

---

# PERTURBED-PARAMETER SIMULATIONS OF THE MJO WITH CAM5

---



**James Boyle, Stephen Klein, Don Lucas, John Tannahill,  
Shaocheng Xie, Ken Sperber**

Program for Climate Model Diagnosis and Intercomparison / LLNL

**Richard Neale**



National Center for Atmospheric Research

February 12, 2013

CESM Atmosphere Model Working Group Meeting  
Boulder, Colorado



LLNL-PRES-617515



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

Office of  
Science

Prepared by LLNL under Contract DE-AC52-07NA27344



Program for Climate Model Diagnosis  
and Intercomparison



# APPROACH

---

- Modelers would like to understand how their climate models could better simulate an MJO
  - CAM5 is noticeably worse than CAM4 which was quite good (*Subramanian et al. 2012*). *Why?*
- We systematically explore the dependencies of CAM5's MJO simulation on uncertain parameters, with a “perturbed-parameter ensemble” technique
  - To what extent, do the parameters control the interactions of the parameterized processes and influence the MJO?
  - *Are better MJOs within tuning ranges? Or are new parameterizations needed?*
- We wish to more fully explore the range of model MJO behaviors as a function of parameters



# PERTURBED PARAMETER SIMULATIONS

---

## ➤ “Climate”:

- CAM5.1 @ 2° resolution
- 5-year “AMIP” simulations (i.e. prescribed SSTs for 2000-05)
- Two ensembles:
  - Perturbed each of 22 parameters in CAM’s physical parameterizations ONE-AT-A-TIME (“OAT”) (# of simulations =  $2*22 + 1 = 45$ )
  - Simultaneously perturb 22 parameters using Latin Hypercube Sampling (“LHS”) (# of simulations = 1100)
- These simulations were performed for another project → Only hourly (total) precipitation is available for our analysis

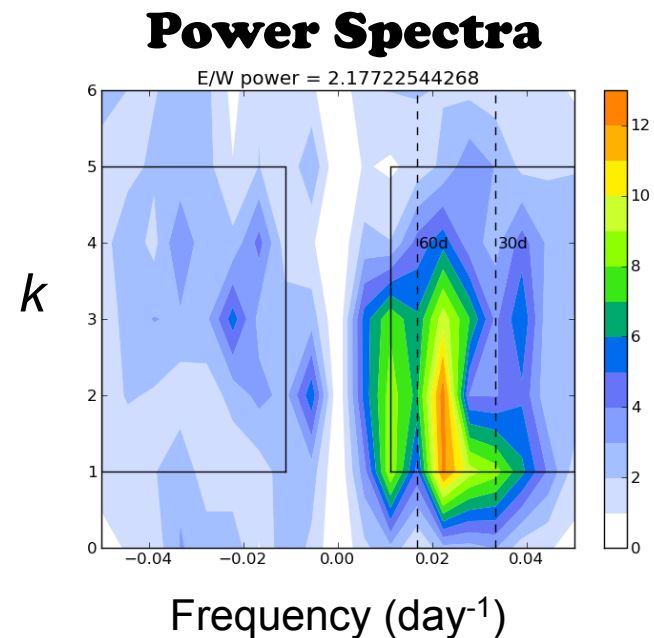
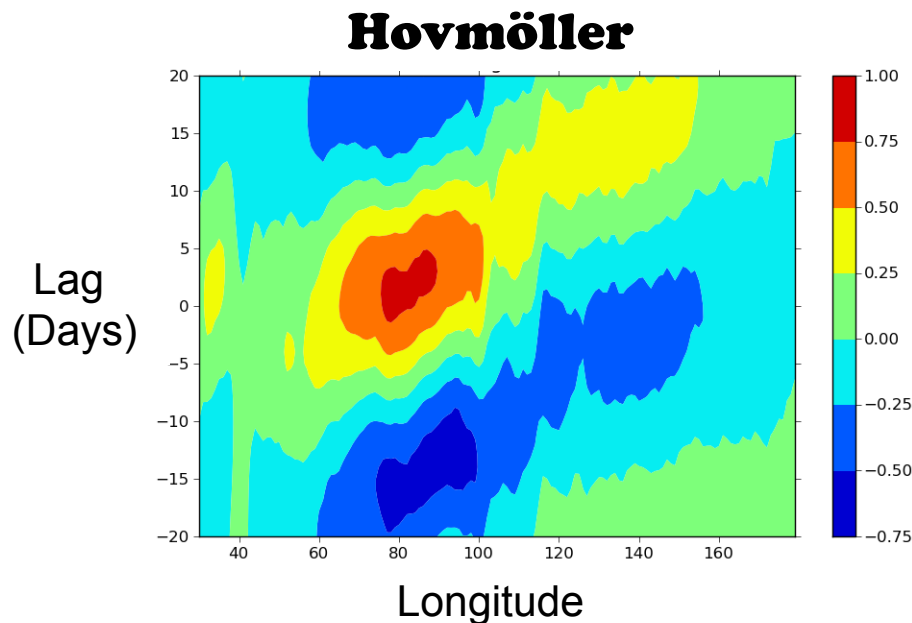


# PARAMETERS VARIED

	modelSection_modelVariable	variable description	low value	default	high value
Large-Scale Cloud	cldfrc_rhminh	Threshold RH for fraction high stable clouds	0.65	0.8	0.85
	cldfrc_rhminl	Threshold RH for fraction low stable clouds	0.8	0.8875	0.99
	cldwatmi_ai	Fall speed parameter for cloud ice	350	700	1400
	cldwatmi_as	Fall speed parameter for snow	5.86	11.72	23.44
	cldwatmi_cdnl	Cloud droplet number limiter	0	0	1e+06
	cldwatmi_dcs	Autoconversion size threshold for ice to snow	0.0001	0.0004	0.0005
	cldwatmi_eii	Collection efficiency aggregation of ice	0.001	0.1	1
Aerosol	cldwatmi_qcvar	Inverse relative variance of sub-grid cloud water	0.5	2	5
PBL Turb.	dust_emis_fact	Dust emission tuning factor	0.21	0.35	0.86
Large-Scale Cloud	eddydiff_a2l	Moist entrainment enhancement parameter	10	30	50
	micropa_wsubimax	Maximum sub-grid vertical velocity for ice nucleation	0.1	0.2	1
Shallow Conv.	micropa_wsubmin	Minimum sub-grid vertical velocity for liquid nucleation	0	0.2	1
	uwshcu_criqc	Maximum updraft condensate	0.0005	0.0007	0.0015
	uwshcu_kevp	Evaporative efficiency	1e-06	2e-06	2e-05
	uwshcu_rkm	Fractional updraft mixing efficiency	8	14	16
Deep Conv.	uwshcu_rpen	Penetrative updraft entrainment efficiency	1	5	10
	zmconv_alfa	Initial cloud downdraft mass flux	0.05	0.1	0.6
	zmconv_c0_lnd	Deep convection precipitation efficiency over land	0.001	0.0059	0.01
	zmconv_c0_ocn	Deep convection precipitation efficiency over ocean	0.001	0.045	0.1
	zmconv_dmpdz	Parcel fractional mass entrainment rate	0.0002	0.001	0.002
	zmconv_ke	Evaporation efficiency parameter	5e-07	1e-06	1e-05
	zmconv_tau	Convective time scale	1800	3600	28800

