory, ESRL/NOAA</i> Presentation Recording
3:00 – 3:30	Representation of turbulent mixing in the atmospheric boundary layer at gray-zone grid spacings and its applications for idealized and real-case WRF. Shin, H.-Y., <i>Research Application Laboratory (RAL), NCAR</i> Presentation Recording

Read more and watch more!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kmax80kMddk>
(54 min video)

The video player shows the title slide for "The Unified Gravity Wave Physics in the UFS" webinar. The slide features the NOAA and CIRES logos at the top. The title is "The Unified Gravity Wave Physics in the UFS". Below the title, it lists the presenter: "Michael Toy, NOAA GSL/CIRES". A list of contributors follows: "Contributors: Valery Yudin¹, Joseph Olson², Fanglin Yang³, Ligia Bernadet⁴, Weiwei Li⁵, Sajal Kar³". A numbered list of affiliations is provided: "1. NOAA GSL/CIRES, 2. NOAA/GSL, 3. NOAA/EMC, 4. NOAA/GSL and DTC, 5. NCAR and DTC". At the bottom, it says "UFS Webinar Series – July 1, 2021". The video player interface includes a search bar, a play button, and a progress bar showing 0:05 / 54:33.

What is "gravity wave breaking" ?

What to pay attention to when experimenting the implemented parameterization scheme?

The slide is titled "Theoretical background: Topographic gravity waves". It contains a diagram of a constant Scorer-parameter profile, $e.g., \bar{u}, N = \text{constant}$. The diagram shows a vertical cross-section with a mountain surface at the bottom. The atmosphere is divided into layers. The top layer shows "Wave breaking/dissipation" with the condition $\frac{d\bar{\theta}}{dz} < 0$. A red arrow labeled "Drag force" points to the left from the wave breaking region. A red arrow labeled "Mountain torque" points to the right from the mountain surface. A red vertical line represents the drag force profile τ_x . A text box explains: "How and where is gravity wave drag force imparted on the flow? In compressible atmosphere, wave amplitude increases with height as density decreases until waves overturn and break". To the right, the wave stress is given as $\tau_x = \bar{\rho} \overline{u'w'}$ (vertical momentum flux, N/m²). Below that, the drag is given as $\left(\frac{\partial U}{\partial t}\right)_{\text{drag}} = -\frac{1}{\bar{\rho}} \frac{\partial \tau_x}{\partial z}$. The video player interface at the bottom shows a progress bar at 10:25 / 54:33.



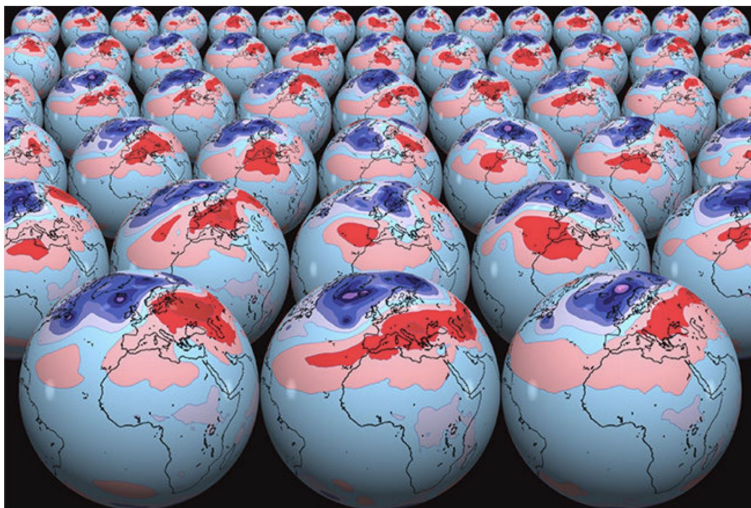
Ensemble Forecasting



ECMWF's introduction to Ensemble Forecasting

Fact sheet: Ensemble weather forecasting

23 March 2017



What is ensemble weather forecasting?

An ensemble weather forecast is a set of forecasts that present the range of future weather possibilities. Multiple simulations are run, each with a slight variation of its initial conditions and with slightly perturbed weather models. These variations represent the inevitable uncertainty in the initial conditions and approximations in the models. They produce a range of possible weather conditions.

Why is it important to measure the level of uncertainty in a forecast?

The uncertainty associated with every forecast means that different scenarios are possible, and the forecast should reflect that. Single 'deterministic' forecasts can be misleading as they fail to provide this information. Take agriculture as an example: a farmer needs to know the range of possible conditions the crops may experience so that they can be protected. Ensemble forecasts show how big that range is at different forecast times.

What are the advantages of ensemble prediction?

