



Q1: Process modeling of atmospheric convection

Nadir Jeevanjee GFDL Research Physical Scientist

Q1: Concerning GFDL's core strength of building and improving models of the weather, oceans, and climate for societal benefits, how can GFDL leverage advances in science and computational capabilities to improve its key models? What are the strengths, gaps, and new frontiers?

5-Year Review January 28-30, 2025

Limited-Area and Global Capabilities



Equilibrium (RCE) @ fixed, uniform SST



X-SHIELD: Global Storm-Resolving Model (GSRM) @ dx=3 km. Multi-week runs initialized from analysis with nudged SSTs



FV3 RCE documentation: Jeevanjee 2017 https://doi.org/10.1002/2017MS001059 *X-SHiELD documentation: Harris et al. 2023* https://doi.org/10.1029/2022JD037823



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Resolution dependence in FV3-RCE

Basic, interconnected dependence of convective dynamics on horizontal resolution

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As resolution gets finer, we find:



More evap \rightarrow reduced PE \rightarrow more mass flux \rightarrow more detrainment \rightarrow more cloud





A robust constraint on convective mass fluxes

Fundamental constraint on how convection will respond to global warming



Convective mass flux decreases with surface warming when evaluated on *isotherms*. Robust across theory, cloud-resolving models, and GCMs.



Multi-model RCEMIP ensemble of cloud-resolving models shows robust *fractional* change in mass flux of $\sim 4\% \text{ K}^{-1}$



Jeevanjee 2022b https://doi.org/10.1029/2022MS003285 Williams and Jeevanjee 2025 10.22541/essoar.172574431.13170821/v1



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Land-ocean contrast in convective intensity

Satellite obs exhibit strong land-ocean contrast in intense convection

X-SHiELD (3 km global storm-resolving model) **can** reproduce this

X-SHiELD matches striking observed signal, also poised to test current hypotheses:

