

# Nudging to reanalyses: a tool to evaluate model process realism (and study predictability issues)

Brian Mapes, Patrick Kelly  
University of Miami

*Observed*

time rate of change of  $\psi$

= model tendencies  
at observed states

+ model errors

$$\psi = \{u, v, T, q_v, \dots\}$$

*Observed*

time rate of change of  $\psi$

= **model\_errors**

+  $d\psi/dt_{dyn}$

+  $d\psi/dt_{phy}$

$\psi = \{u, v, T, q_v, \dots\}$

*In nudged run (close to Observed...):*

time rate of change of  $\psi$

=  $d\psi dt_{\text{nudging}}$

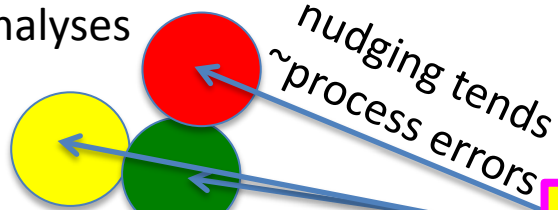
+  $d\psi dt_{\text{dyn}}$

+  $d\psi dt_{\text{phy}}$

$\psi = \{u, v, T, q_v, \dots\}$

# Phase space cartoon

reanalyses



nudging tends  
~ process errors

nudged  
state

1d leads  
CAPT

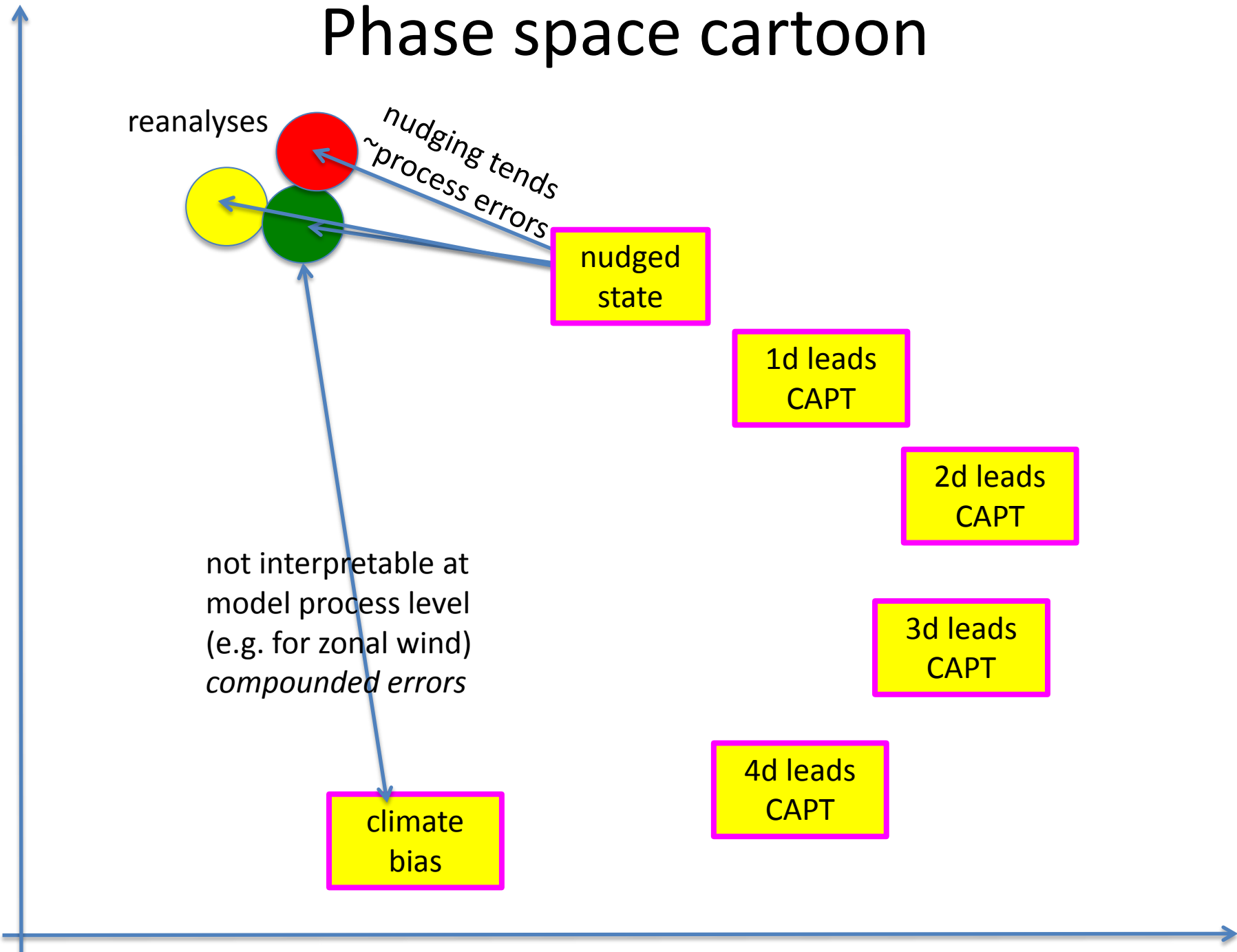
2d leads  
CAPT

3d leads  
CAPT

4d leads  
CAPT

not interpretable at  
model process level  
(e.g. for zonal wind)  
*compounded errors*