By generating a range of possible outcomes, the method can show how likely different scenarios are in the days ahead, and how long into the future the forecasts are useful. The smaller the range of predicted outcomes, the 'sharper' the forecast is said to be. Good ensemble forecasts are not just as sharp as possible but also reliable. If a reliable forecast says that there is a 70% chance of top temperatures rising above a certain threshold, then in 70% of cases when such a forecast is made temperatures will indeed rise above that threshold.

Is uncertainty in a forecast due to a lack of knowledge?

Yes, to some extent our lack of knowledge does significantly increase uncertainty in the forecast. This is why there is much work going into improving our knowledge of initial conditions and of atmospheric processes that computer models need to mirror. In addition, the atmosphere is a chaotic system. This means that it is sensitively dependent on initial conditions. In a chaotic system, a slight change in the input conditions can lead to a significant change in the output forecast. In a non-chaotic system, small differences in initial conditions only give small differences in output. Hence, it is important in weather forecasting to investigate how sensitive the atmosphere is at any stage to initial conditions. Ensemble forecasting does this by looking at a spread of possible outcomes.

<https://www.ecmwf.int/en/about/media-centre/focus/2017/fact-sheet-ensemble-weather-forecasting>

Chaotic nature of the atmosphere

Well-known “Butterfly effect”.

Prediction results will be different, given minor differences in:

- Initial Condition
- Model and model options

1. INTRODUCTION

Ensemble Prediction Systems (EPS) are numerical weather prediction (NWP) systems that allow us to estimate the uncertainty in a weather forecast as well as the most likely outcome. Instead of running the NWP model once (a deterministic forecast), the model is run many times from very slightly different initial conditions. Often the model physics is also slightly perturbed, and **some ensembles use more than one model within the ensemble (multi-model EPS) or the same model but with different combinations of physical parameterization schemes (multi-physics EPS)**. Owing

Guidelines on Ensemble Prediction Systems and Forecasting

WMO-No. 1091 © World Meteorological Organization, 2012

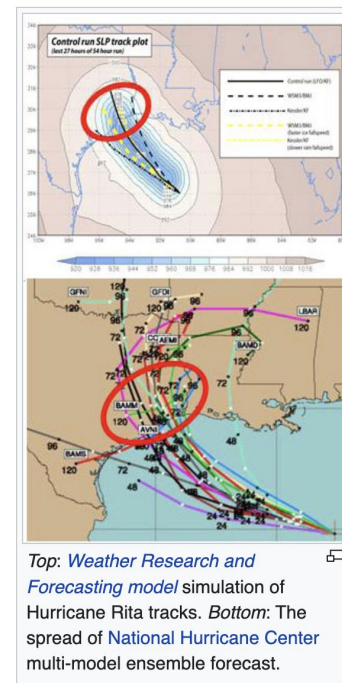
https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=7773

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ensemble_forecasting

Ensemble forecasting

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Ensemble forecasting is a method used in or within **numerical weather prediction**. Instead of making a single forecast of the most likely weather, a set (or ensemble) of forecasts is produced. This set of forecasts aims to give an indication of the range of possible future states of the atmosphere. Ensemble forecasting is a form of **Monte Carlo analysis**. The multiple simulations are conducted to account for the two usual sources of **uncertainty** in forecast models: (1) the errors introduced by the use of imperfect initial conditions, amplified by the **chaotic** nature of the evolution equations of the atmosphere, which is often referred to as **sensitive dependence on initial conditions**; and (2) errors introduced because of imperfections in the model formulation, such as the approximate mathematical methods to solve the equations. Ideally, the verified future atmospheric state should fall within the predicted ensemble **spread**, and the amount of spread should be related to the uncertainty (error) of the forecast. In general, this approach can be used to make probabilistic forecasts of any **dynamical system**, and not just for weather prediction.



Composing ensemble members for our CPAS project

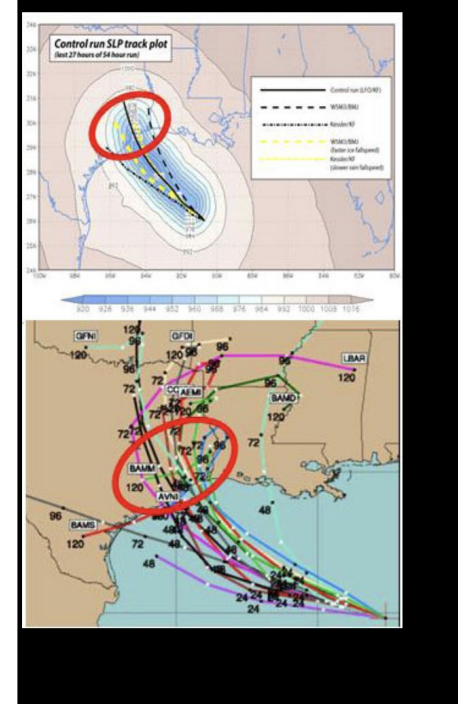
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ensemble_forecasting#Multi_model_ensembles

Multi model ensembles [edit]

When many different forecast models are used to try to generate a forecast, the approach is termed multi-model ensemble forecasting. This method of forecasting can improve forecasts when compared to a single model-based approach.^[18]

Different ICs as ensemble members:

- The latest IC at our role-paly weather conference time.
- Available ICs before that latest IC
 - Longer simulation duration needed.
 - Give up information coming from latest observation data.