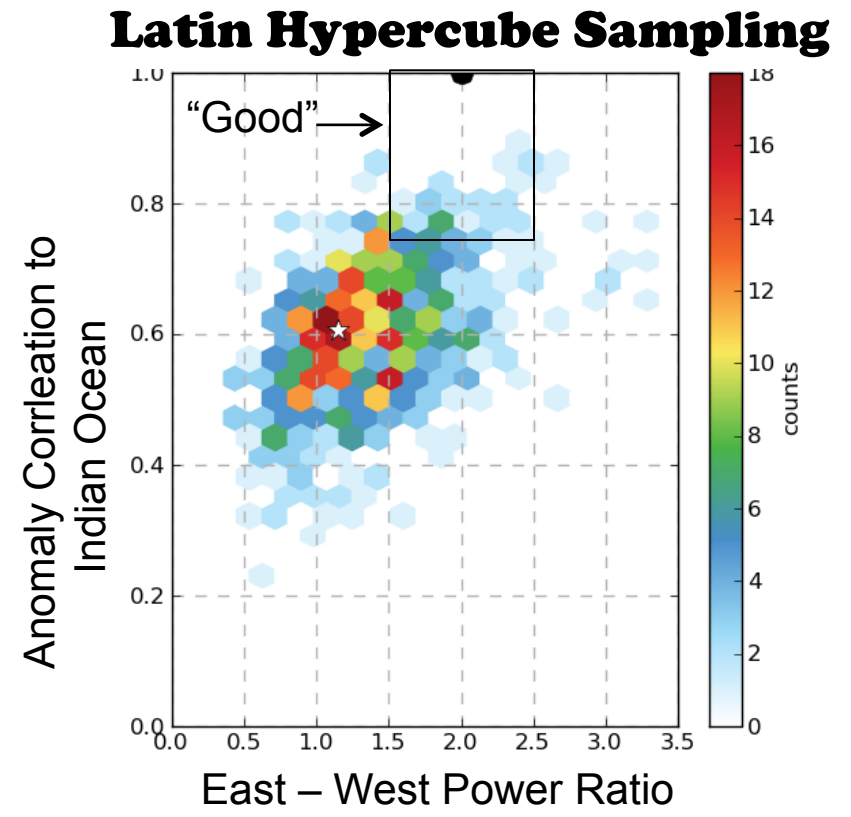
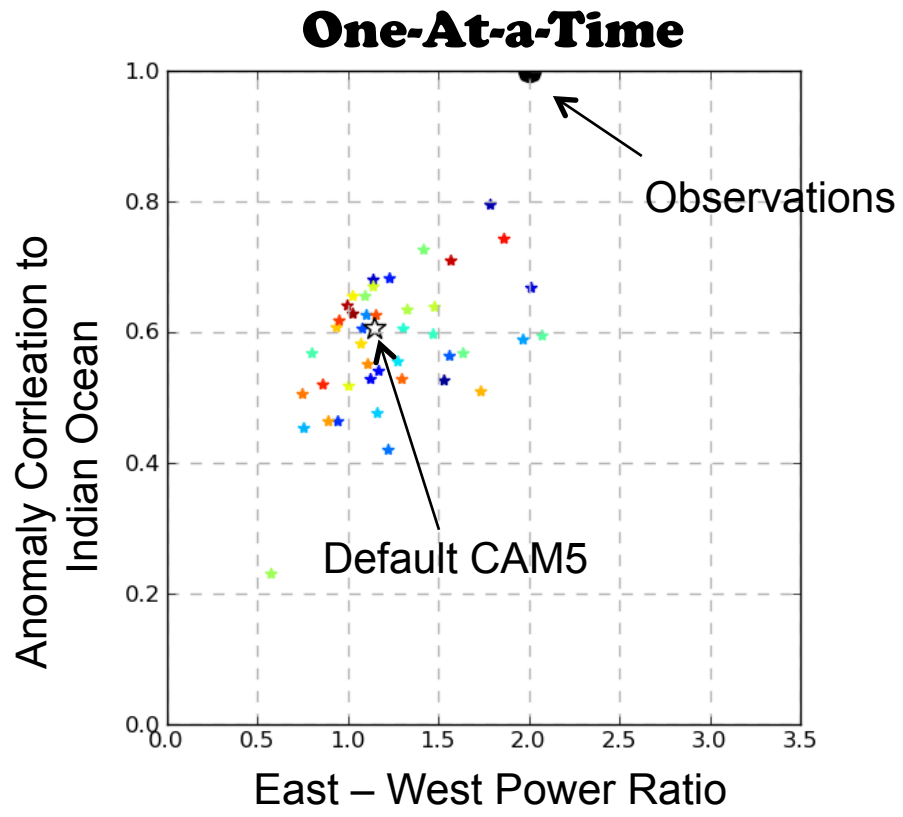
# MJO METRICS

- a) correlation coefficient with the pattern of lead-lag correlation coefficients of band-passed filtered 5°N-5°S averaged precipitation with that in the Indian Ocean (70°-90°E)
- b) east-west power ratio of precipitation variance in wavenumbers 1-5 and periods 20 – 90 days





