

Emergence of Self-Organized Moist Convection, as Seen Through the Energy-Cycle in Wavelet Space

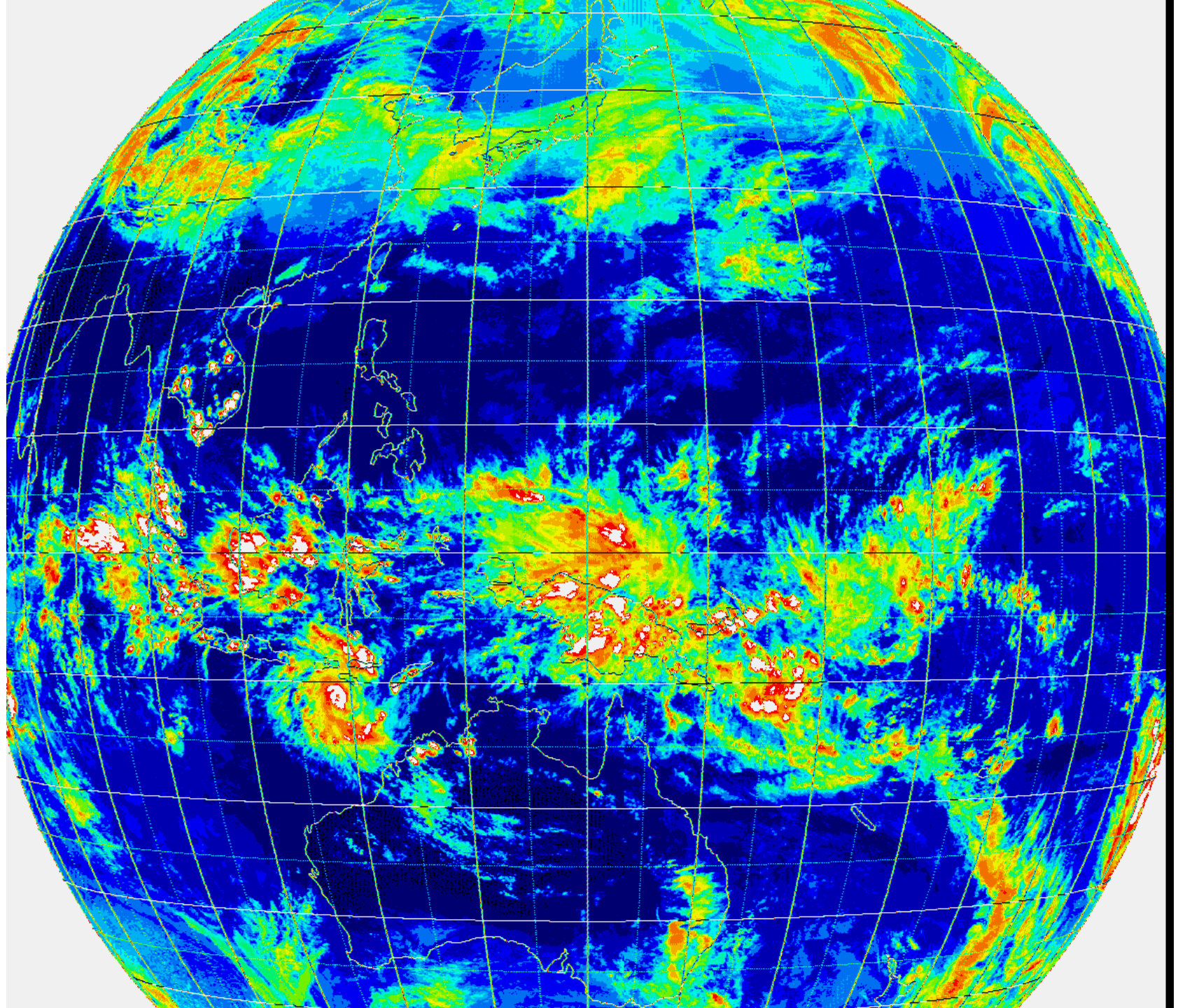
by **Jun-Ichi Yano**, Météo France

Toulouse

with

Bob Plant, University of Reading

(JAMES 2025)

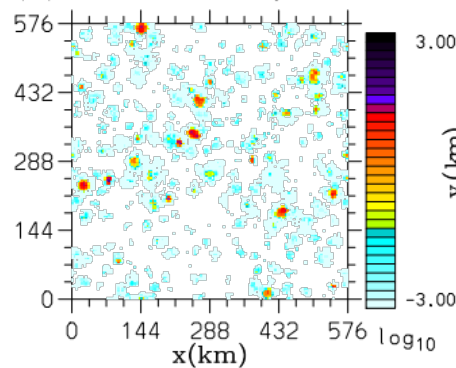


Numerical Simulation:

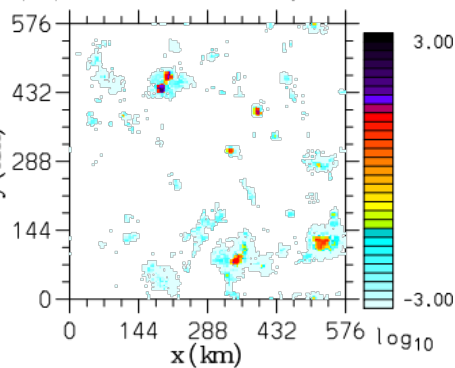
Convective Organization:

precipitation

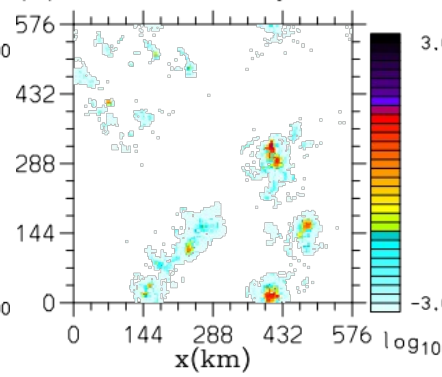
(a) time= 1 days



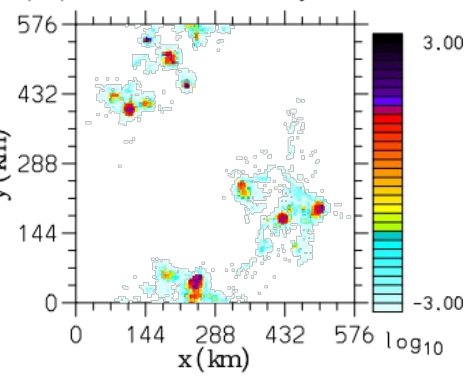
(b) time= 2 days



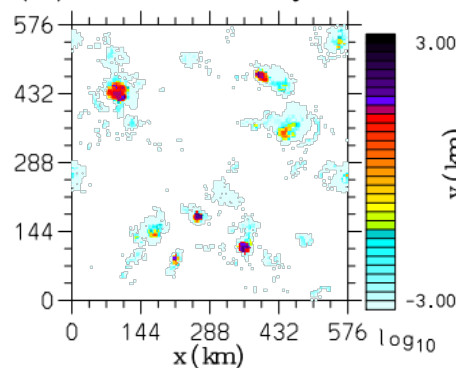
(e) time= 9 days



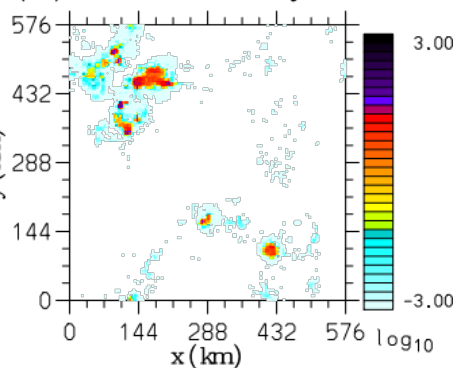
(f) time=12 days



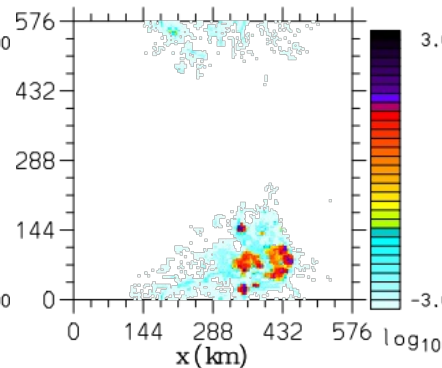
(c) time= 5 days



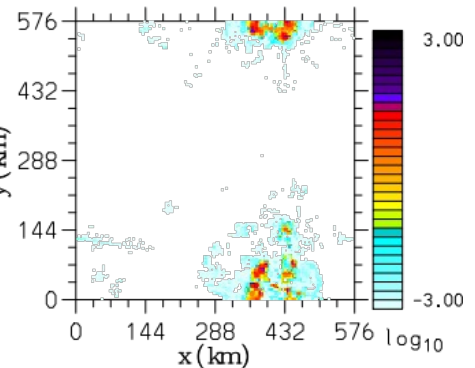
(d) time= 8 days



(g) time=18 days



(h) time=30 days



(Holloway and Woolnough 2016)

Question:

How Convective Organization is formed and Maintained?

Basic Approach:

**Analysis of the Energy Cycle
in Wavelet Space**

Key Concepts:

- **Wavelet**
- **Energy Cycle**

Why Wavelet?:

Organization:

Spatial localization:

Effectively Extracted by Wavelet

Wavelet(Discrete Orthogonal:Meyer)

Two indices: i, j :

$$k=2^i, i=0$$

$$i=1$$

$$i=2$$

$$i=3$$

$i=-1$: domain average

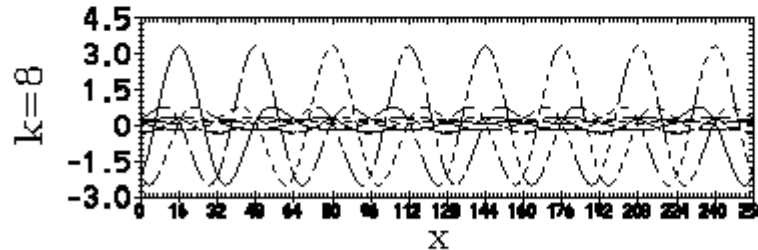
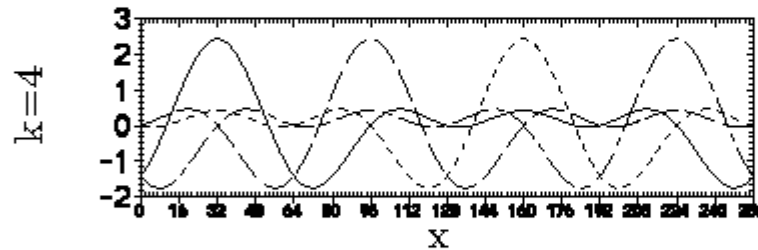
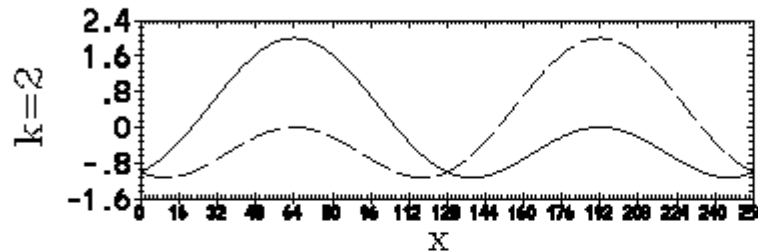
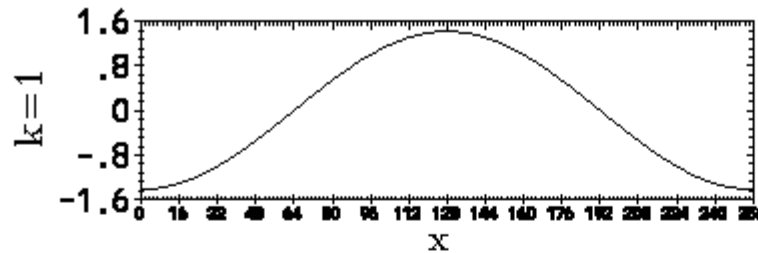
localizations:

$$j=1$$

$$j=1, 2$$

$$j=1, \dots, 4$$

$$j=1, \dots, 8$$



Orthogonal&Complete

Fourier Expansion(Discrete Complete Set)
for a finite periodic domain, $[0, L]$:

$$\frac{1}{L} \int_0^L \phi_k(x) \phi_l(x) = \delta_{kl}$$

For any *well-behaved* function, $f(x)$:

$$f(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \hat{f}_k \phi_k(x)$$
$$\hat{f}_k = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \phi_k(x) dx$$

wavelet method

$$\frac{1}{L} \int_0^L \phi_{i,j}(x) \phi_{i',j'}(x) = \delta_{ii'} \delta_{jj'}$$

For any *well-behaved* function, $f(x)$:

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=-1}^{i_{max}} \sum_{j=1}^{\text{Max}(1, 2^i)} \hat{f}_{i,j} \phi_{i,j}(x)$$
$$\hat{f}_{i,j} = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \phi_{i,j}(x) dx$$

Wavelet (Discrete Orthogonal:Meyer)