Top: *Weather Research and Forecasting model* simulation of Hurricane Rita tracks. Bottom: The spread of *Natio* multi-model ensemble forecast.

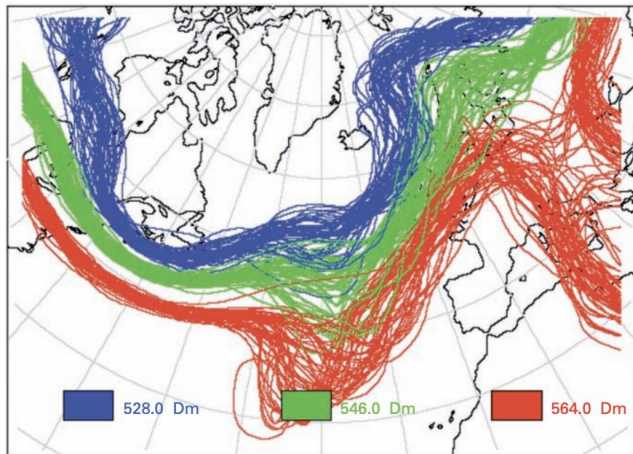
Prof. Robert Fovell (UCLA); Dr. Hui Su (JPL) - <http://mls.jpl.nasa.gov/research/hurricanes.php>

(Top): WRF model simulation of Hurricane Rita tracks. The model resolution is 30km. The colored field shows the lowest sea-level pressure (SLP) recorded during the last 27 hours of a 54 hour control simulation of Rita using LFO (5 class) microphysics and the Kain-Fritsch (KF) convective scheme. The superposed black line traces the model hurricane, which strikes Houston. Also shown are tracks of minimum SLP for runs using the Kessler (warm rain) scheme, the WSM3 simple ice scheme (with the Betts-Miller-Jancic convective scheme), the Kessler with reduced rain fallspeed, and WSM3 with enhanced ice fallspeed. (Bottom): The spread of NHC multi-model ensemble forecast at 06 UTC, 22 September. Note a similar ensemble spread was obtained from a single model simply by varying the model microphysics and convective schemes. Image from Jonathan Vigh, Colorado State University.

People put ensemble forecasting result together to take a glance

4.1.5 Spaghetti maps

Charts showing a few selected contours of variables (for example, 528, 546 and 564 Dm contours of 500 hPa geopotential height) from all ensemble members can provide a useful image of the predictability of the field. Where all ensemble member contours lie close together the predictability is higher; where they look like spaghetti on a plate, there is less predictability (see Figure 4).

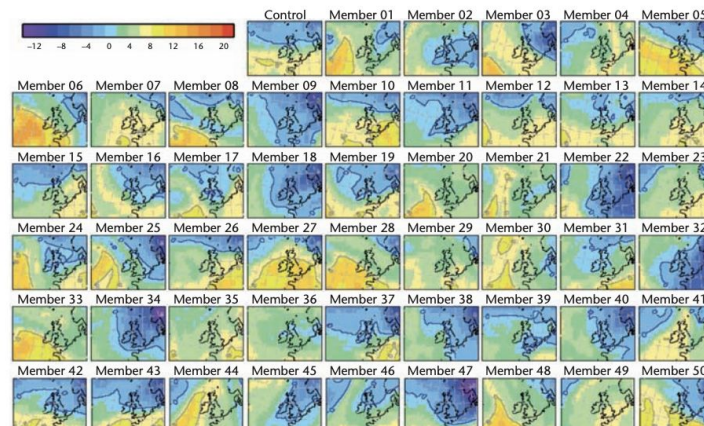


Source: UK Met Office using data from ECMWF, © British Crown Copyright

Figure 4. Ensemble 500 hPa forecast spaghetti charts for 11 February 2001 at 1200 UTC (T + 96 from 7 February 2001 at 1200 UTC)

4.1.6 Postage stamp maps

A set of small maps showing contoured plots of each ensemble individual member (see Figure 5) allows the forecaster to view the scenarios in each member forecast and assess the possible risks of extreme events. However, this presents a large amount of information that can be difficult to assimilate.