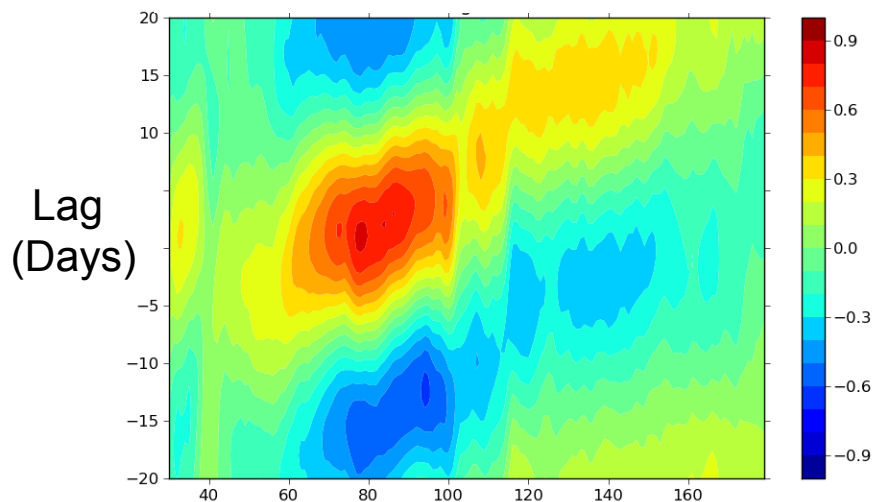
# VARIABILITY IN METRICS



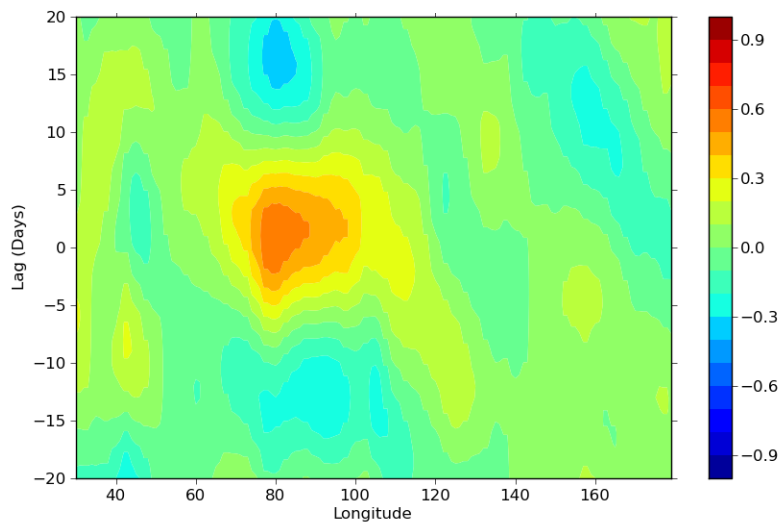
# LEAD-LAG CORRELATIONS PATTERNS



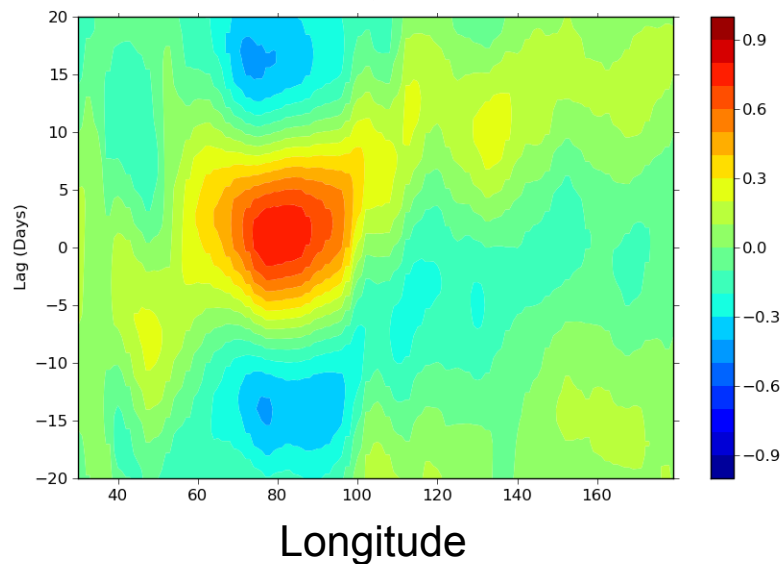
## Observations



## Default CAM5



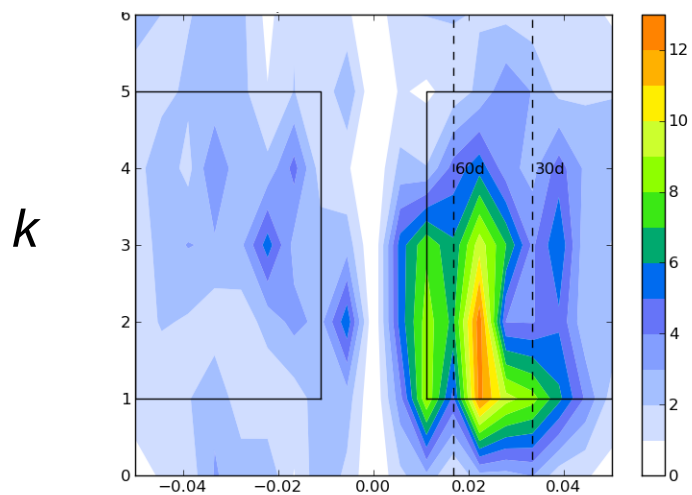
## Best by Metric



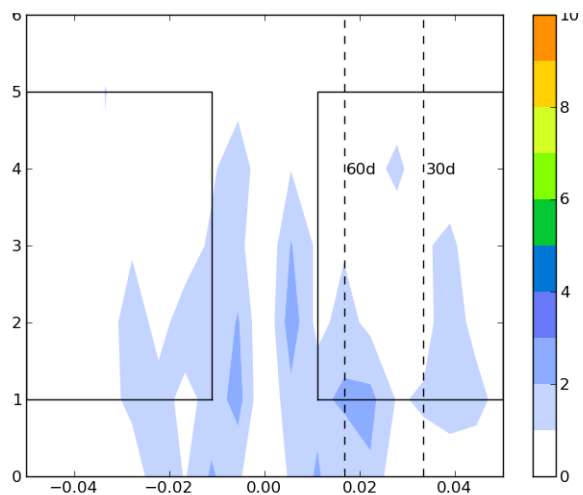
# POWER-SPECTRA



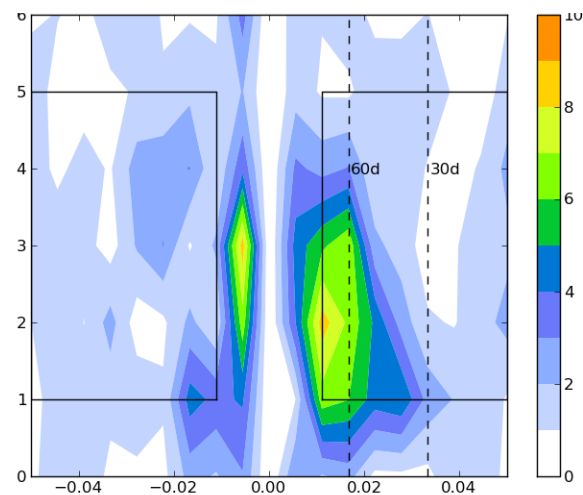
## Observations



## Default CAM5



## Best by Metric



Frequency (day<sup>-1</sup>)