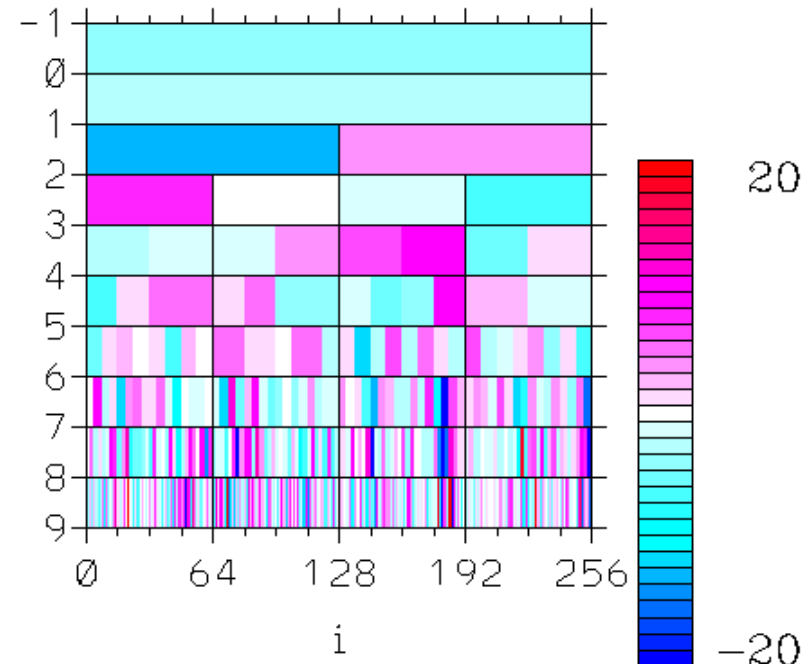
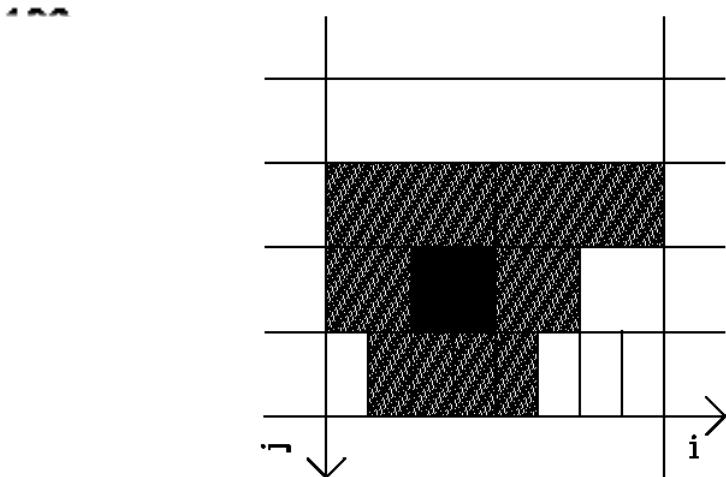
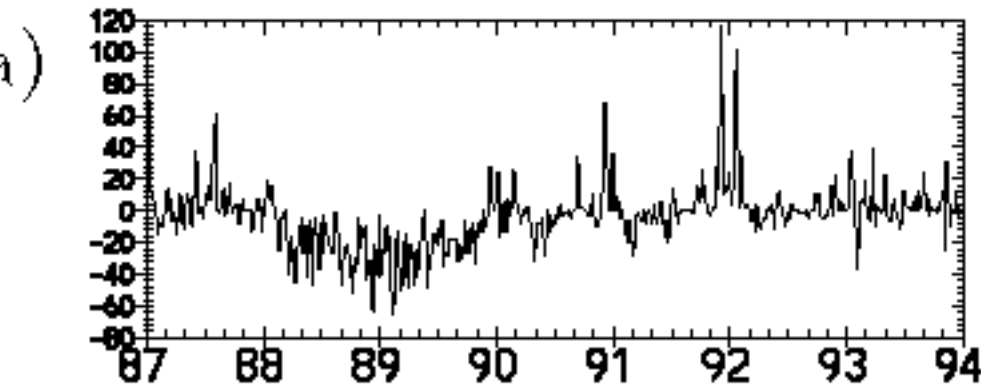
Wavelet-based Decomposition:

$$\varphi(x) = \sum_{i=-1}^{\ln_2 N-1} \sum_{j=1}^{j_{max}} \tilde{\varphi}_{i,j} \psi_{i,j}(x)$$

$$\varphi(x, y) = \sum_{i_x=-1}^{\ln_2 N_x-1} \sum_{i_y=-1}^{\ln_2 N_y-1} \sum_{j_x=1}^{j_{x,max}} \sum_{j_y=1}^{j_{y,max}} \tilde{\varphi}_{i_x,i_y,j_x,j_y} \psi_{i_x,j_x}(x) \psi_{i_y,j_y}(y)$$

Extraction:

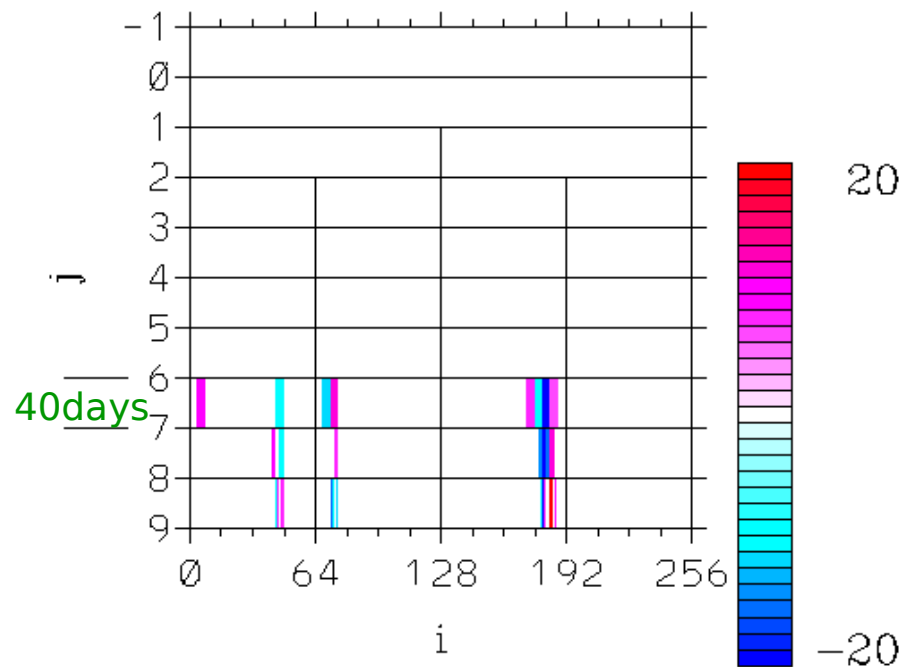
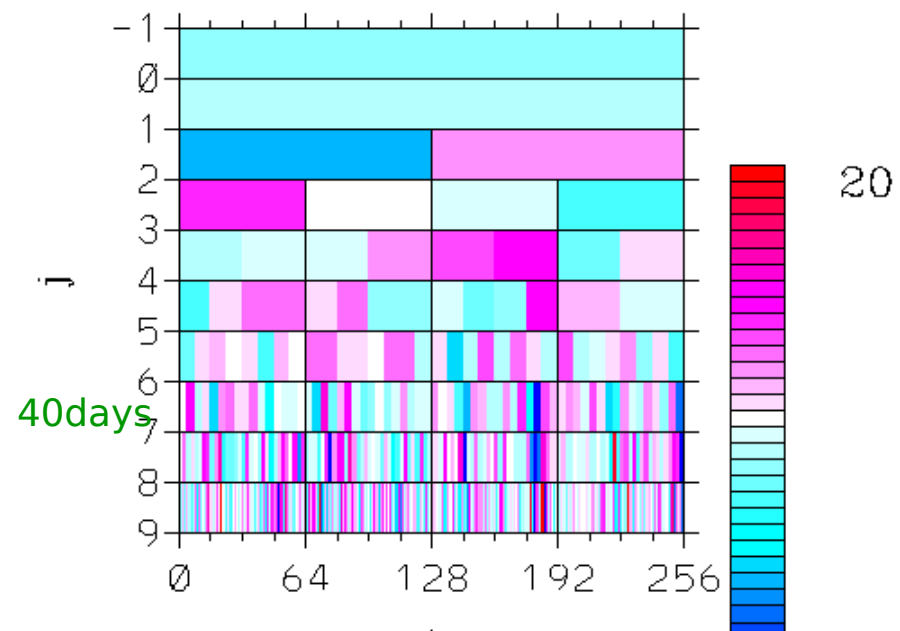
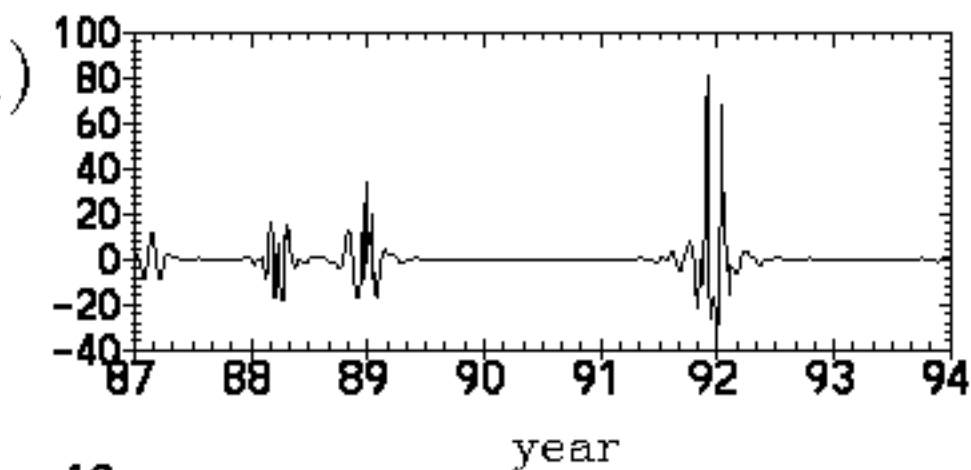
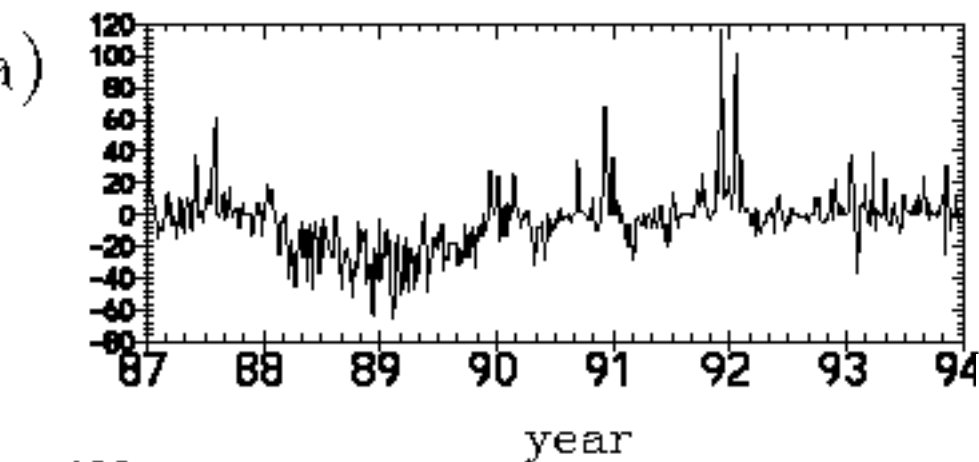
One-Dimensional Demonstration: Zonal Wind over Western Pacific:



Extraction of Isolated Feat

One-Dimensional Demon

Zonal Wind over Westerr



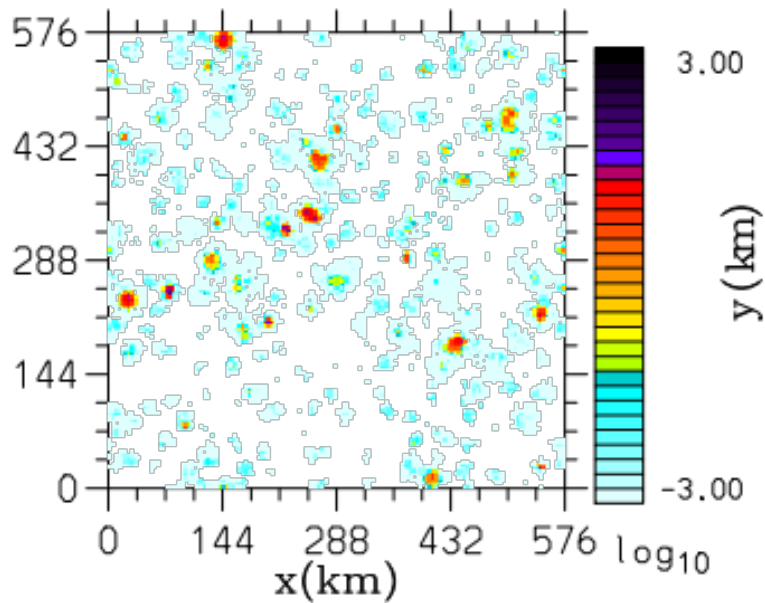
Organized Precipitation

Field : First Four Pulse

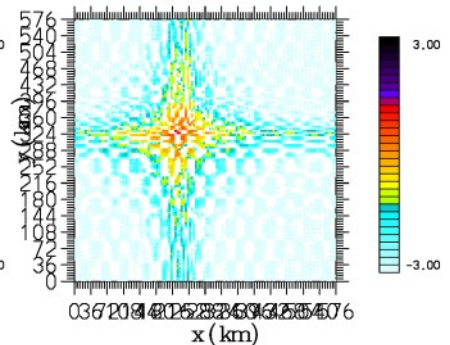
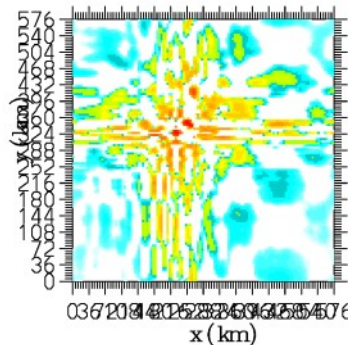
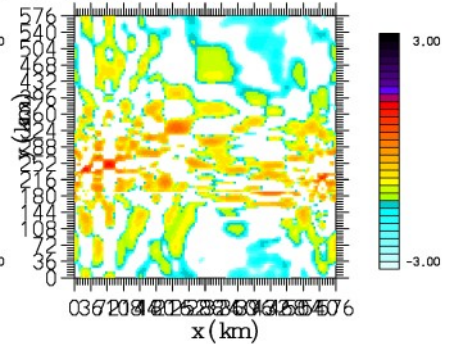
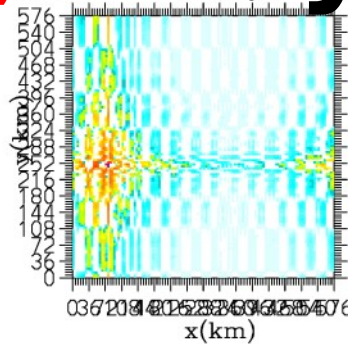
Modes

(Precipitation): Day 1:

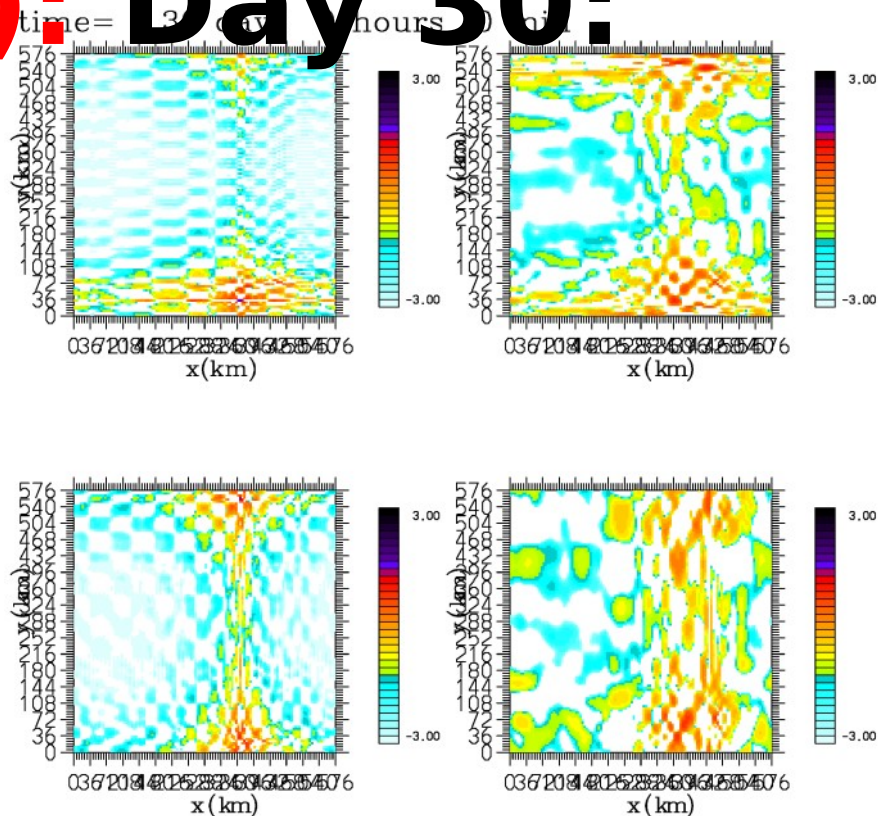
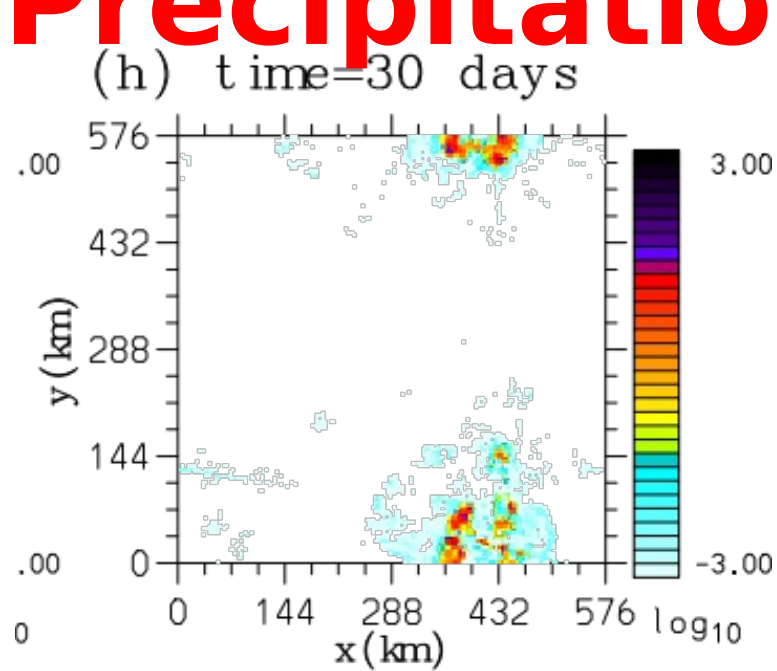
(a) time= 1 days



time= 1 days 0 hours 0 min

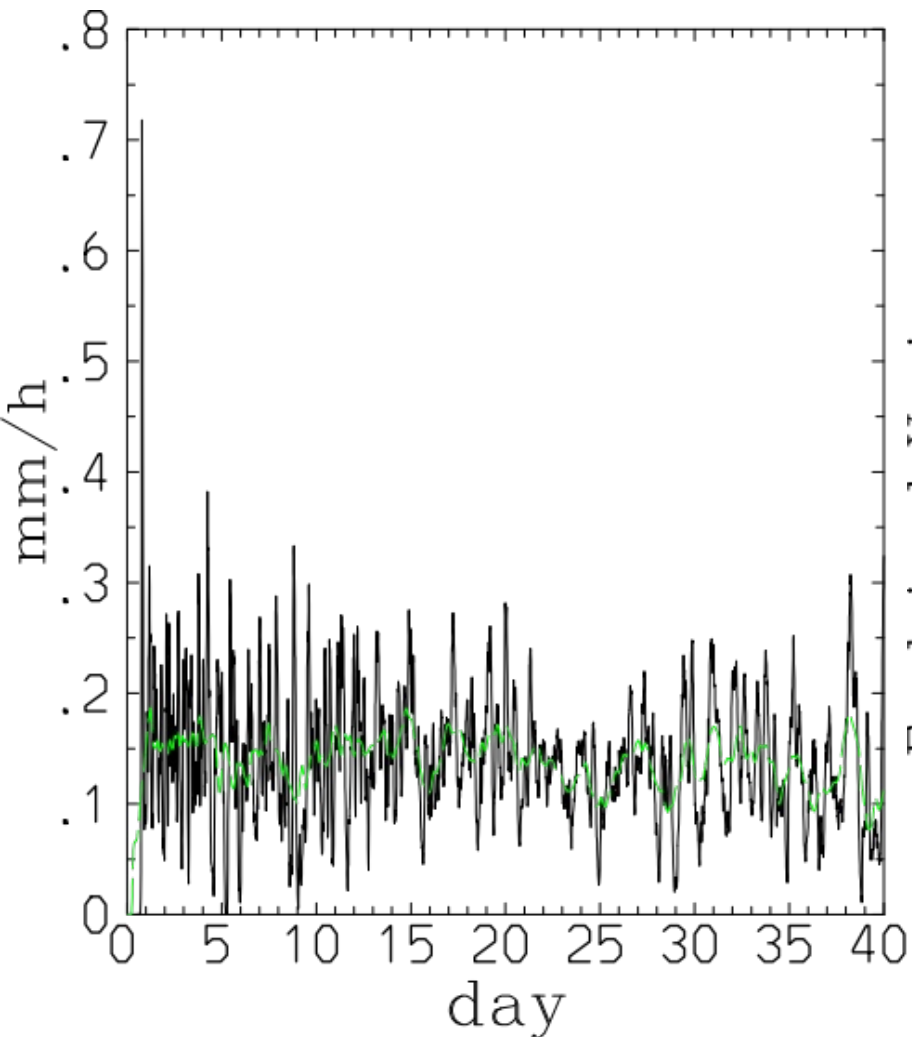


Organized Precipitation Field : First Four Pulse Modes (Precipitation): Day 30:

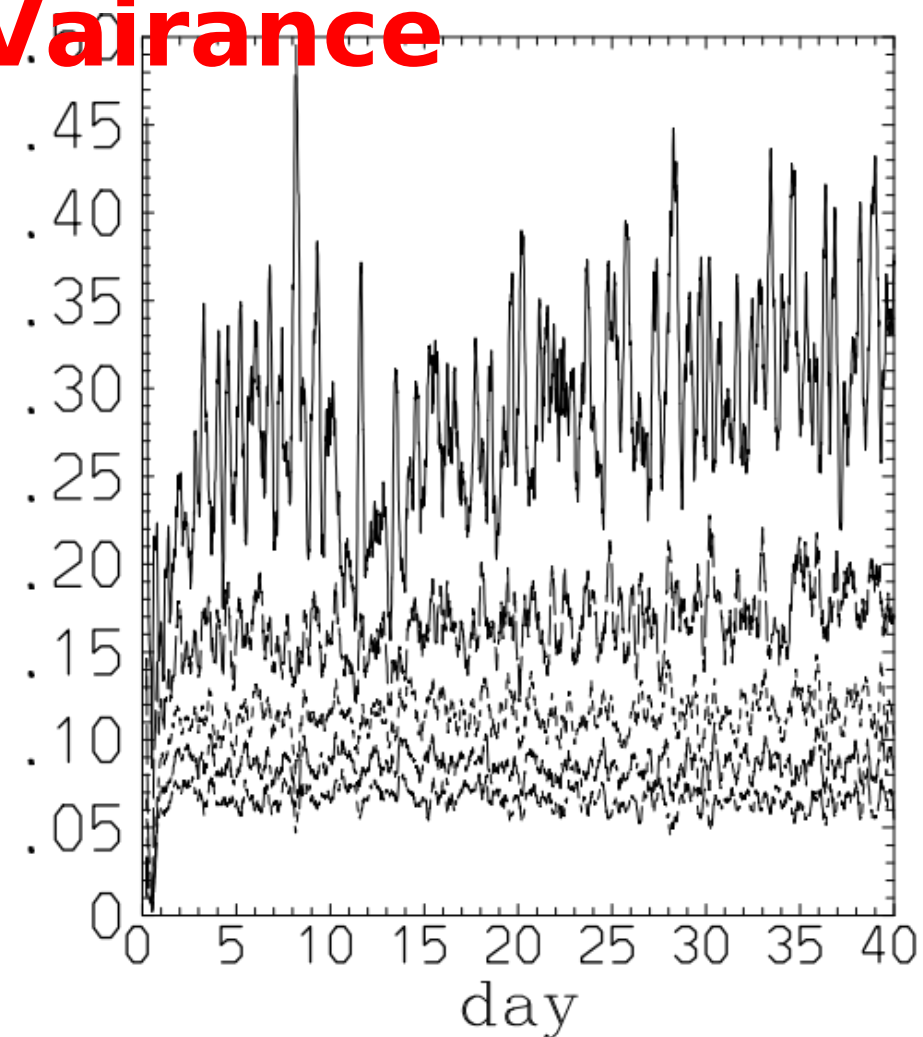


Basic Features :

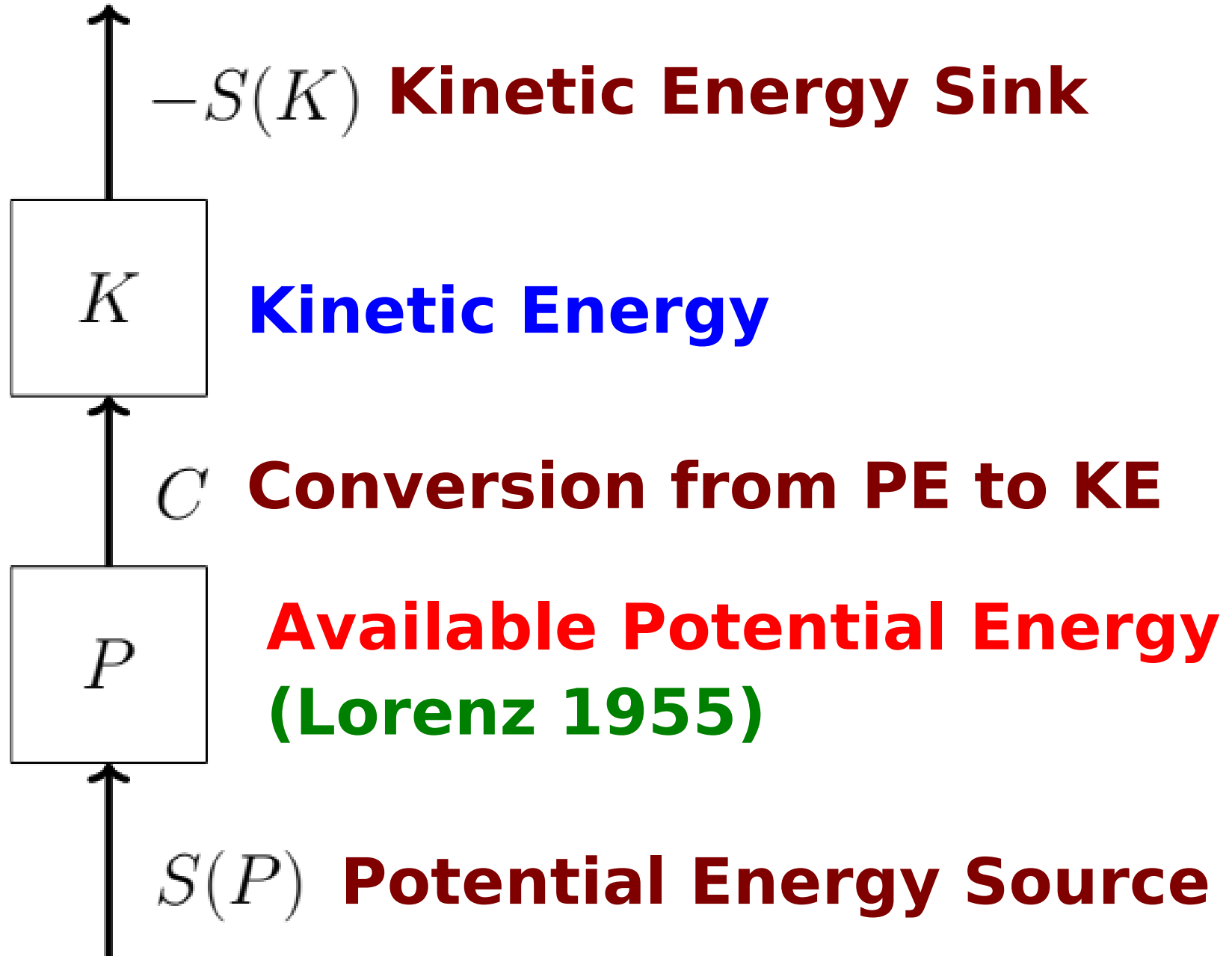
Domain-Averaged Precipitation



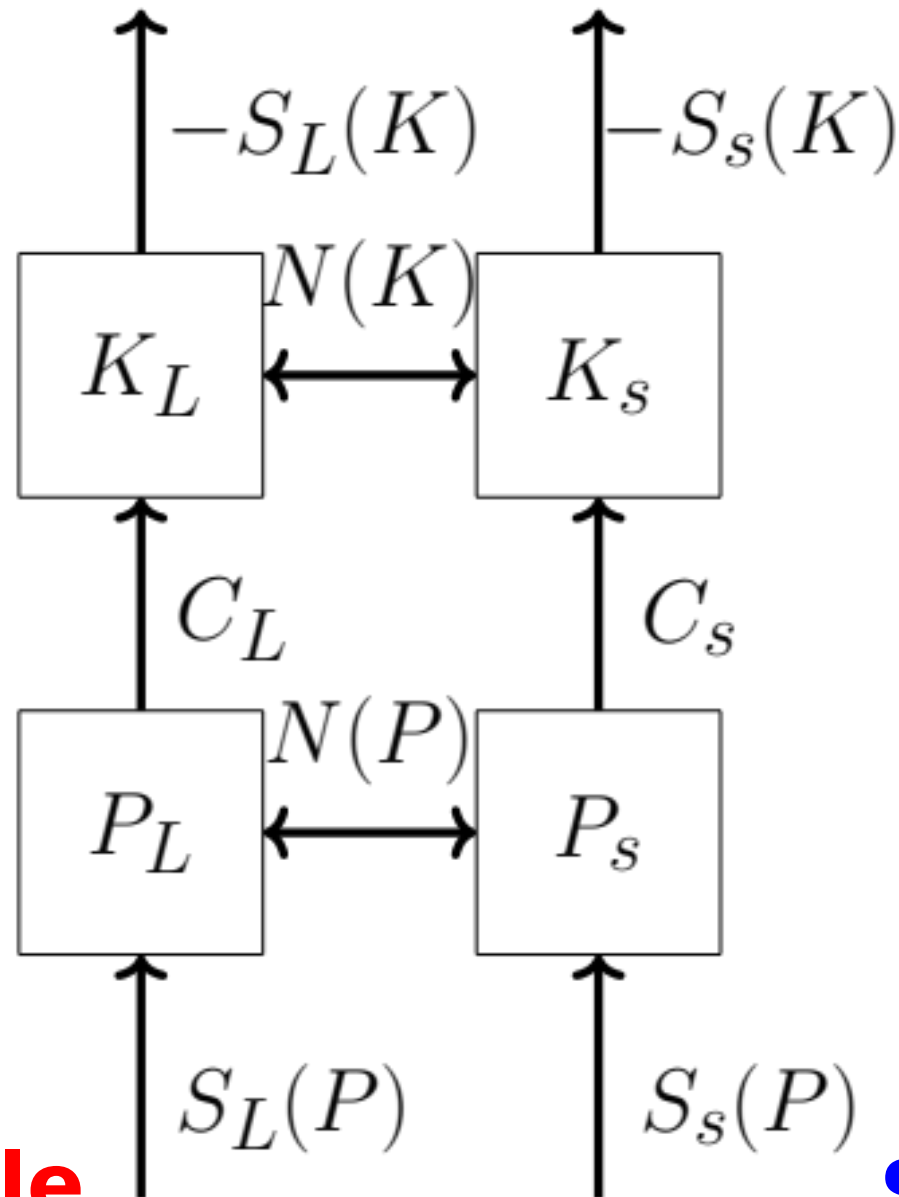
First 5 Pulses : Fractional Variance



Basic Energy Cycle :