Source: UK Met Office using data from ECMWF, © British Crown Copyright

Figure 5. Postage stamp map for 7 February 2009 at 1200 UTC (850 hPa wetbulb potential temperature, in degrees Celsius; T + 300 from 26 January at 0000 UTC)

Guidelines on Ensemble Prediction Systems and Forecasting
WMO-No. 1091 © World Meteorological Organization, 2012
https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=7773

More examples

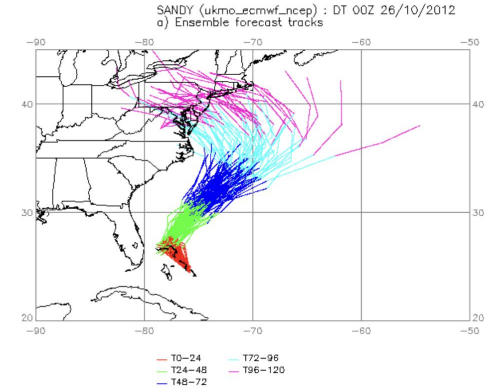
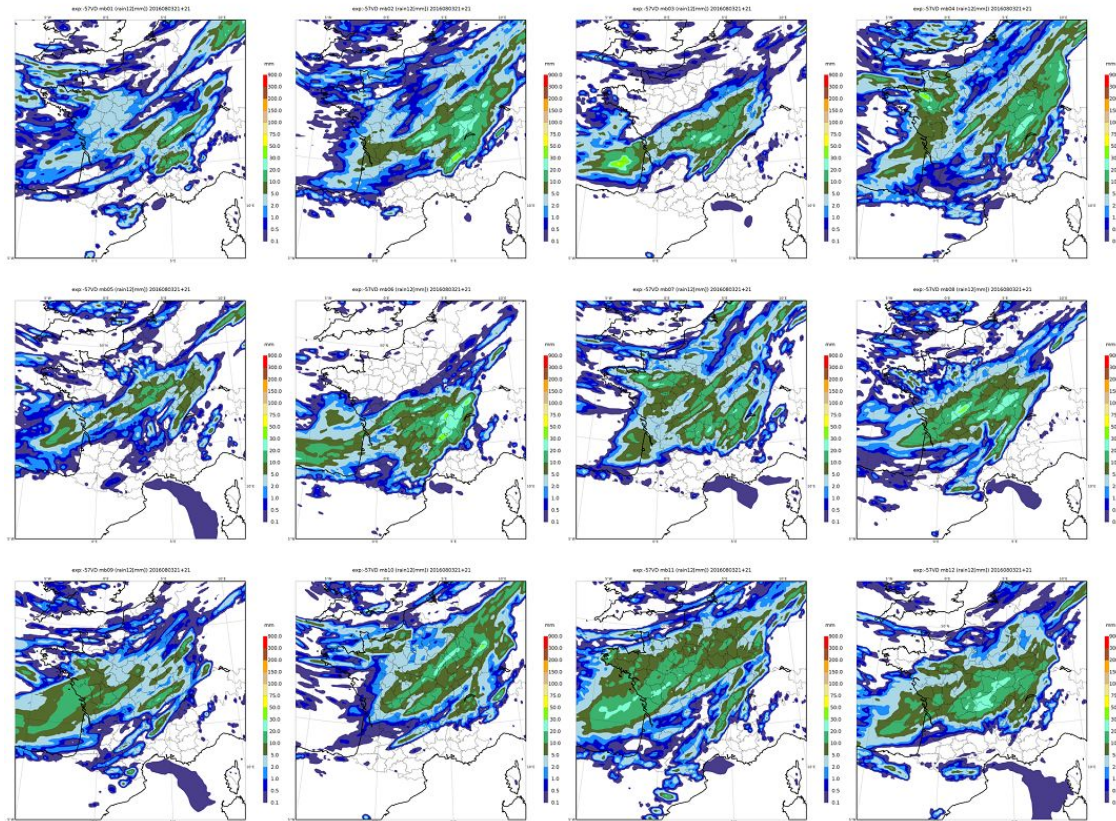


Figure 1: Example of multi-centre ensemble track predictions for hurricane Sandy.

Occurrence probability of extreme 24-hr precipitation
Valid: 2011060312UTC +5–6days

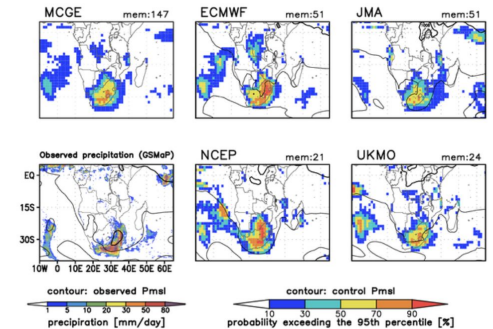


Figure 2: The forecast probability of heavy rainfall (exceeding the 95th percentile), based on four TIGGE ensembles, and a multi-centre grand ensemble.