# WHAT PARAMETERS MATTER? WHAT VALUES IMPROVE THE SIMULATIONS?



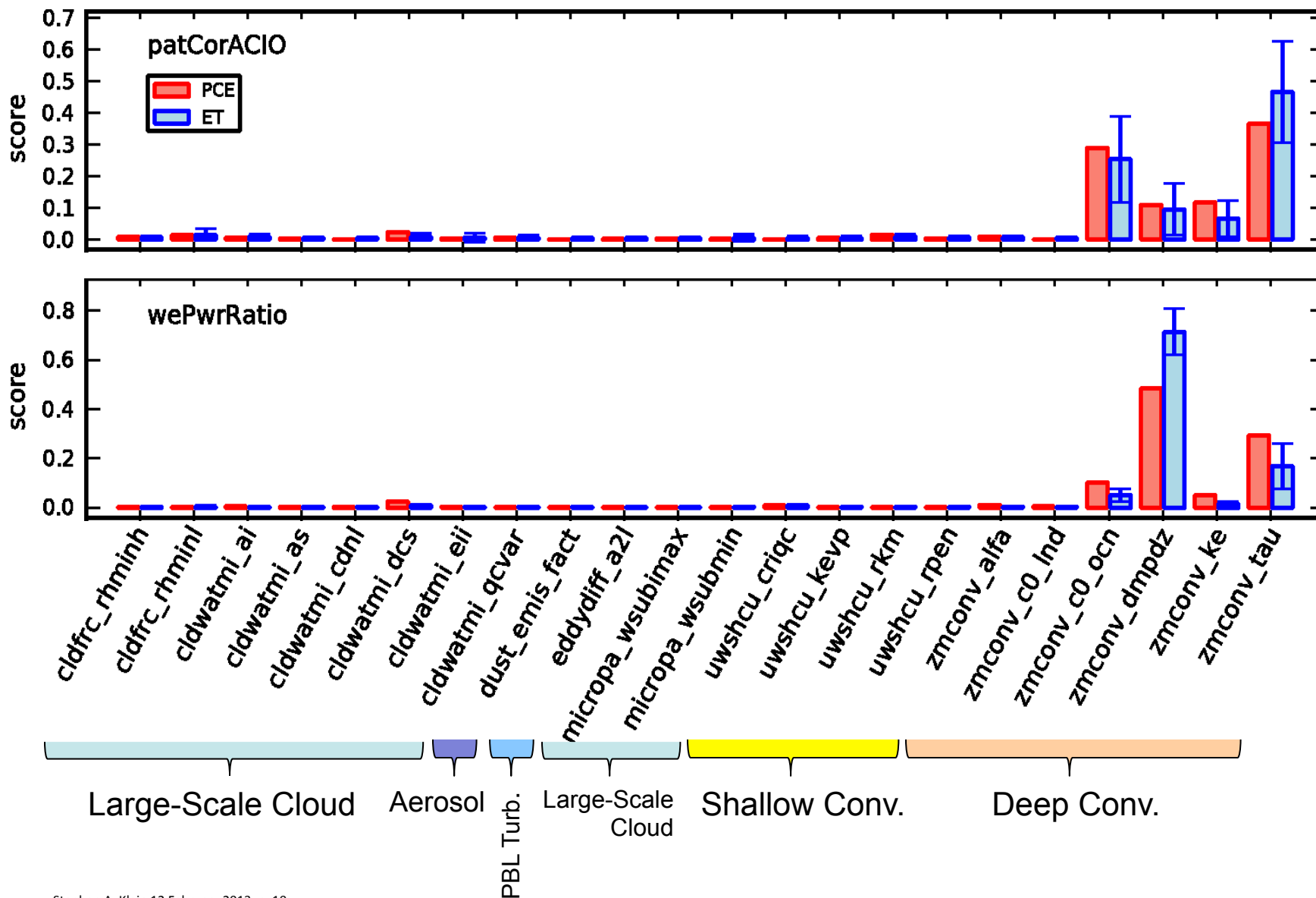
## ➤ General approach

- Fit a mathematical “surrogate” model that relates the predictands (metrics of MJO simulation) to the predictors (physics parameters perturbed)
- Use “surrogate” model to tell you which predictors have influence and which are immaterial
- Create a new “surrogate” model with only the important predictors
- Use the new “surrogate” model and the observed predictand values to create likelihood estimates of the predictors

## ➤ Specific methods used

- Sparse Polynomial Chaos Expansion (3<sup>rd</sup> order) (PCE)
- Random Forest Regression (ET) (*Breiman 2001*)

# DEEP CONVECTION PARAMETERS MATTER

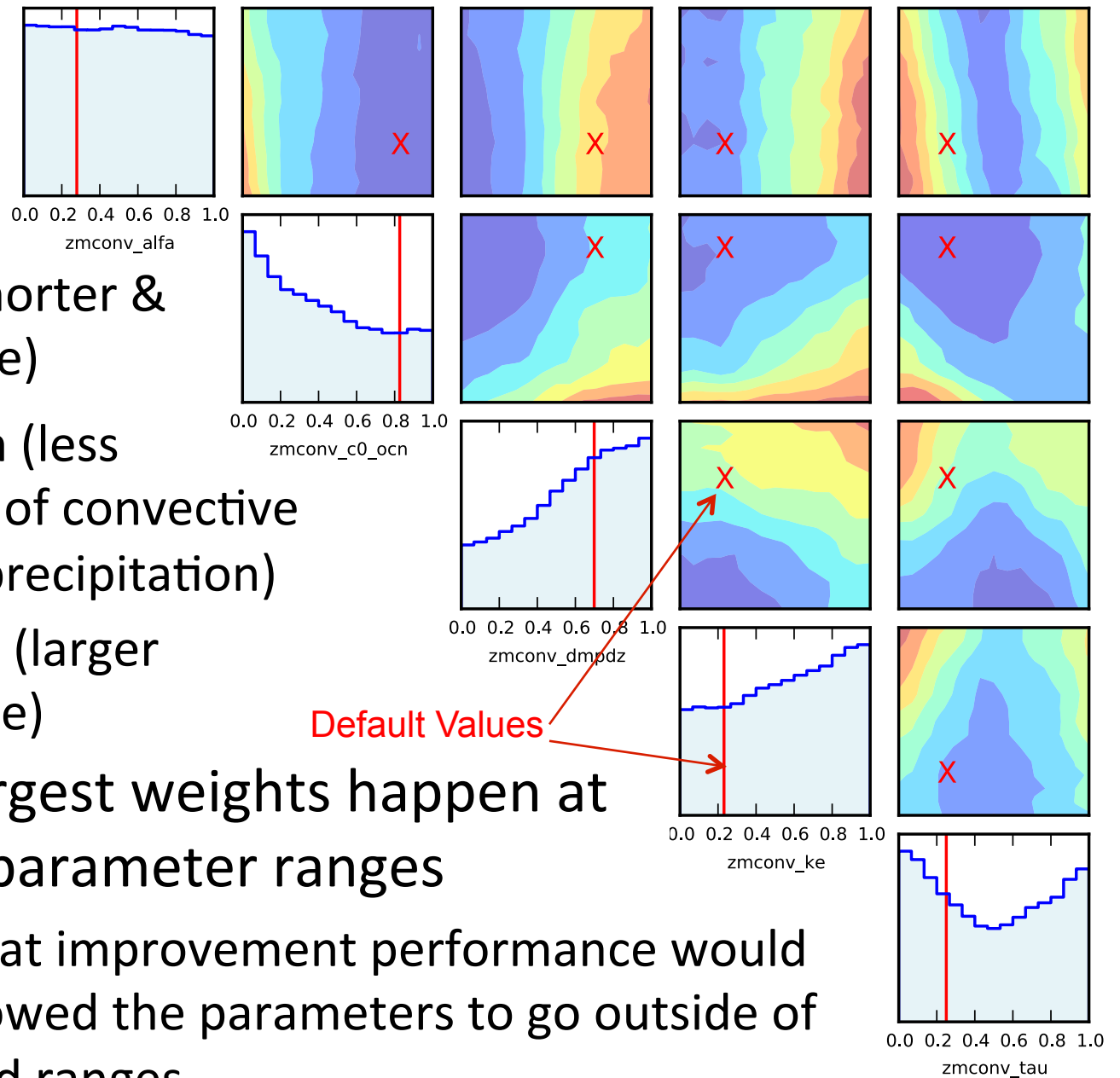


➤ Suggested parameter improvements

- Zmconv\_tau (Shorter & Longer timescale)
- Zmconv\_c0\_ocn (less autoconversion of convective condensate to precipitation)
- Zmconv\_dmpdz (larger entrainment rate)

➤ Note that the largest weights happen at the ends of the parameter ranges

- This suggests that improvement performance would result if one allowed the parameters to go outside of the pre-specified ranges





# PRELIMINARY CONCLUSIONS

---

- Perturbed-parameter technique allows a more thorough exploration of model sensitivities than normally done
- Improved simulations result from making it harder for deep convection to occur but when it occurs reducing the drying tendency of convection while trying get the convection over faster
- Issues:
  - 5 years is a bit short and introduces noise
  - 1100 simulations is insufficient for a 22 dimensional space



# PRELIMINARY CONCLUSIONS

---

## ➤ Next steps

- More diagnostics from longer simulations for selected runs
- Would an improved simulation result if we just change the parameters that are important, rather than all 22 simultaneously
- Would we get a different impression from coupled-ocean atmosphere modeling?

## ➤ Comparison with hindcasts results (not shown today):

- Difference: c0\_ocn is unimportant for precip in hindcasts (it matters for OLR/WVP)
- Similarity: shorter tau is a better solution