Energy Cycle : Differentiated by Scale



Large Scale

Small Scale

Definitions (Physical Space)

• **Kinetic Energy :**

$$K = \frac{\rho}{2} \mathbf{v}^2$$

• **Available Potential Energy :**

$$P = \frac{\rho}{2\sigma} \theta_v'^2$$

where

$$\sigma = \frac{\bar{\theta}_v}{g} \frac{d\bar{\theta}_v}{dz}.$$

Definitions (Wavelet Space)

• **Kinetic Energy :**

$$\tilde{K}_l = \frac{1}{2}(\widetilde{\rho \mathbf{v}})_l \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_l,$$

• **Available Potential Energy :**

$$\tilde{P}_l = \frac{1}{2\sigma}(\widetilde{\rho \theta'_v})_l \tilde{\theta}'_{vl}.$$

where

$$\sigma = \frac{\bar{\theta}_v d\bar{\theta}_v}{g dz}.$$

Energy Cycle (Physical Space)

$$\frac{\partial K}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (K + \rho c_{pd} \theta_v \pi') \mathbf{v} = C(P, K) + \rho \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{S}^v + c_{pd} \pi' \left(\nabla \cdot \rho \theta_v' \mathbf{v} + \rho w \frac{d\bar{\theta}_v}{dz} \right)$$
$$\frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{\partial \sigma P}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{\sigma} \nabla \cdot \sigma P \mathbf{v} = -C(P, K) + \frac{\rho \theta_v'}{\sigma} S^{\theta_v}$$

Energy Conversion Rate :

$$C(P, K) = \rho g \frac{\theta_v'}{\bar{\theta}_v} w.$$

Energy Cycle (Wavelet Space)

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \tilde{K}_l - \tilde{N}_l(K) &= \tilde{F}_l(K) + \tilde{C}_l(P, K) + \tilde{S}_l(K) \\ \frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \sigma \tilde{P}_l - \tilde{N}_l(P) &= -\tilde{C}_l(P, K) + \tilde{S}_l(P)\end{aligned}$$

Energy Conversion Rate :

$$\tilde{C}_l(P, K) = \frac{g}{2\theta_v} [(\bar{\rho}\bar{w})_l \tilde{\theta}'_{v,l} + \bar{w}_l (\bar{\rho}\tilde{\theta}'_v)_l]$$

$$\tilde{N}_l = \tilde{N}_{l,H} + \tilde{N}_{l,V},$$

$$\tilde{F}_l(K) = \tilde{F}_{l,H}(K) + \tilde{F}_{l,V}(K)$$

$$\tilde{N}_{l,H}(K) = -\frac{1}{2}[(\widetilde{\rho\mathbf{v}})_l \cdot \langle \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla_H \mathbf{v} \rangle_l + \langle \nabla_H \cdot \rho \mathbf{u} \mathbf{v} \rangle_l \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_l]$$

$$\tilde{N}_{l,V}(K) = -\frac{1}{2} \left[\langle \rho \mathbf{v} w \rangle_l \cdot \frac{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_l}{\partial z} + \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_l \cdot \langle \mathbf{v} \frac{\partial \rho w}{\partial z} \rangle_l \right]$$

$$\tilde{N}_{l,H}(P) = -\frac{1}{2\sigma} [\langle (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla_H) \theta'_v \rangle_l \cdot (\widetilde{\rho \theta'_v})_l + \langle \nabla_H \cdot \rho \mathbf{u} \theta'_v \rangle_l \tilde{\theta}'_{vl}]$$

$$\tilde{N}_{l,V}(P) = -\frac{1}{2\sigma} [(\widetilde{\rho \theta'_v})_l \langle w \frac{\partial \theta'_v}{\partial z} \rangle_l + \tilde{\theta}'_{vl} \langle \frac{\partial \rho w \theta'_v}{\partial z} \rangle_l]$$

$$\tilde{F}_{l,H}(K) = c_{pd} \tilde{\pi}'_l \langle \nabla_H \cdot \rho \mathbf{u} \theta_v \rangle_l$$

$$\tilde{F}_{l,V}(K) = -c_{pd} \langle \rho w \theta_v \rangle_l \frac{\partial \tilde{\pi}'_l}{\partial z}$$

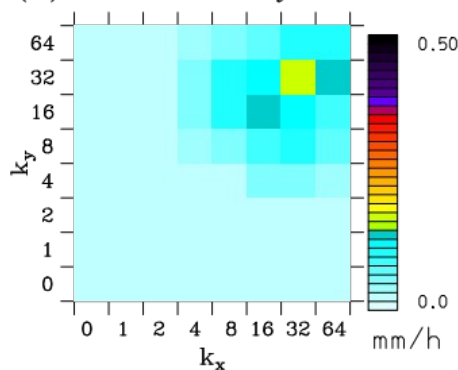
Spectrum Evolution:

$$P(k_x, k_y) = \sum_{j_x=1}^{\max(1, k_x)} \sum_{j_y=1}^{\max(1, k_y)} \tilde{\varphi}_{i_x, i_y, j_x, j_y}^2$$

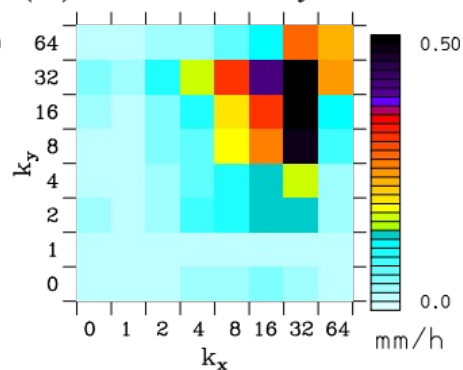
Precipitation

precipitation

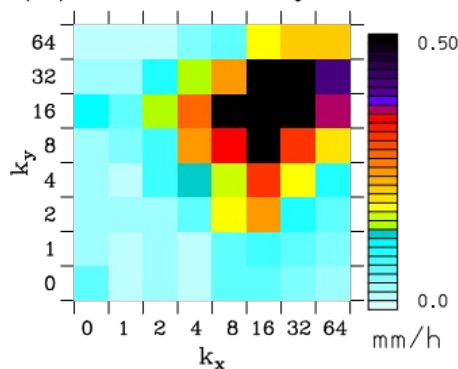
(a) time= 1 days



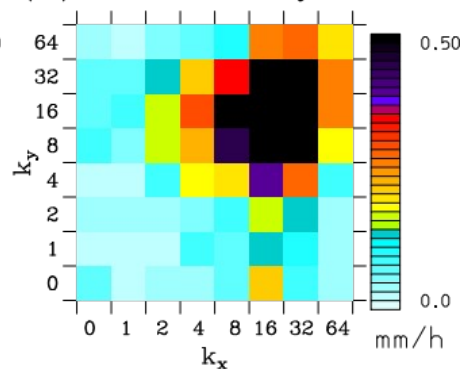
(b) time= 2 days



(c) time= 3 days



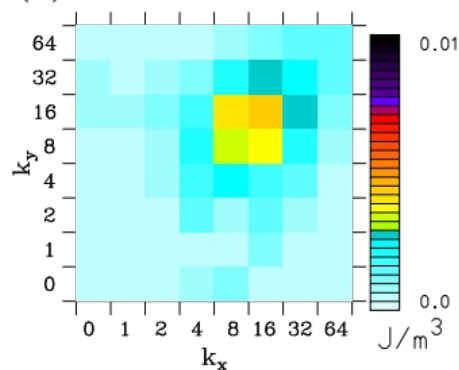
(d) time= 7 days



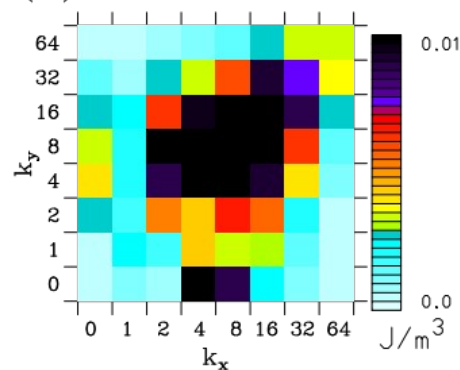
Kinetic Energy

KE

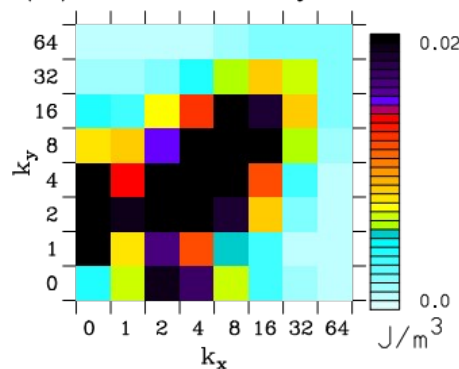
(a) time=16 hours



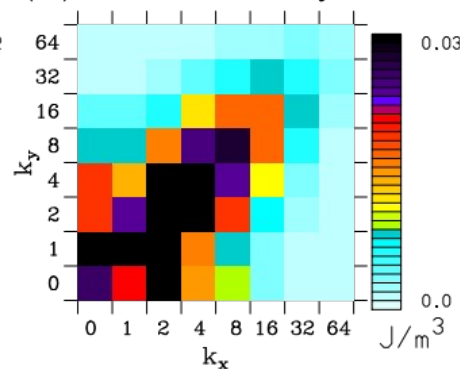
(b) time=18 hours



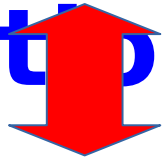
(c) time= 2 days



(d) time=3.5 days



**Generation of
Convective
Organization**



**Transfer of
Kinetic Energy to
the Larger Scales**

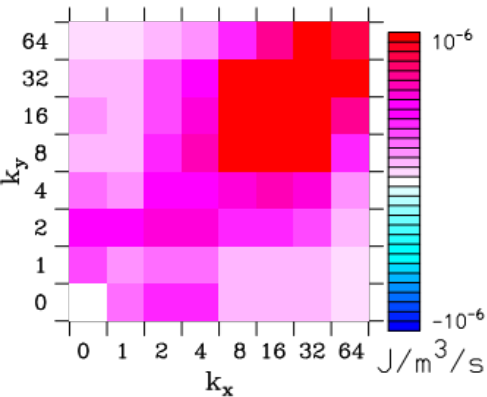
: How This Happens ?

Energy Cycle (Wavelet Space)

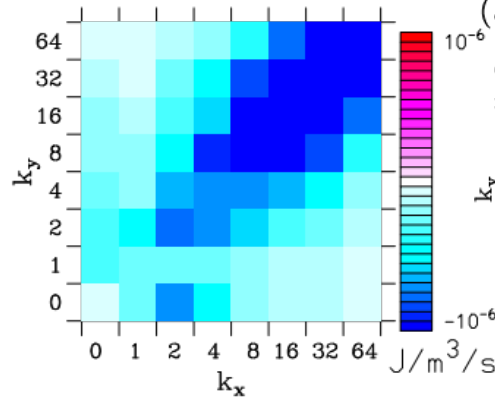
Kinetic Energy First 10 Days :

time= 0–10 days, KE

(a) C



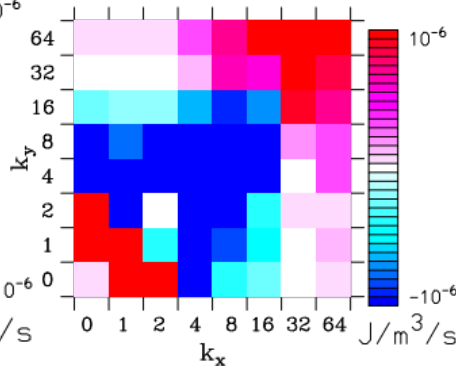
(b) S(K)



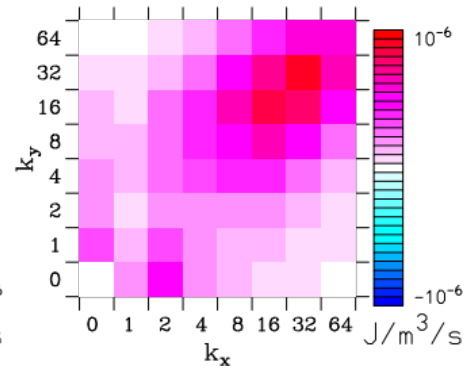
Available Potential Energy Days 20-30:

time=20–30 days, APE

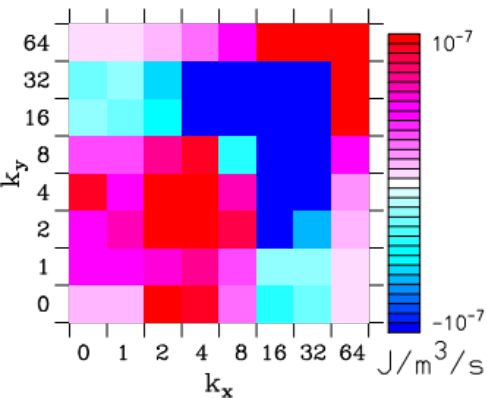
(a) S(P)



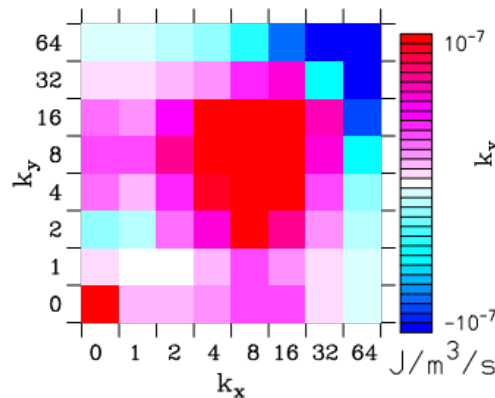
(b) C



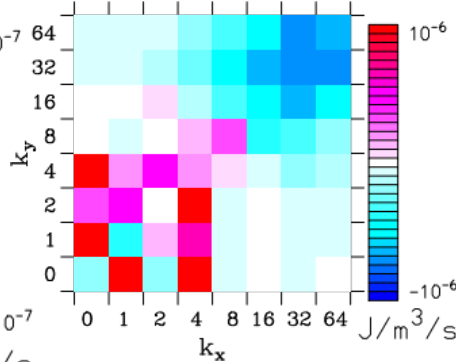
(c) N_H(K)



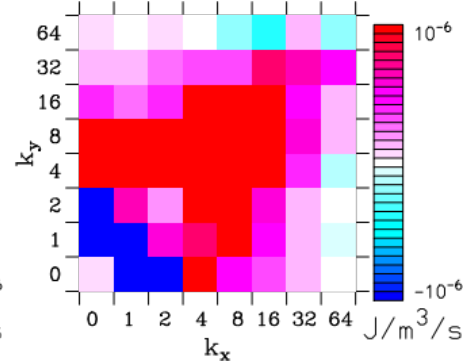
(d) N_V(K)



(c) N_H(P)



(d) N_V(P)



Process Decomposition:

Choose a Threshold Variable: φ .