---

**THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION!**

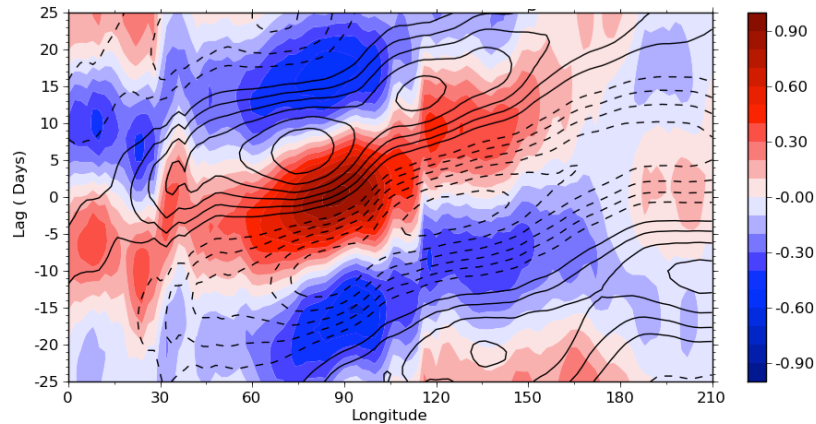


---

# EXTRA SLIDES

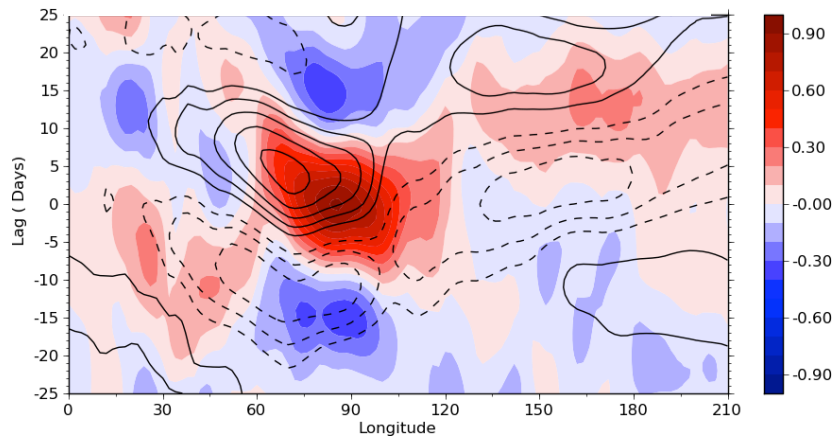
# IS THIS AN MJO?

## Observations

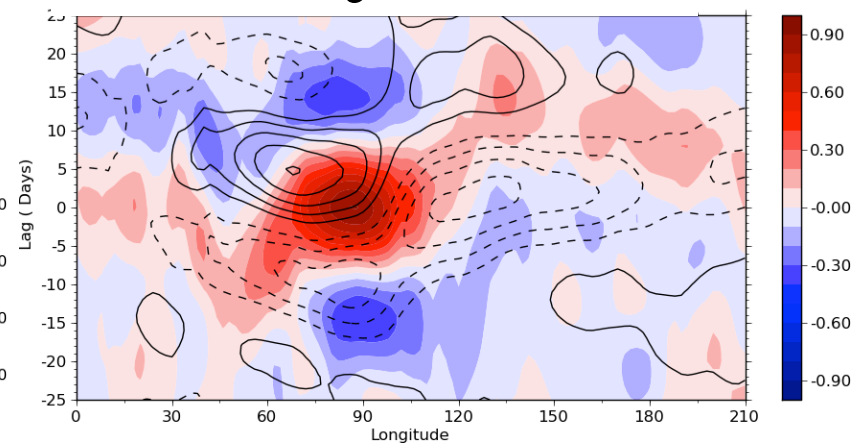


- Composite precipitation (shading) and 850 hPa zonal wind (contours) anomalies reveal some slight improvement

## Default CAM5

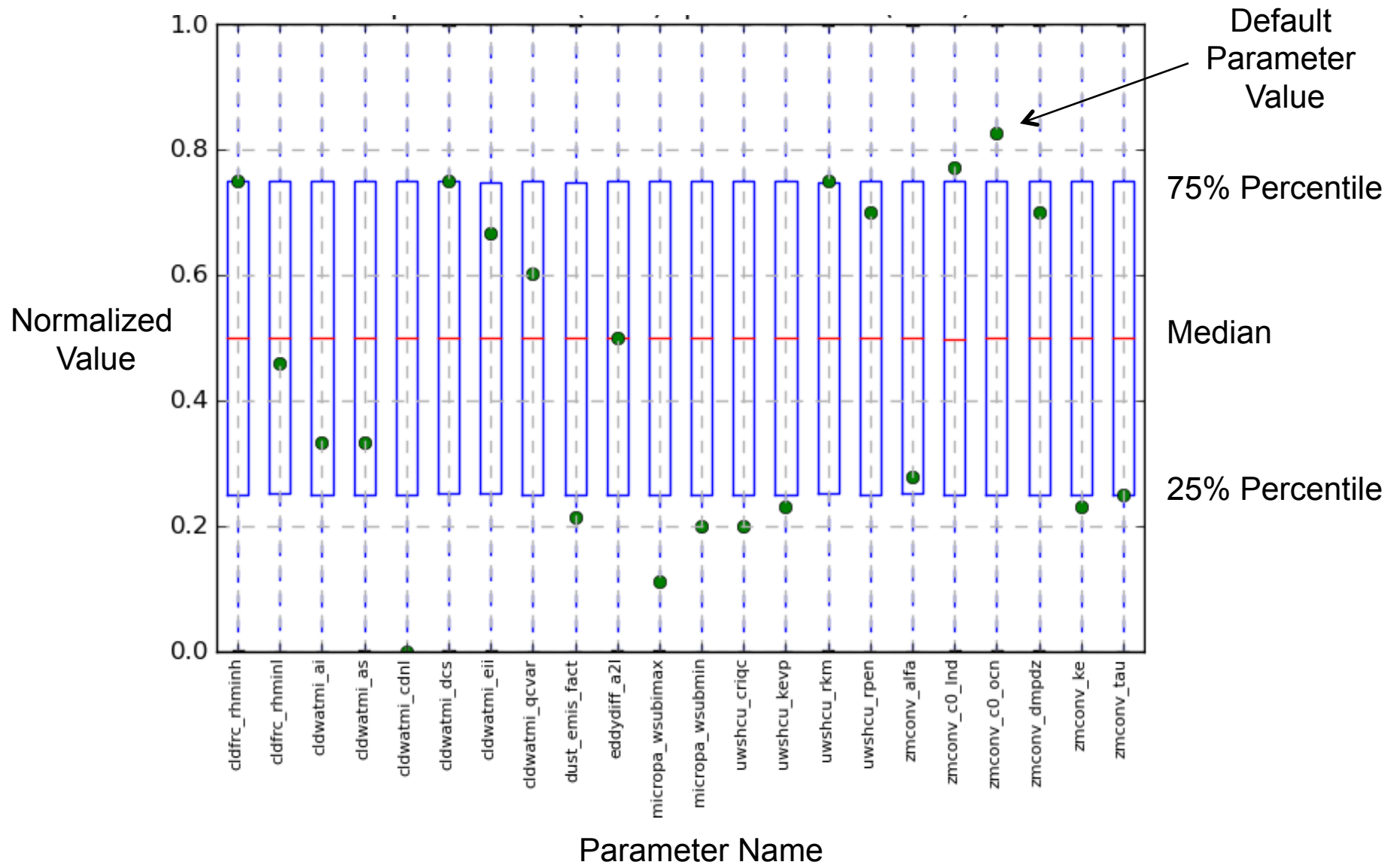


## Best by Metric

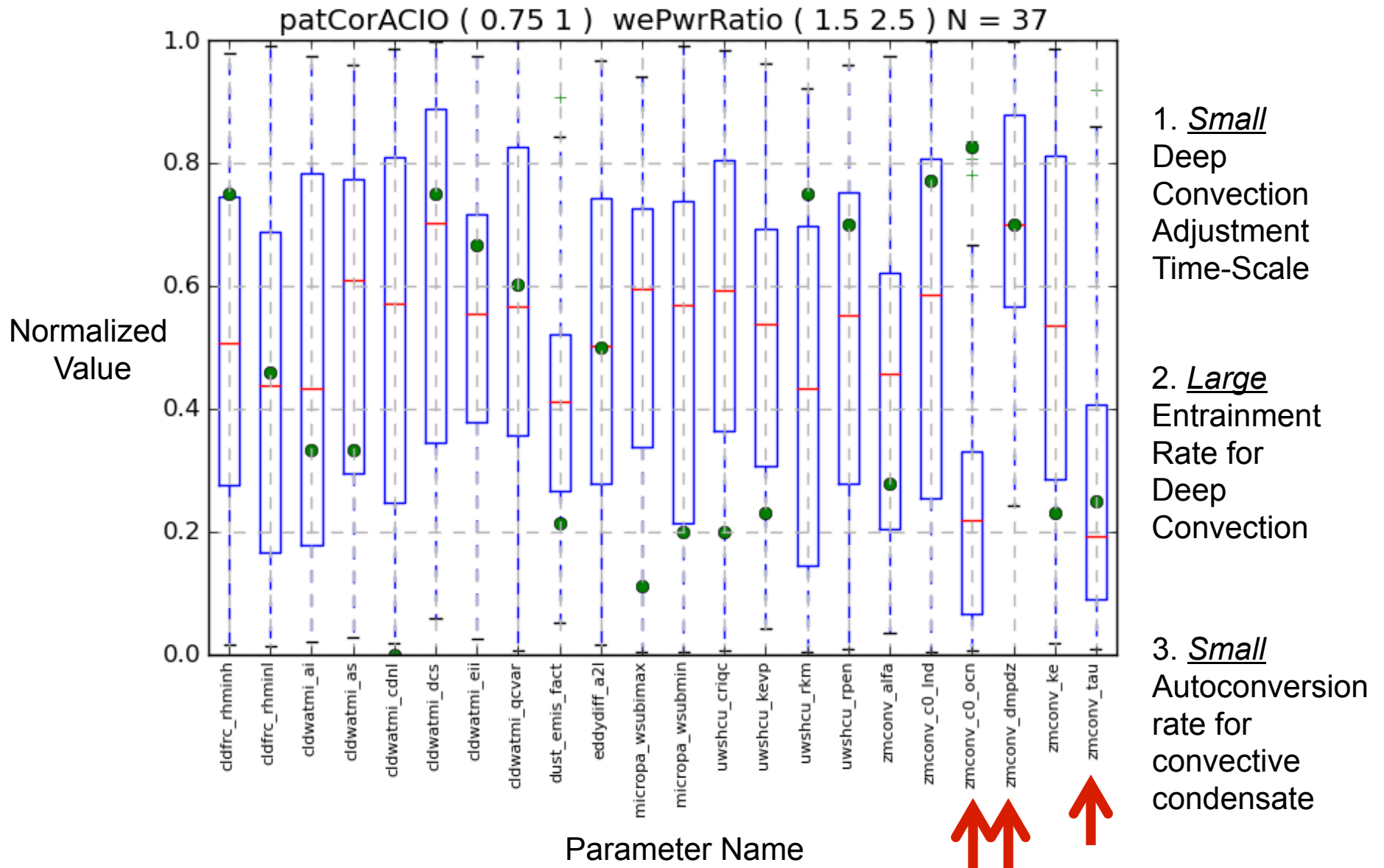




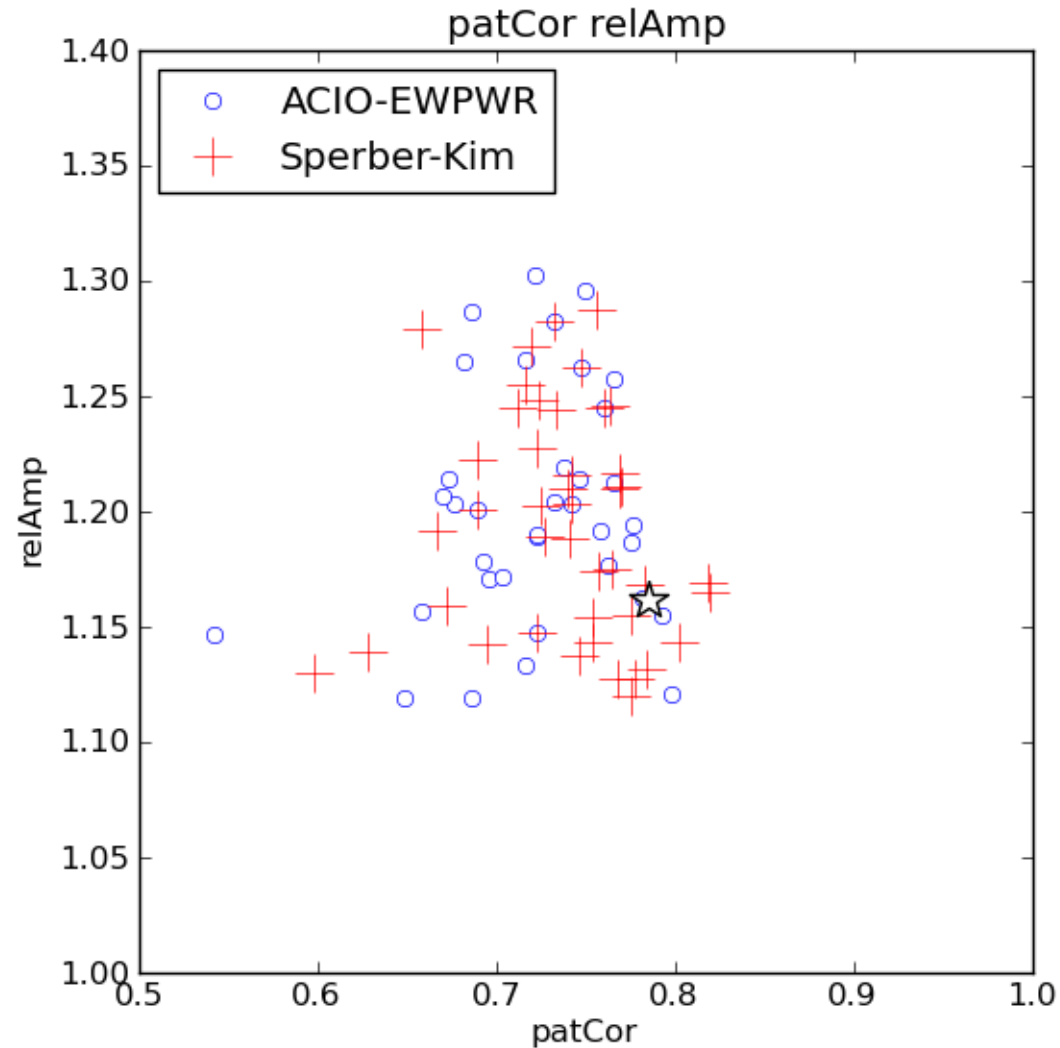
# PARAMETER VALUES FOR ALL SIMULATIONS



# PARAMETER VALUES FOR SIMULATIONS WITH “GOOD” METRICS



# SIMULATIONS OF CLIMATOLOGICAL- MEAN PRECIPITATION

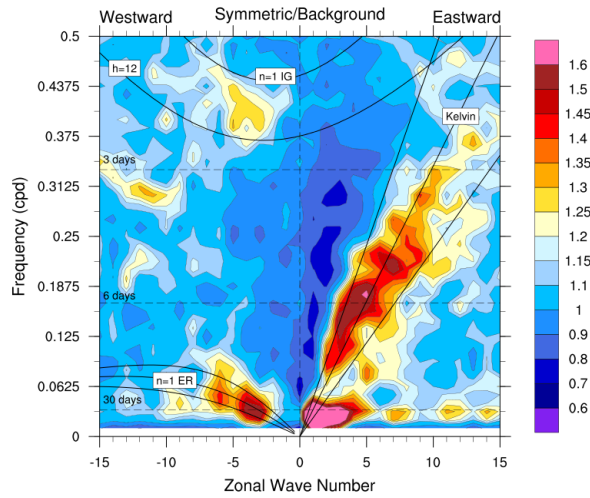