High Component:

$$\hat{\mathbf{f}}_l^H = \begin{cases} \hat{\mathbf{f}}_l, & |\hat{\varphi}_l| > \varphi_c \\ 0, & |\hat{\varphi}_l| \leq \varphi_c \end{cases}$$

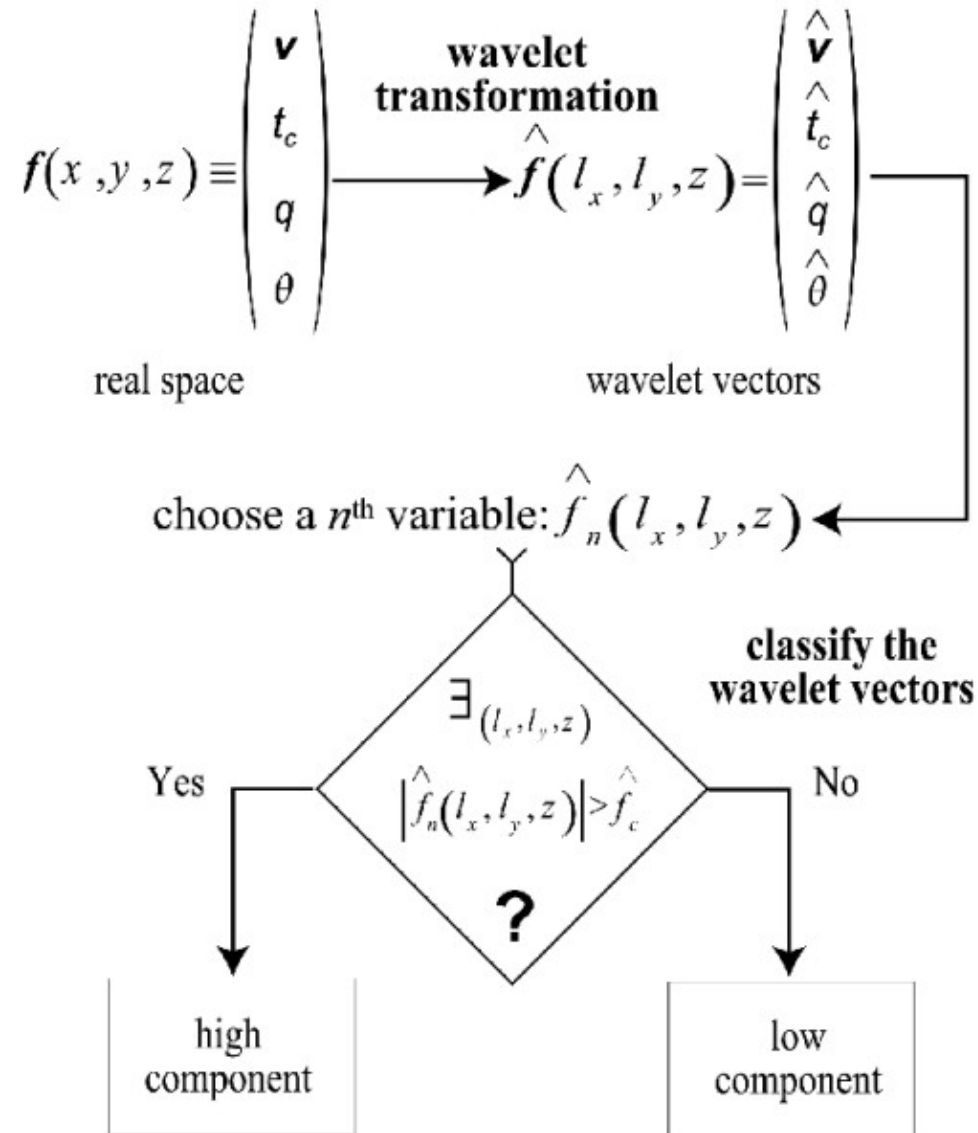
Low Component:

$$\hat{\mathbf{f}}_l^L = \begin{cases} 0, & |\hat{\varphi}_l| > \varphi_c \\ \hat{\mathbf{f}}_l, & |\hat{\varphi}_l| \leq \varphi_c \end{cases}$$

Here,

$$\varphi_c = \left(\sum_{l=1}^{N-1} \hat{\varphi}_l^2 \right)^{1/2}$$

Process Decomposition:



Process Decomposition:

Convective Organization:

Buoyancy-Production Driven
and

Non-Buoyancy-Production
Driven

Components:

Threshold Variable:

$$\phi = C(P, K)$$

Energy Cycle : Between Two

Components :

Kinetic Energy

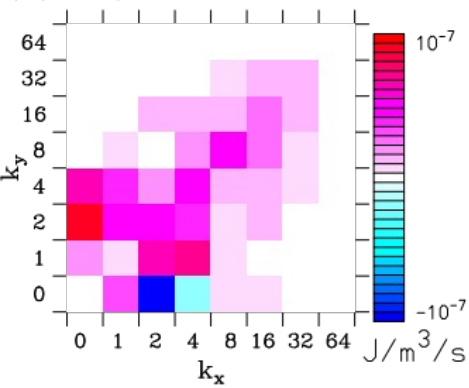
Kinetic Energy

Buoyant Component :

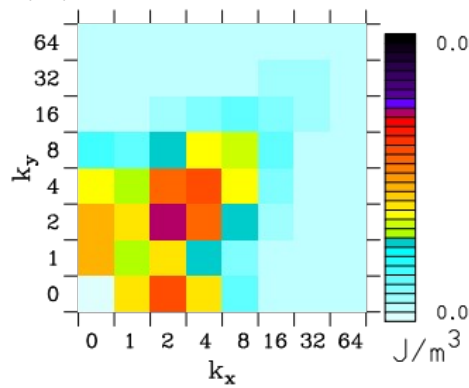
NonBuoyant Component :