# WHEELER-KILADIS DIAGRAM (SYMM.)

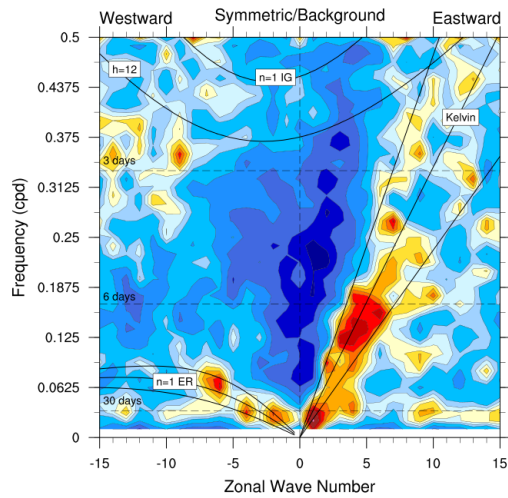


## Observations

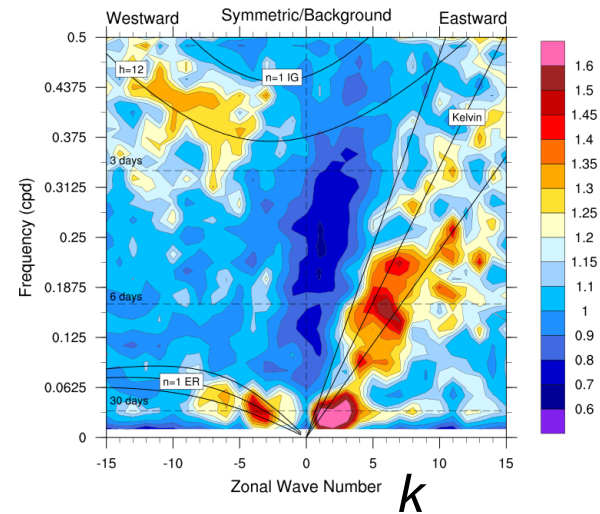
Frequency  
(day<sup>-1</sup>)



## Default CAM5



## Best by MJO Metric

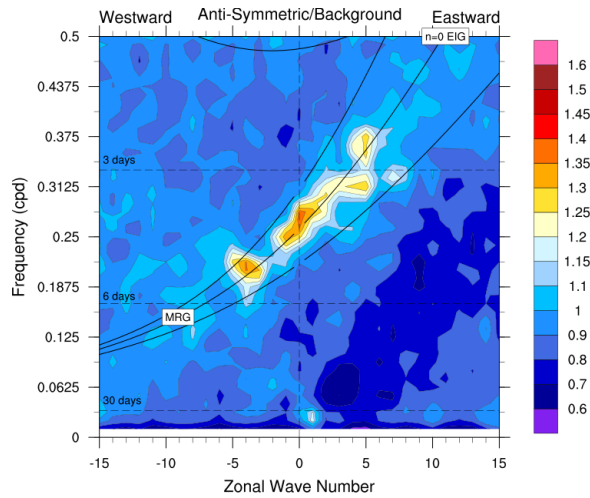


# WHEELER-KILADIS DIAGRAM (ANTI-SYMM.)

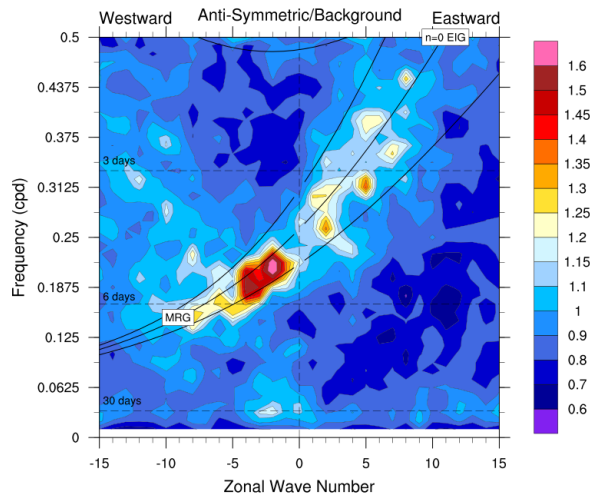


## Observations

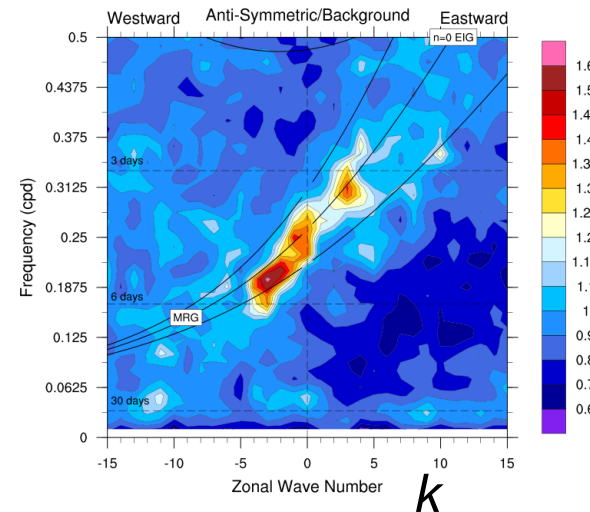
Frequency  
(day<sup>-1</sup>)

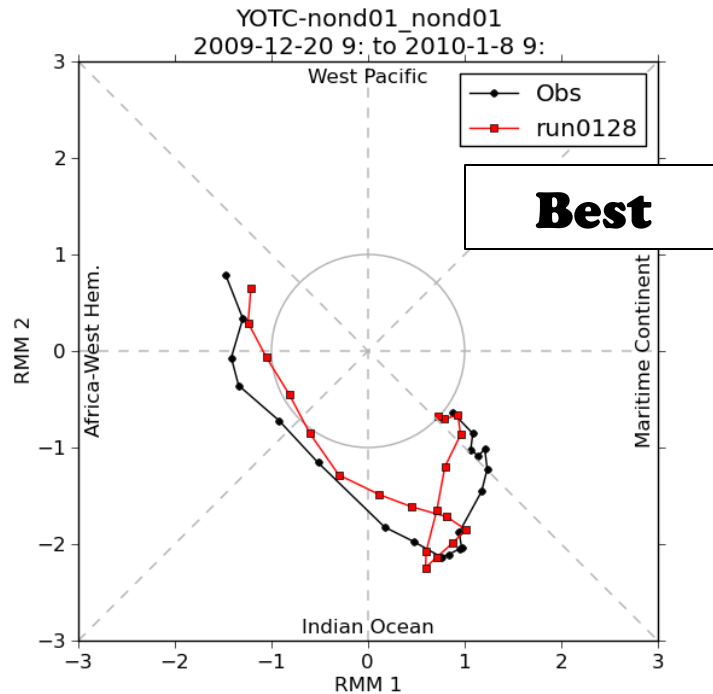
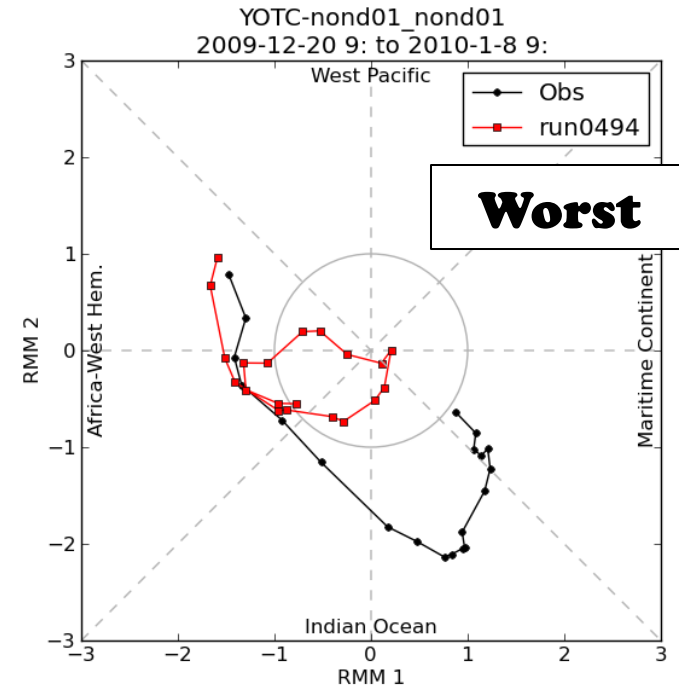
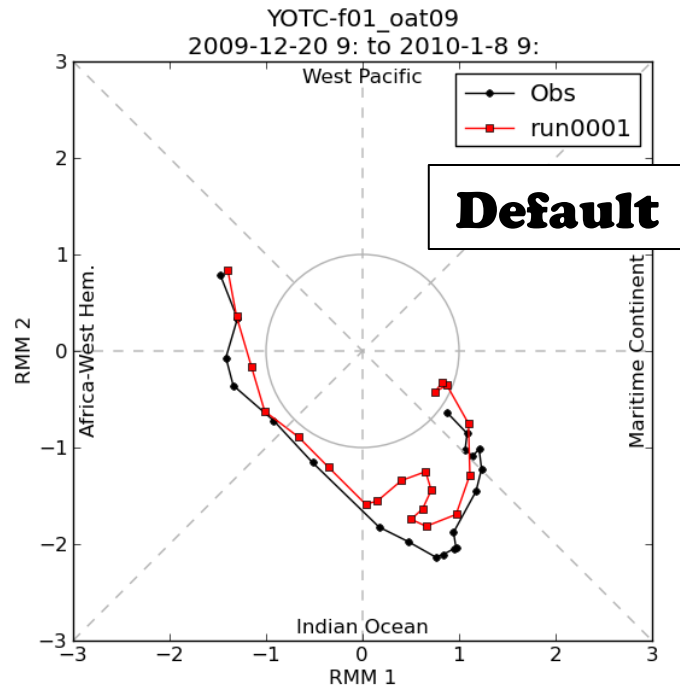


## Default CAM5



## Best by Metric





## MJO Phase Plots

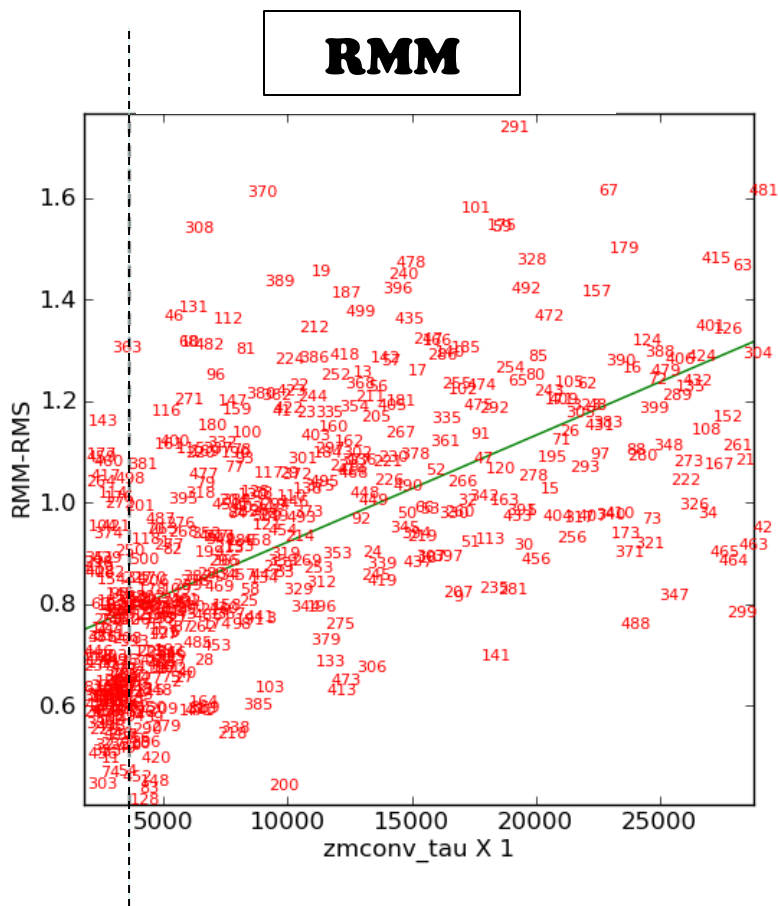
- Real-time Multivariate MJO Indices (RMM1 and RMM2) (*Wheeler and Hendon 2004, Gottschalck et al. 2010*)
  - Based on anomalies of 200 hPa and 850 hPa zonal wind and Outgoing Longwave Radiation (OLR)

# SCATTERPLOTS: RMSE VS. ZMCONV\_TAU



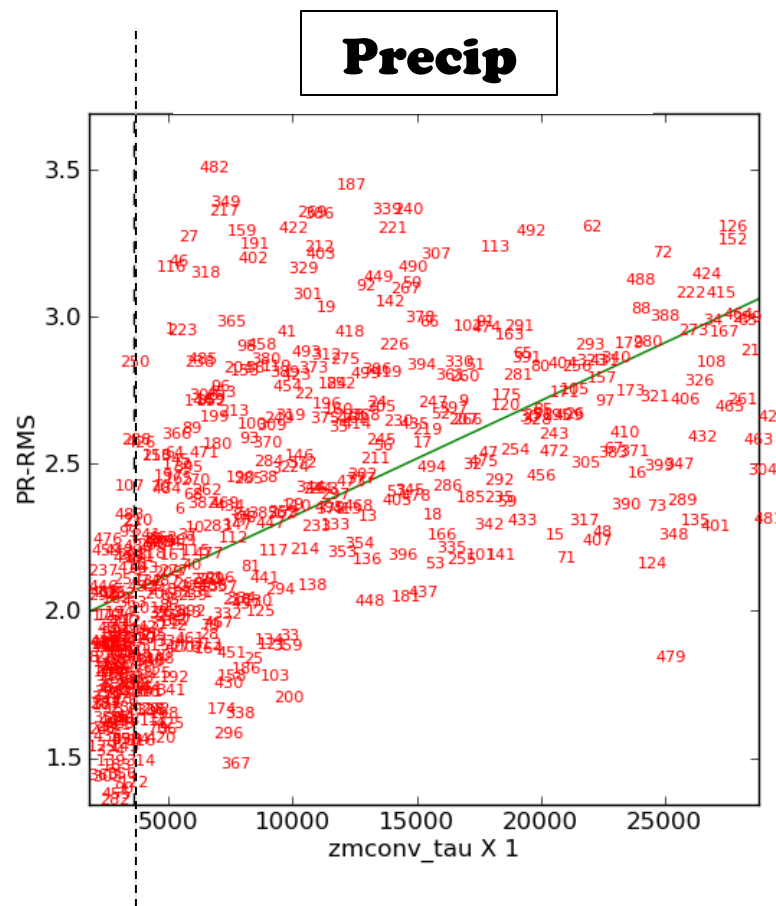
Program for Climate Model Diagnosis and Intercomparison

## Deep Convection Timescale



**Default**

Stephen A. Klein 12 February 2013, p. 23



**Default**