time= 0–10 days, KE, Buoyant Component

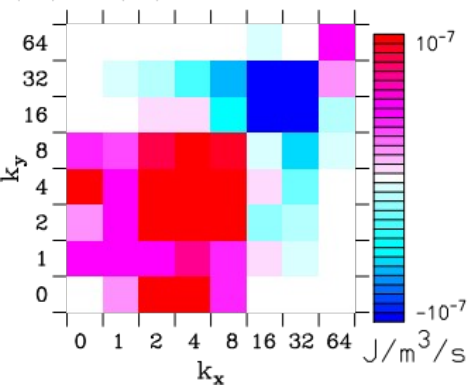
(a) dK/dt



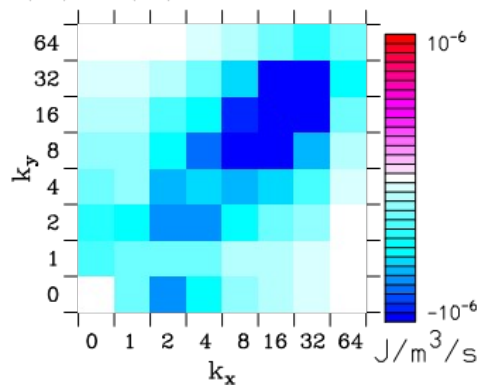
(b) K



(c) $N(K)$

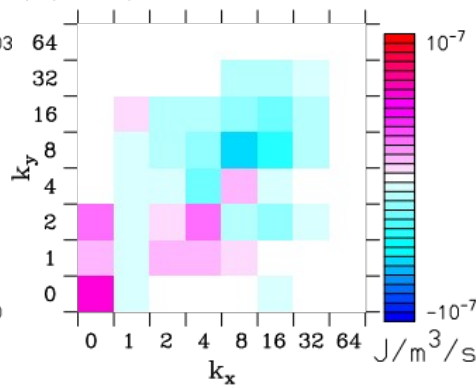


(d) $S(K)$

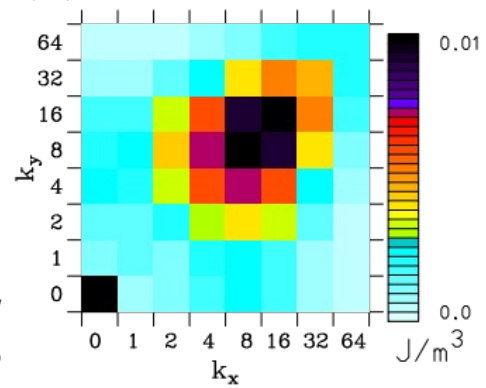


time= 0–10 days, KE, Nonbuoyant Component

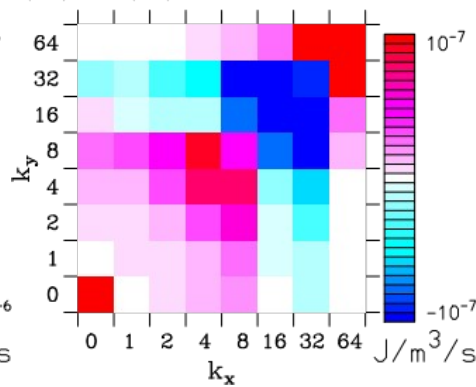
(a) dK/dt



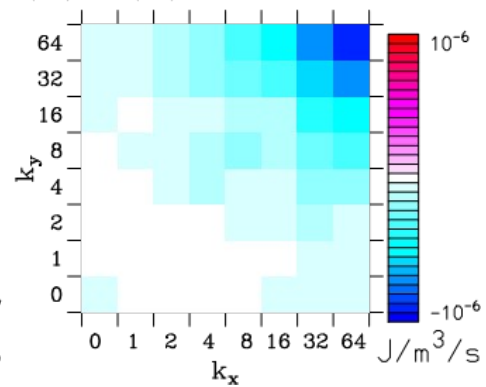
(b) K



(c) $N(K)$



(d) $S(K)$



Non-
buoyant
Component

$$K_L$$

$$\dot{K}_s < 0$$

$$N(K)$$

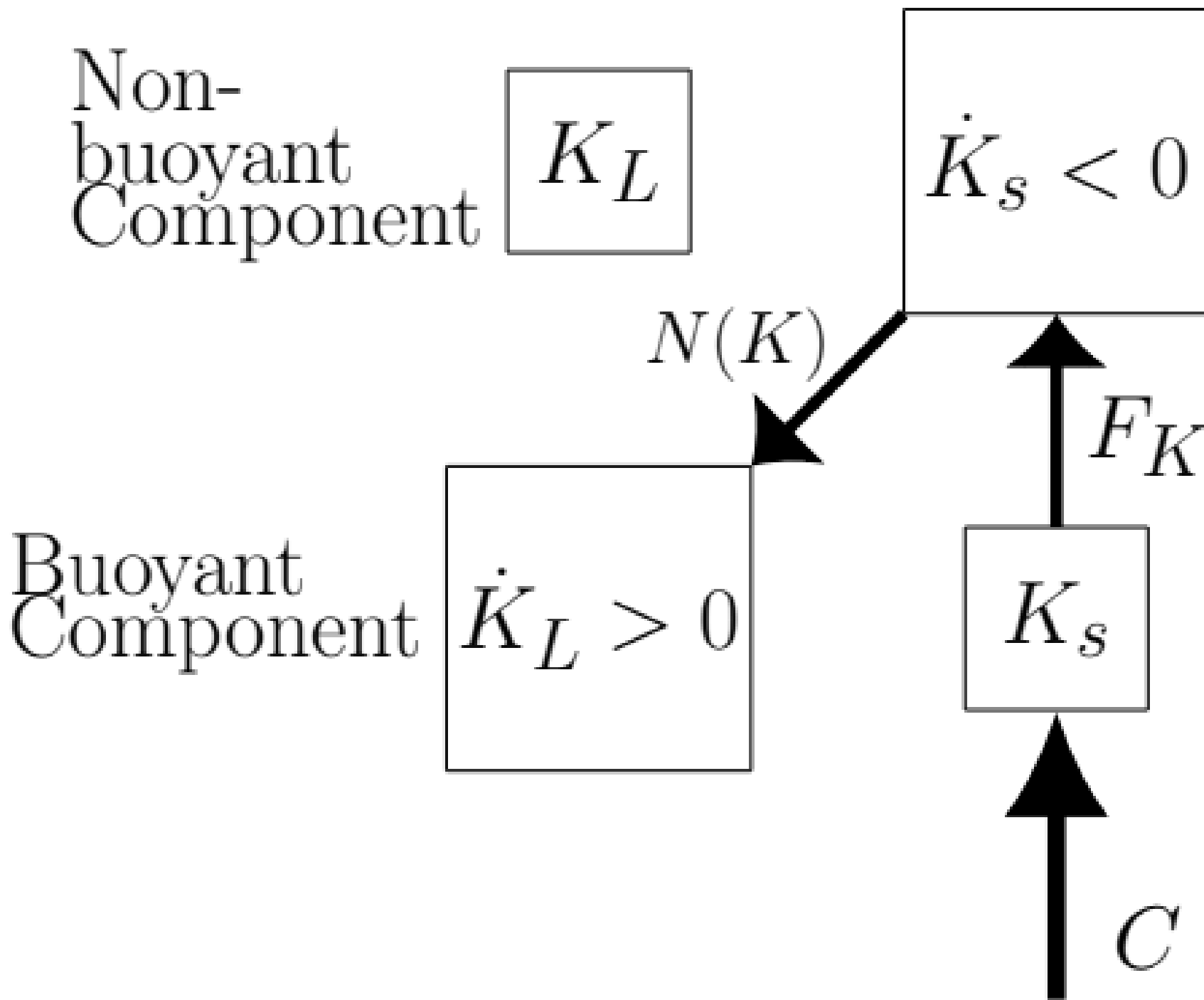
Buoyant
Component

$$\dot{K}_L > 0$$

$$F_K$$

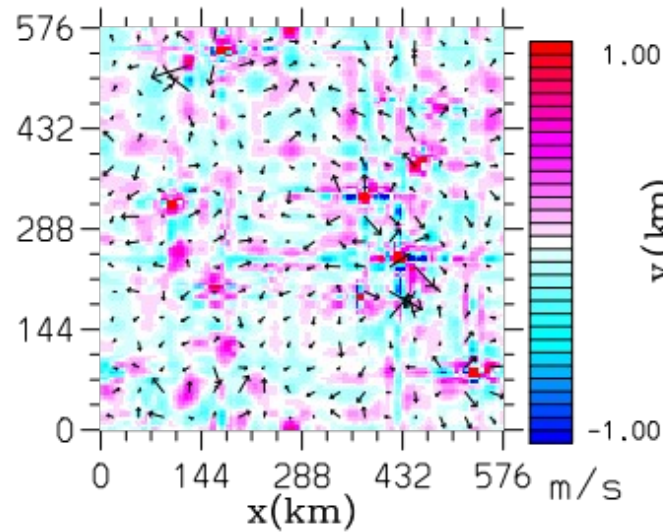
$$K_s$$

$$C$$

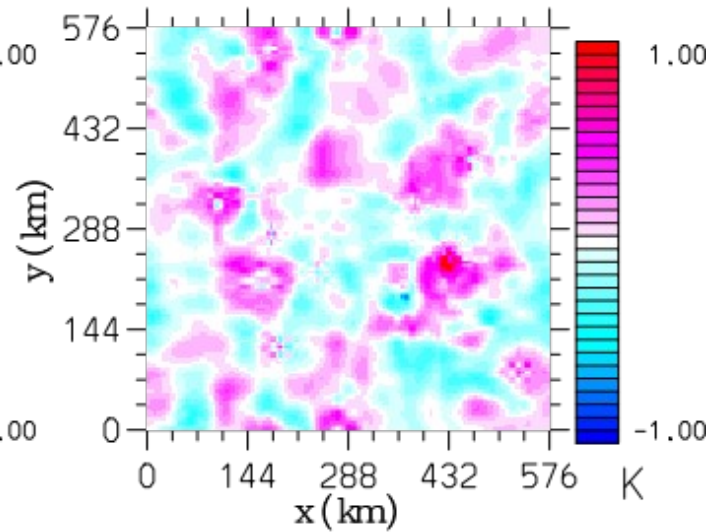


time= 0 days 19 hours

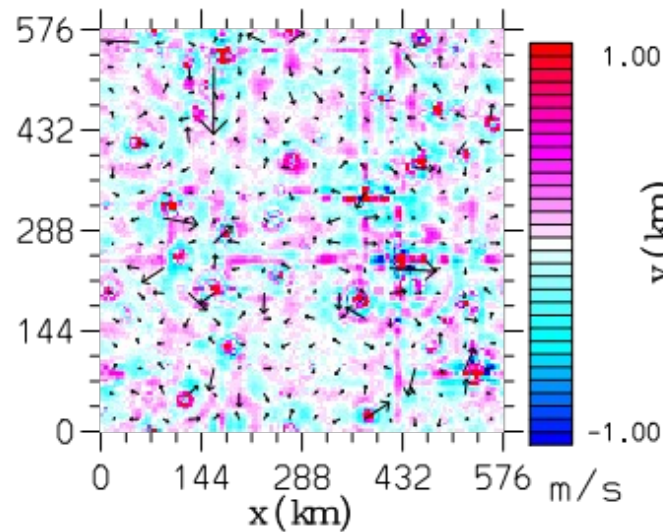
(a) w , Buoyant



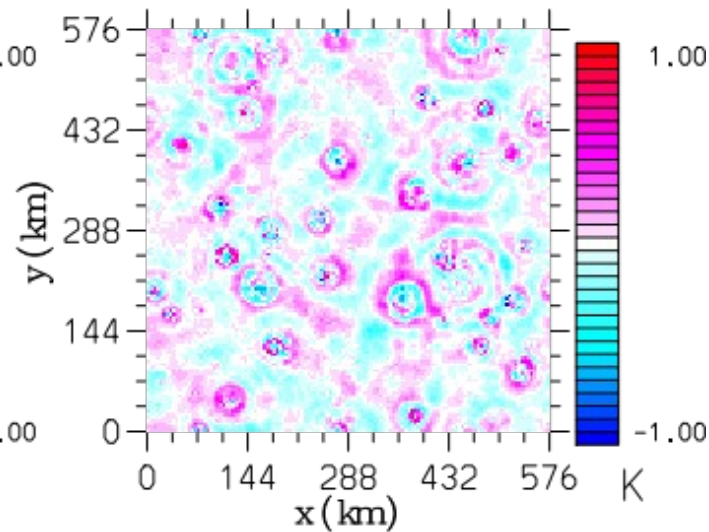
(b) ϑ_v , Buoyant



(c) w , Nonbuoyant

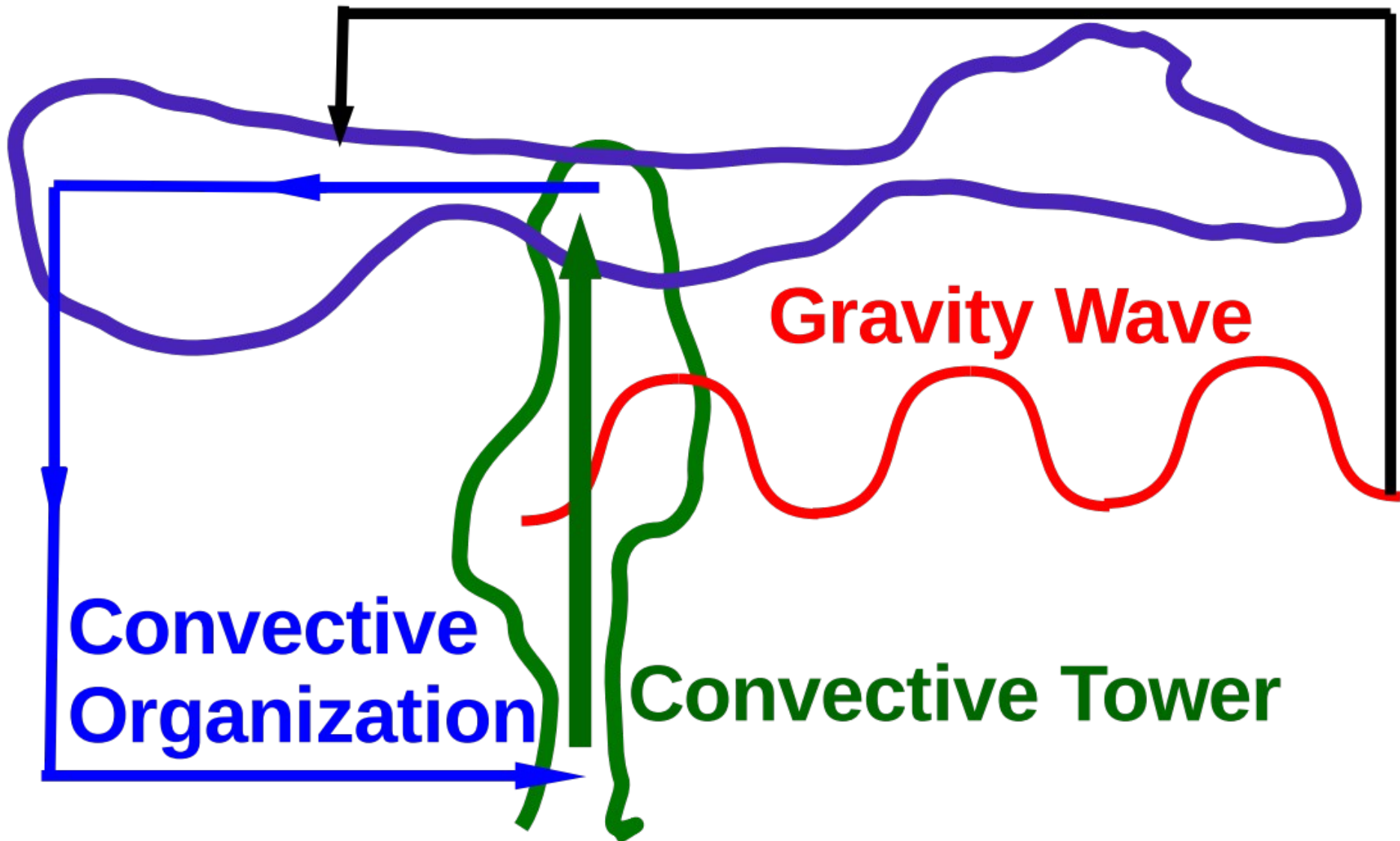


(d) ϑ_v , Nonbuoyant



**Gravity
Waves**

Nonlinear Energy Transfer



Summary

Wavelet:

- Capacity of Quantifying the “Organization” effectively:

- Orthogonality and Completeness
- Automatic Windowing
- Many Options with Flexibility

Q: What We Want to Quantify?

Possibility To Be Further Pursued:

Process Study in Wavelet Space

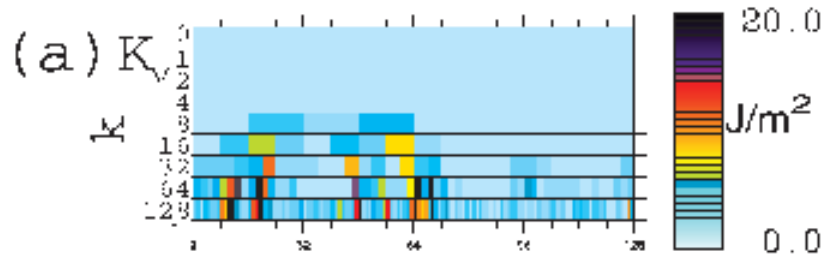
e.g., Energy Cycle (cf., Yano and Plant 2025 JAMES)

Questions ?
Comments ?

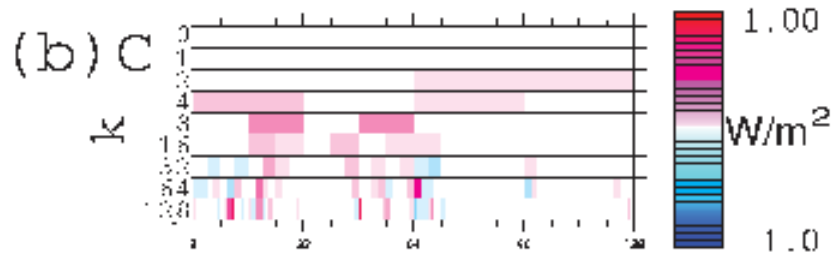
Exmample of Process Study in Wavelet Space:

Energy-Conversion Cycle

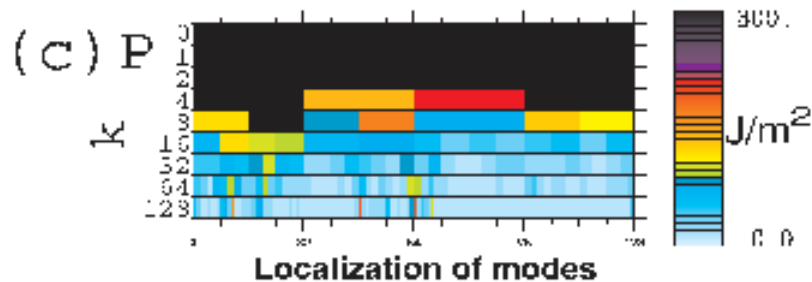
(Yano et al. 2005, QJ):



Convective
Kinetic Energy



Conversion Rate



Available Potential
Energy

Compression:

Let $l = l(i, j)$ with $l = 0, \dots, N - 1$:

$$\hat{f}_l^c = \begin{cases} \hat{f}_l, & |\hat{f}_l| > \alpha f_c \\ 0, & |\hat{f}_l| \leq \alpha f_c \end{cases}$$

where

$$f_c = \left(\sum_{l=1}^{N-1} \hat{f}_l^2 \right)^{1/2}$$

Compressed Representation:

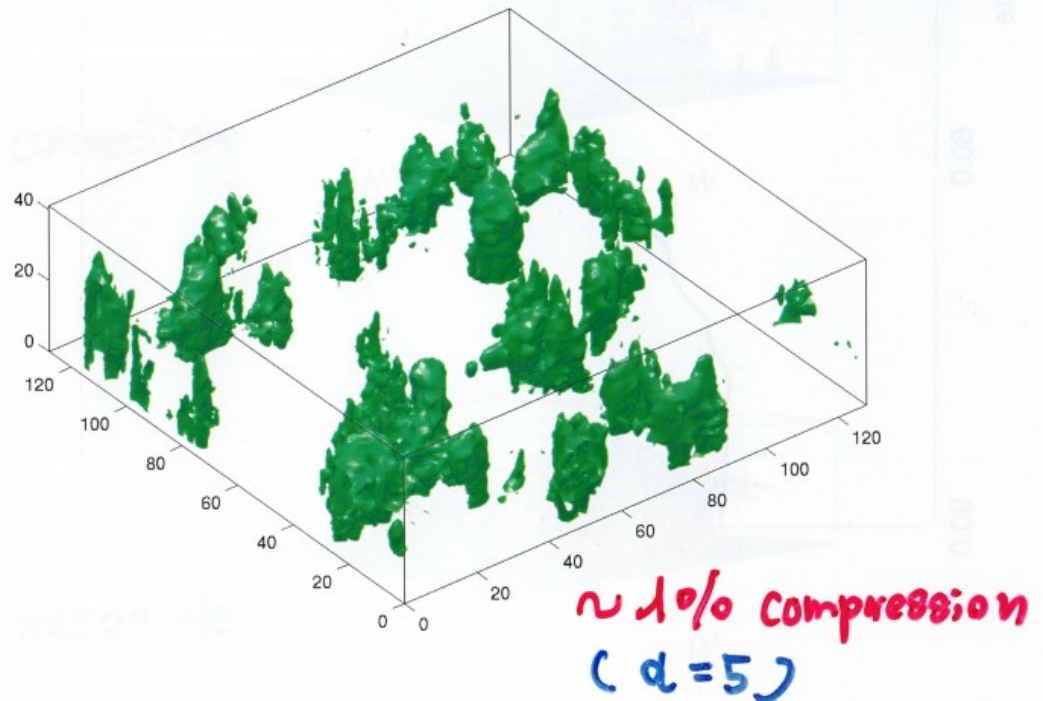
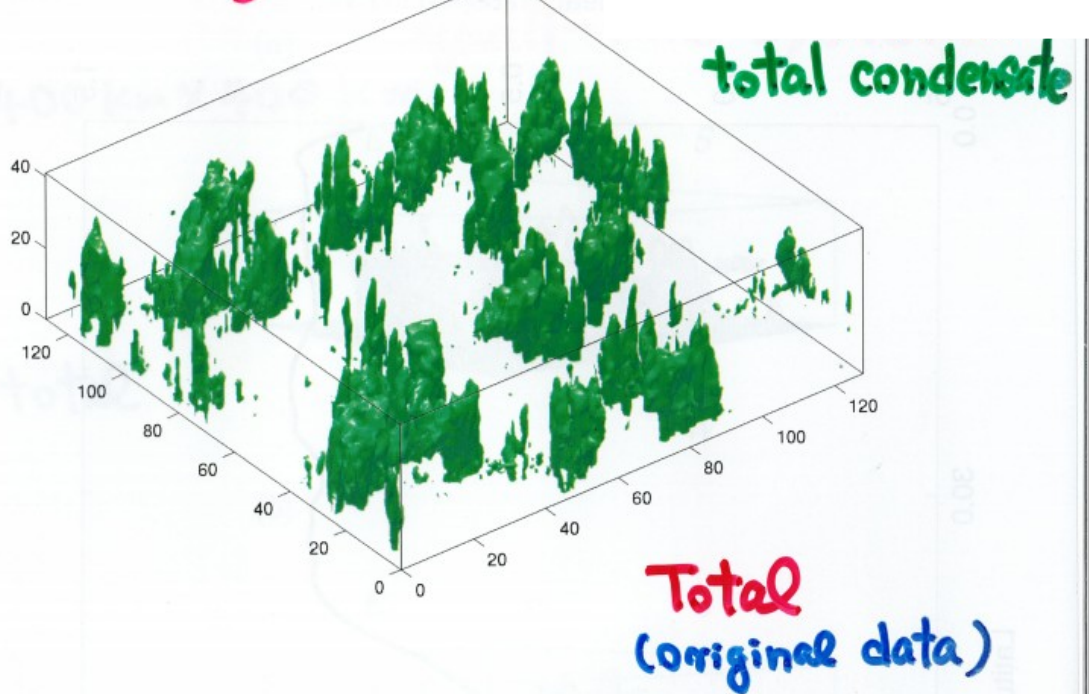
$$f^c(x) = \sum_{l=0}^{N-1} \hat{f}_l^c \phi_l(x)$$

CRM Simulation:

TOGA-COARE:

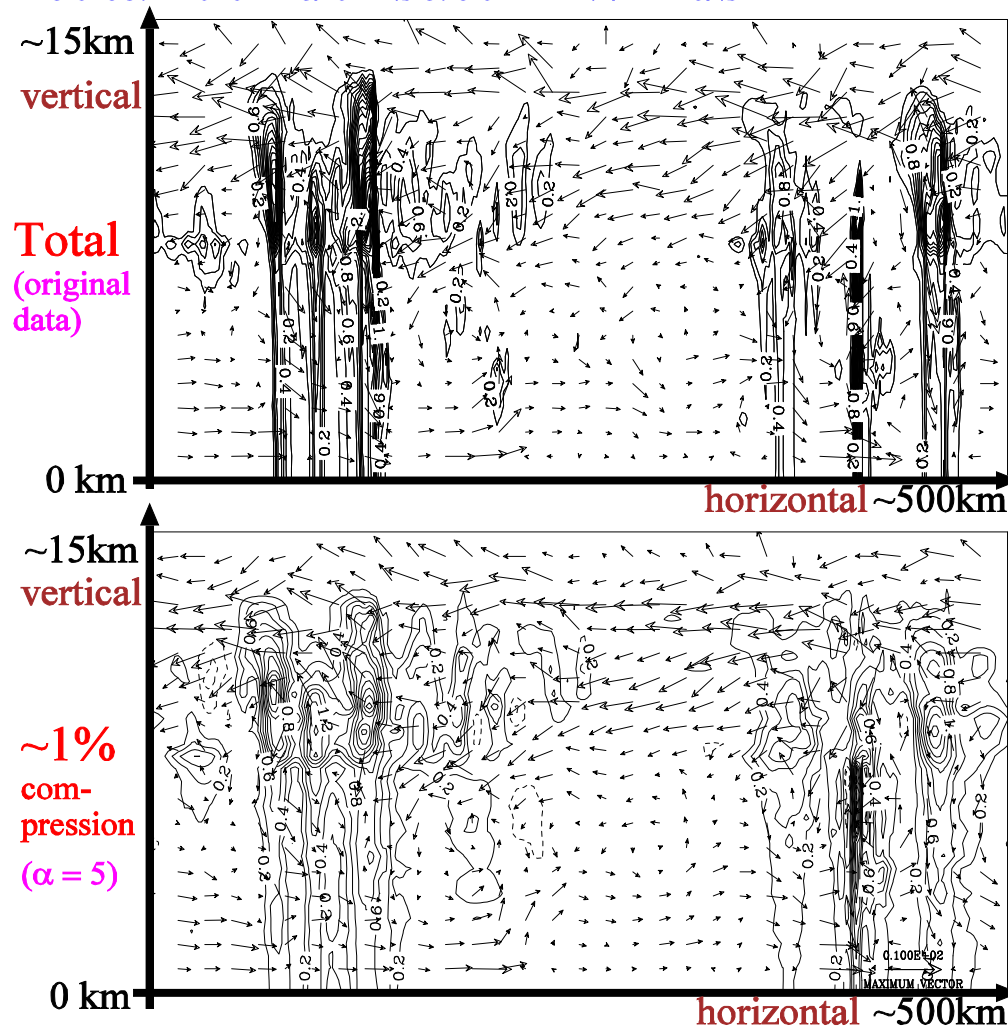
512 x 512 km²

x 18km



Wavelet Compression of 3D CRM Data (TOGA period)

Example of a vertical-section
total condensate + winds



Decomposition:

**Convective and Mesoscale
Components:**

Threshold Variable:

$$\phi = d|v_H|/dz$$

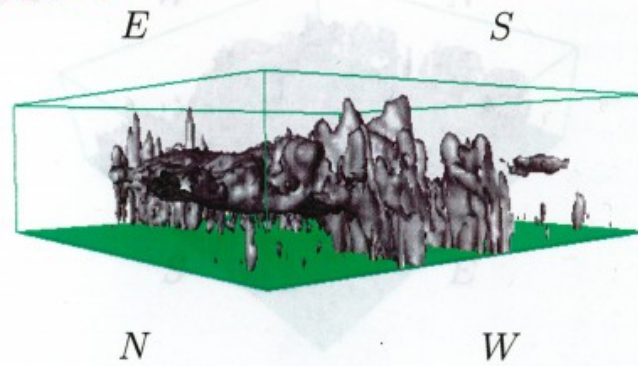
CRM Simulation:

GATE:

**Squall-Line
System**

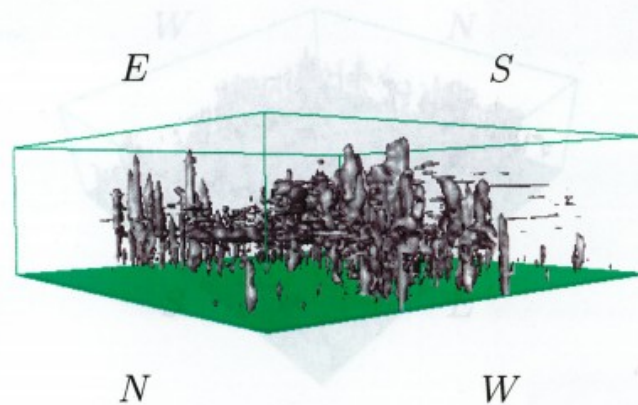
400 x 400 km²

total



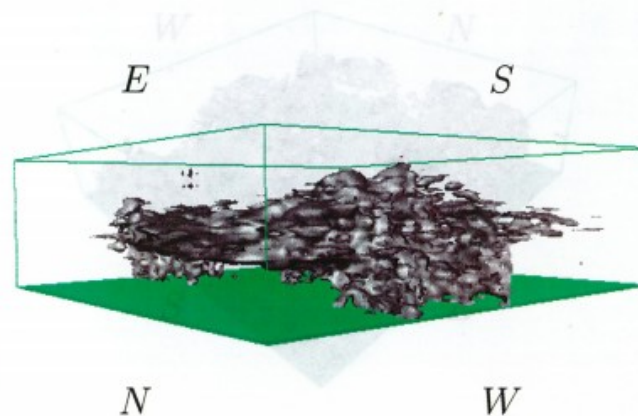
(b)

convective



(c)

mesoscale



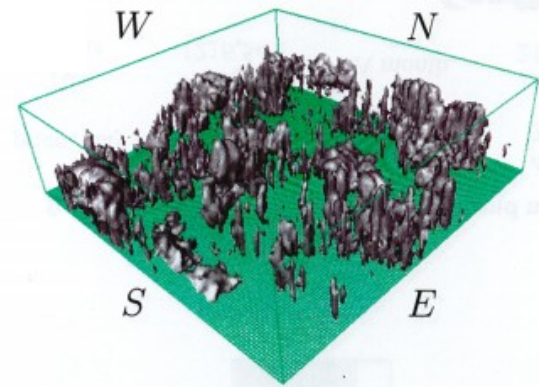
CRM Simulation:

GATE:

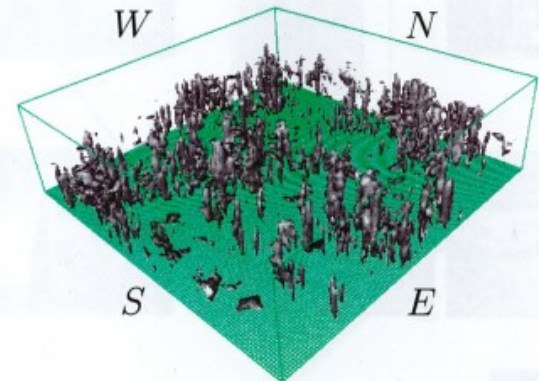
**Nonsquall-Line
System**

400 x 400 km²

total

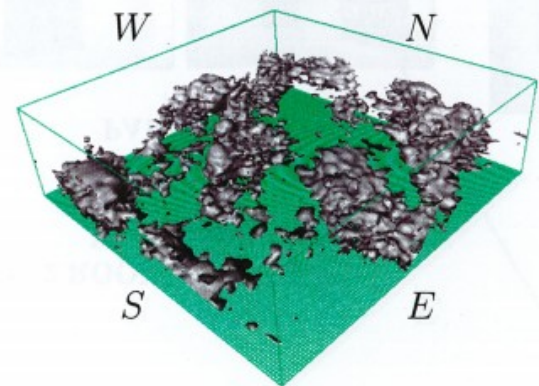


(b)



convective

(c)



mesoscale

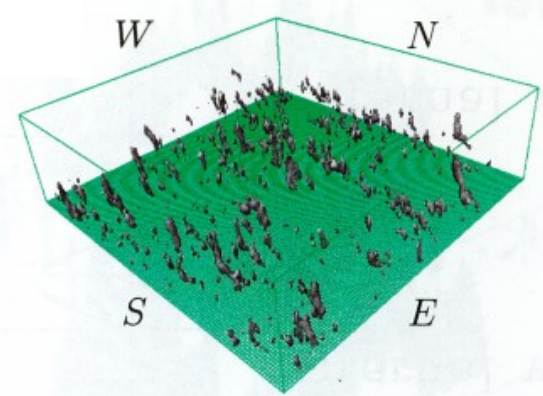
CRM Simulation:

GATE:

**Scattered
Convection**

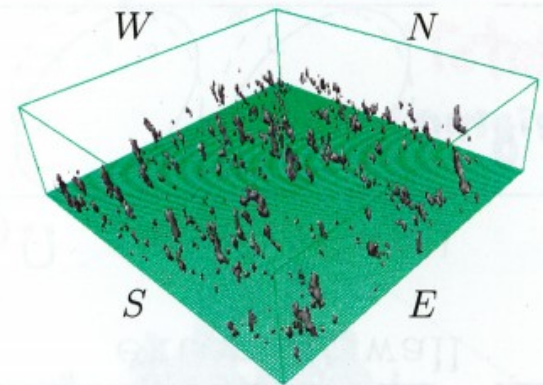
400 x 400 km²

total



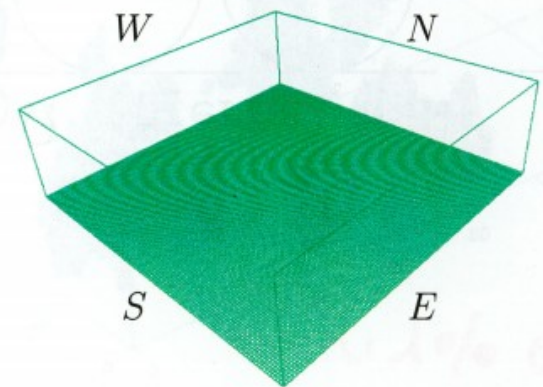
(b)

convective



(c)

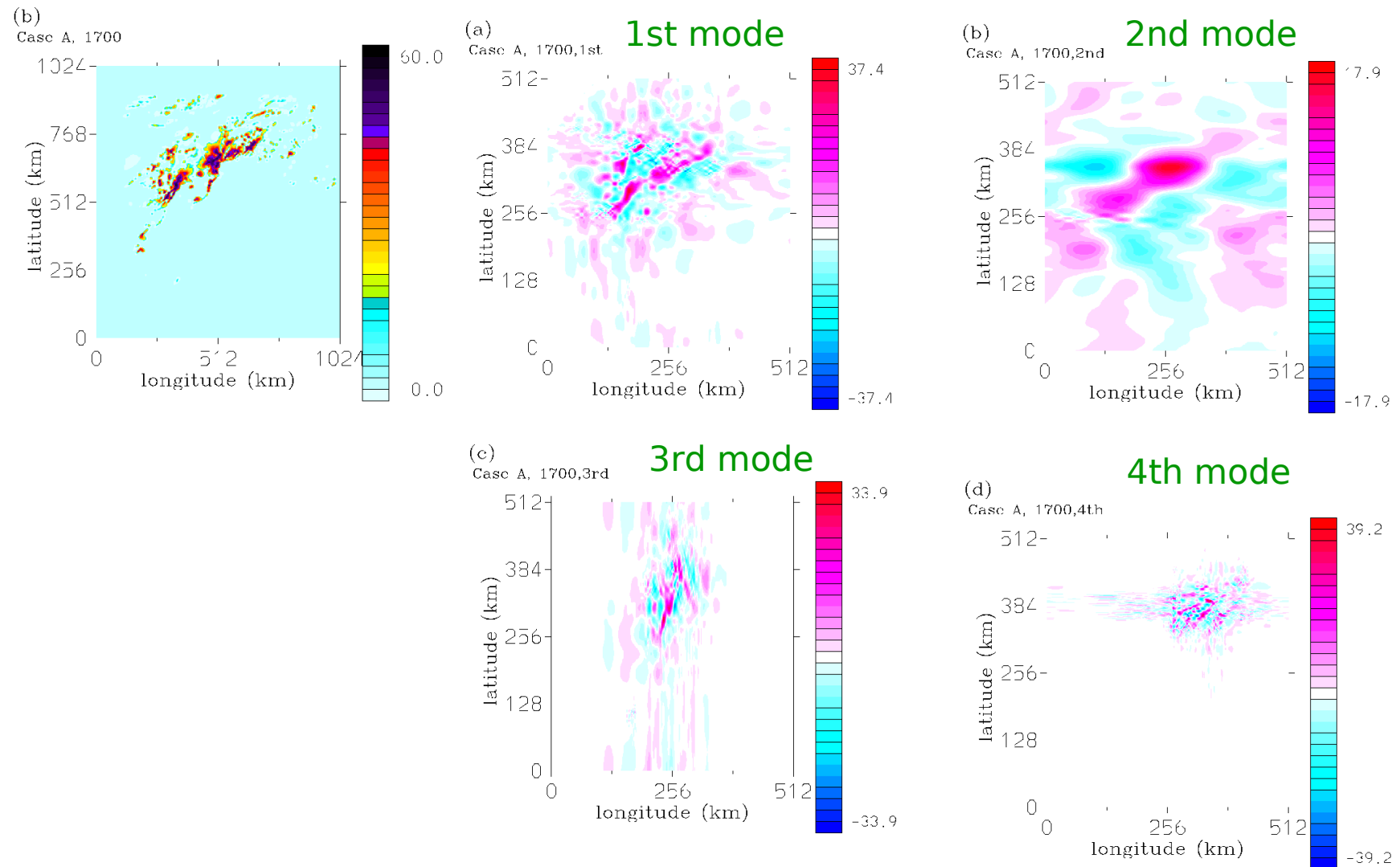
mesoscale



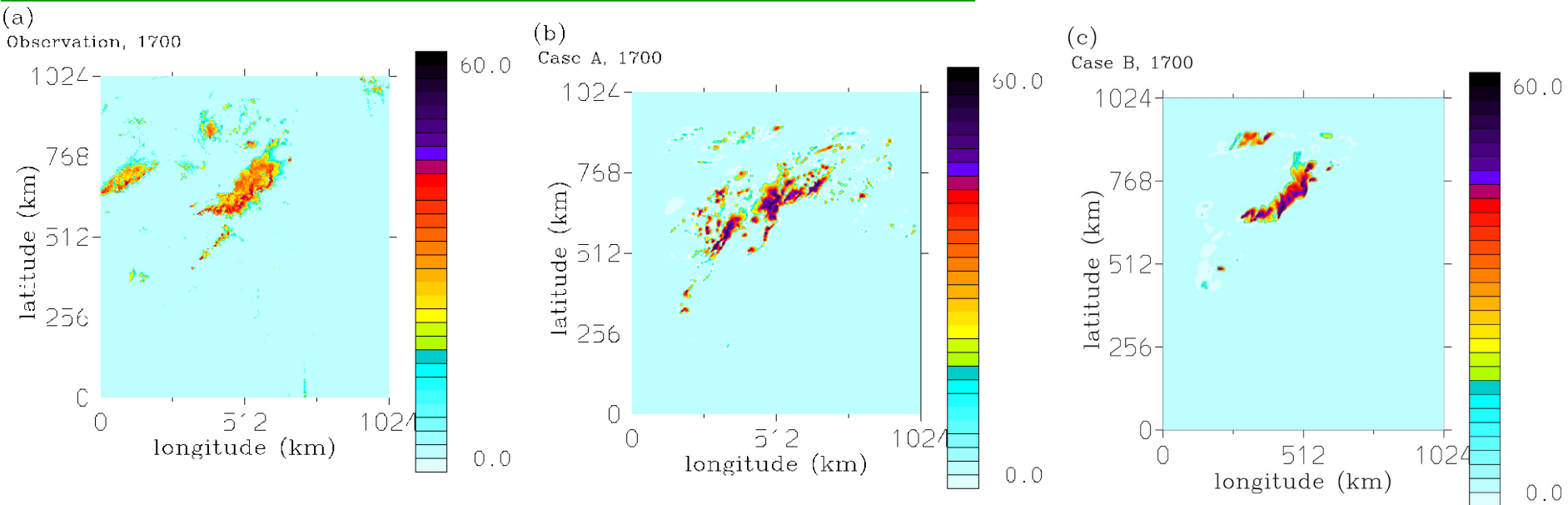
Extraction of Isolated Features:

Two-Dimensional Generalization:

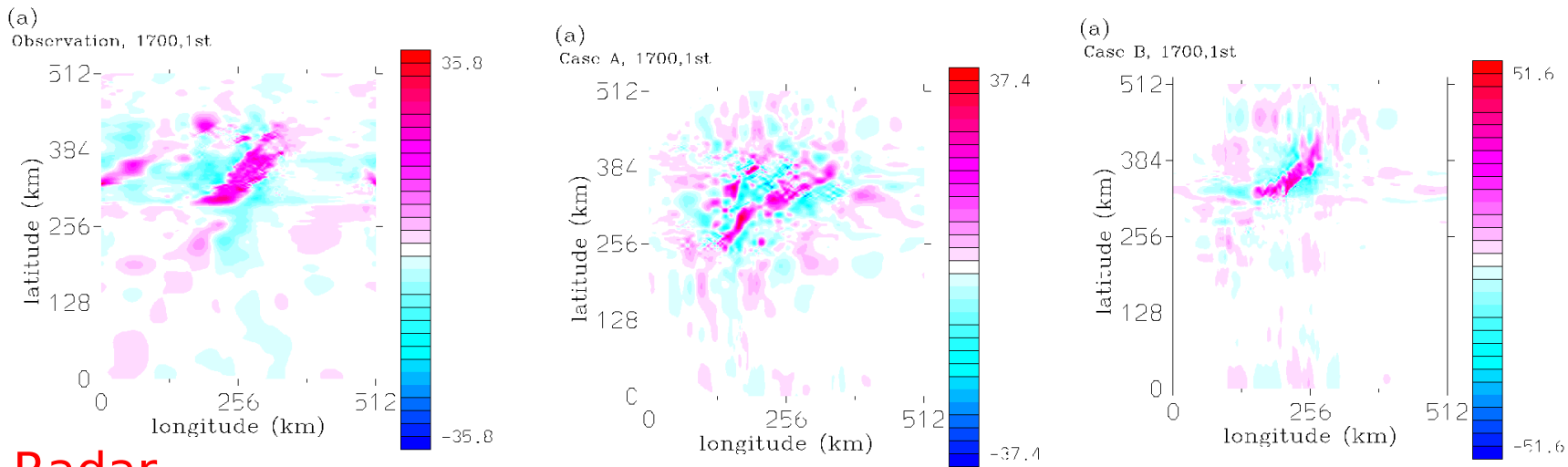
Conceptually Straightforward:



Extraction of Isolated Features:



1st Extracted Modes:



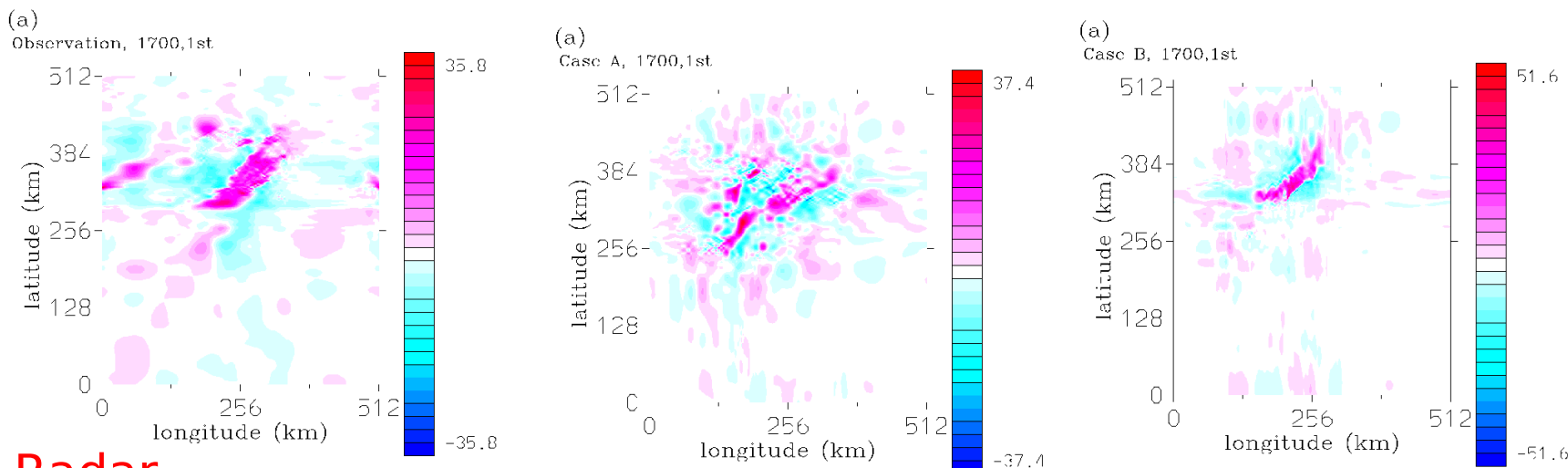
Radar
Observation

Forecast A

Forecast B

Extraction of Isolated Features:

1st Extracted Modes:

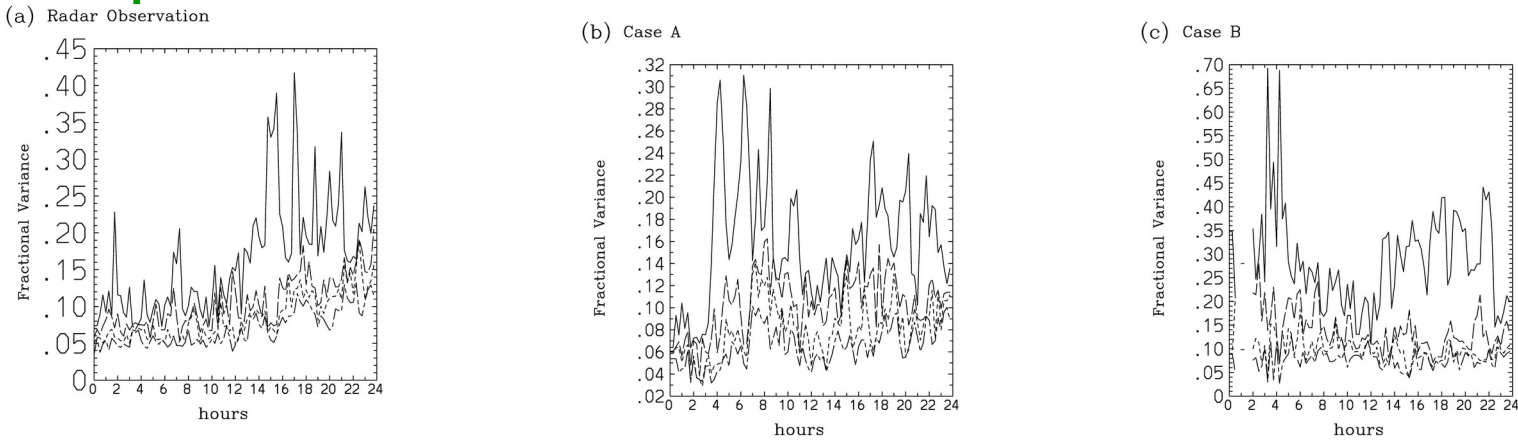


Radar
Observation

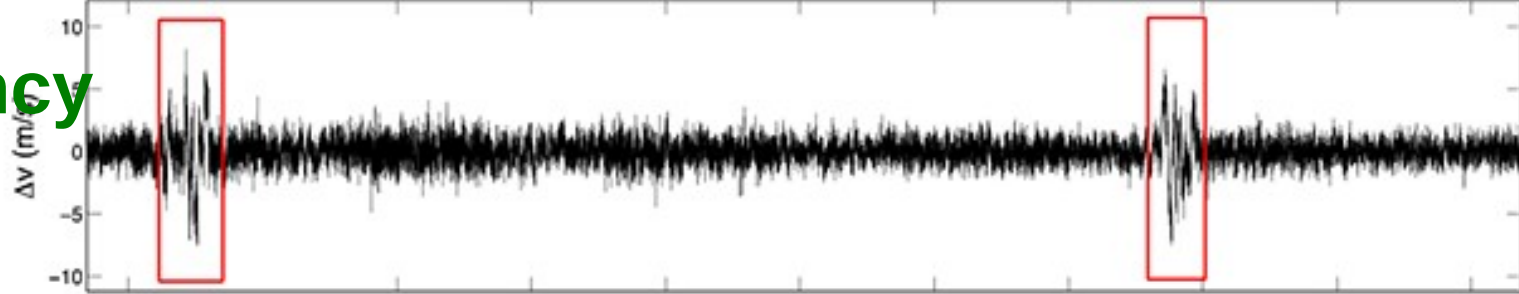
Forecast A

Forecast B

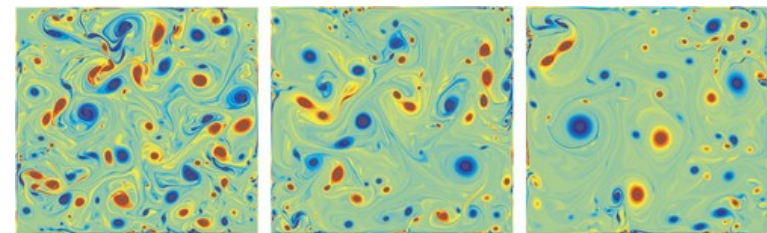
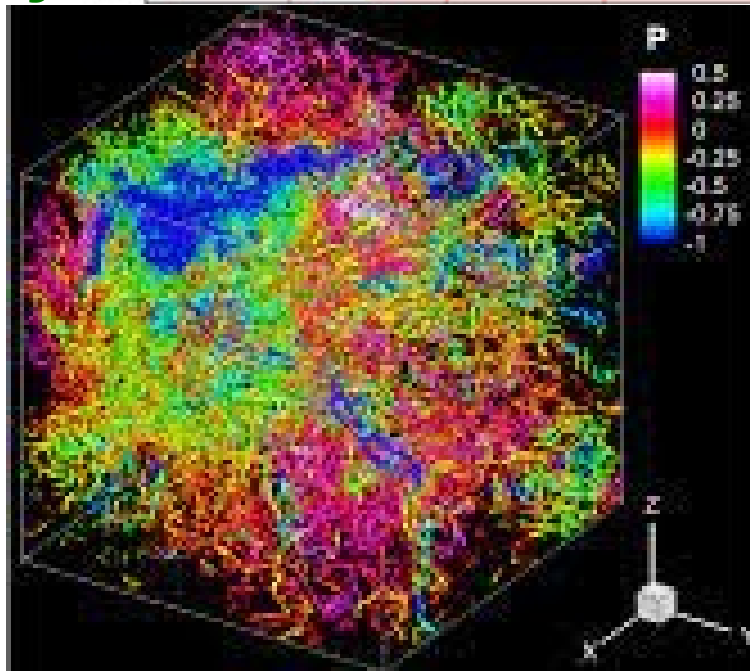
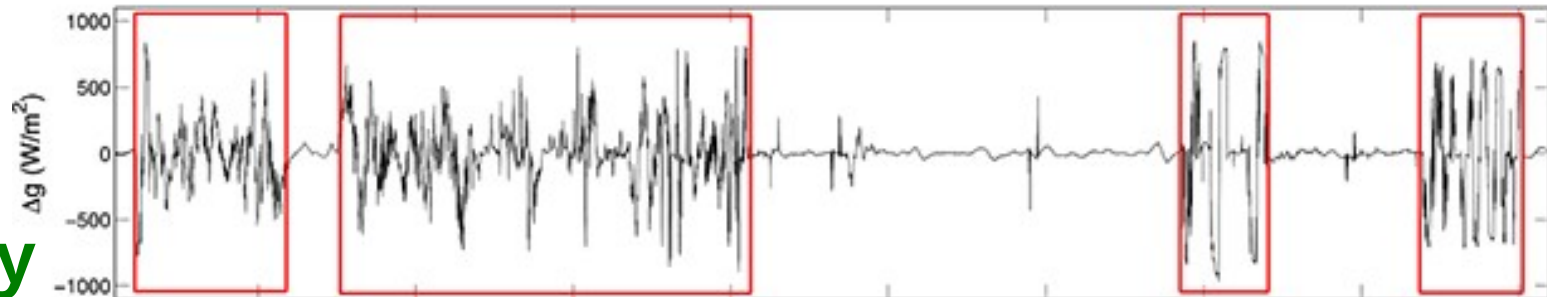
Explained Variance of First 4 Modes:



Intermittency



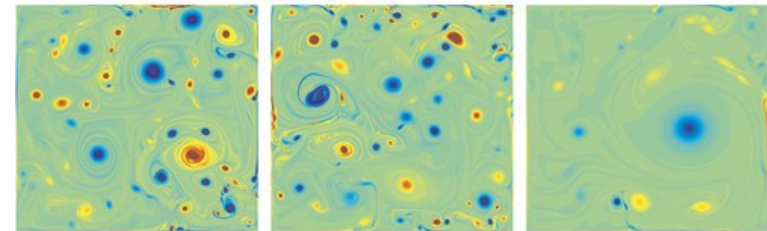
Coherency



$\tau = 8$

$\tau = 24$

$\tau = 64$



$\tau = 100$

$\tau = 135$

$\tau = 400$