climate  
bias



The dream: **INTERPRETATION**

= dTdt\_**nud**

+ dTdt\_dyn

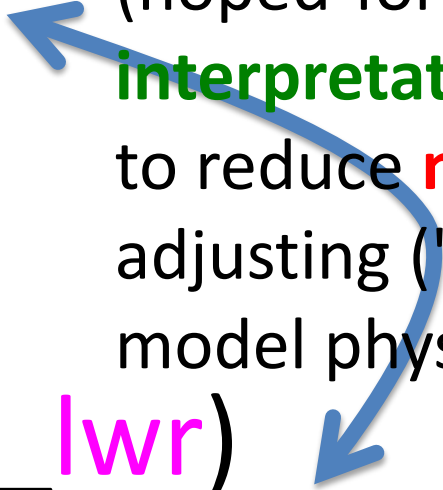
+ (dTdt\_**swr** + dTdt\_**lwr**)

+ (dTdt\_**cnv** + dTdt\_**lsc**) +

+ dψdt\_**trb** + ...

*etc... breaking down a sensible whole*

resemblance tests, for  
(hoped-for) process  
**interpretation**. Then try  
to reduce **nud** by  
adjusting ("**improving**")  
model physics.



# Home page: collection of model outputs from nudging experiments

The idea is to nudge the model to analyzed states, then diagnose the nudging tendency. Since the observed sequence of states really happened, the nudging tendency equals model tendency *error*. Since reanalyses aren't perfect (just very good), we repeat the exercise using multiple reanalyses to get an \*ensemble\* of estimates of model tendency (or process) errors. Interpreting these tendencies could lead to model process improvements. Statistically fitting them as a time-mean forcing + state-dependent forcing + noise source + ... could improve model performance more agnostically.

Later, nudging to observed sequences will be applied selectively - masked in space, time, variable, and scale, to inject signals - to probe the model's pathways and rates of information flow across these four subdomains of model state space. This is the essential knowledge behind predictability, the fundamental limit of possible prediction.

More nudging project plan details are in [this ppt](#) and [this PDF proposal text](#) (with bibliography), while more conceptual framework considerations (cartoons about model manifolds, shock & drift, etc.) are in [this ppt](#).

For the moment we are using JJA 2008 (part of the well-observed [YOTC](#) period).

## GCMs (rows) nudged to reanalyses (columns)

Reanalyses ( <a href="#">datasets</a> )-->	ERA-I	ERA-YOTC	JRA-25	MERRA	CFSR
GCMs					
CAM5-SE (Mapes convection)	<a href="#">outputs</a>	<a href="#">outputs</a>	<a href="#">outputs</a>	<a href="#">outputs</a>	easy
CAM5-SE (Control)	<a href="#">outputs</a>	easy	easy	easy	easy
CAM5 (Scripps)	<a href="#">test upload</a>	easy	easy	easy	easy
GFDL AM	easy	easy	easy	easy	easy
ECHAM	collab	collab	collab	collab	collab
CFSv2	India	India	India	India	India NATIVE ANALYSIS
WRF-global	Tulich	easy	easy	easy	easy
Dry PE	<a href="#">outputs</a>	easy	easy	easy	easy



**Please Join  
Intercomparison!**  
**I have data  
repository**

# OpenDAP, subset, interactively plot... any CDM files (NetCDF, HDF, grib...)

Links for: CAM5\_HOMME\_nudge\_MERRA\_noQ.ens.2008-06.REGRID\_1deg.nc

File	Edit	View	Data
All Services	Edit Entry	Entry Page	Subset Grid
Export Entries	Edit Properties	Information	Extract Time Series
Download File (907.36 MB)	Add Property...	Graph	File Metadata
Zip and Download File	Add Tag		
Wget Script	Add Keyword		
Add to Cart	Extended Edit		
	Copy or Move Entry		

**Make plots**

**Links**

- Download File (907.36 MB)
- Subset Grid

**Related**

- [CAM5\\_HOMME\\_nudge\\_MERRA\\_noQ.ens.06.REGRID\\_1deg.p-interp.nc](#)
- [CAM5\\_HOMME\\_nudge\\_MERRA\\_noQ.ens.07.REGRID\\_1deg.nc](#)

**Created:** 2013-12-06 00:49:11 UTC



# First tries: nudging CAM5-SE

- Nudged (relaxed) to Various Reanalyses
  - (MERRA, JRA, ERAI)
- U, V, and T\* relaxation tendencies added
  - with time scale = 6 hrs
- \*BUG learned yesterday. 6000h not 6h for T!

# This is really just a measure of $-T_{\text{bias}}$

- in presence of nudged *horiz. winds only*

 Standard deviation of updraft velocity

 T Nudging Tendency

 T tendency - moist processes

 T tendency - orographic gravity wave drag

 T tendency - shallow convection

 T tendency due to dynamical core

 T total physics tendency

 T vertical diffusion

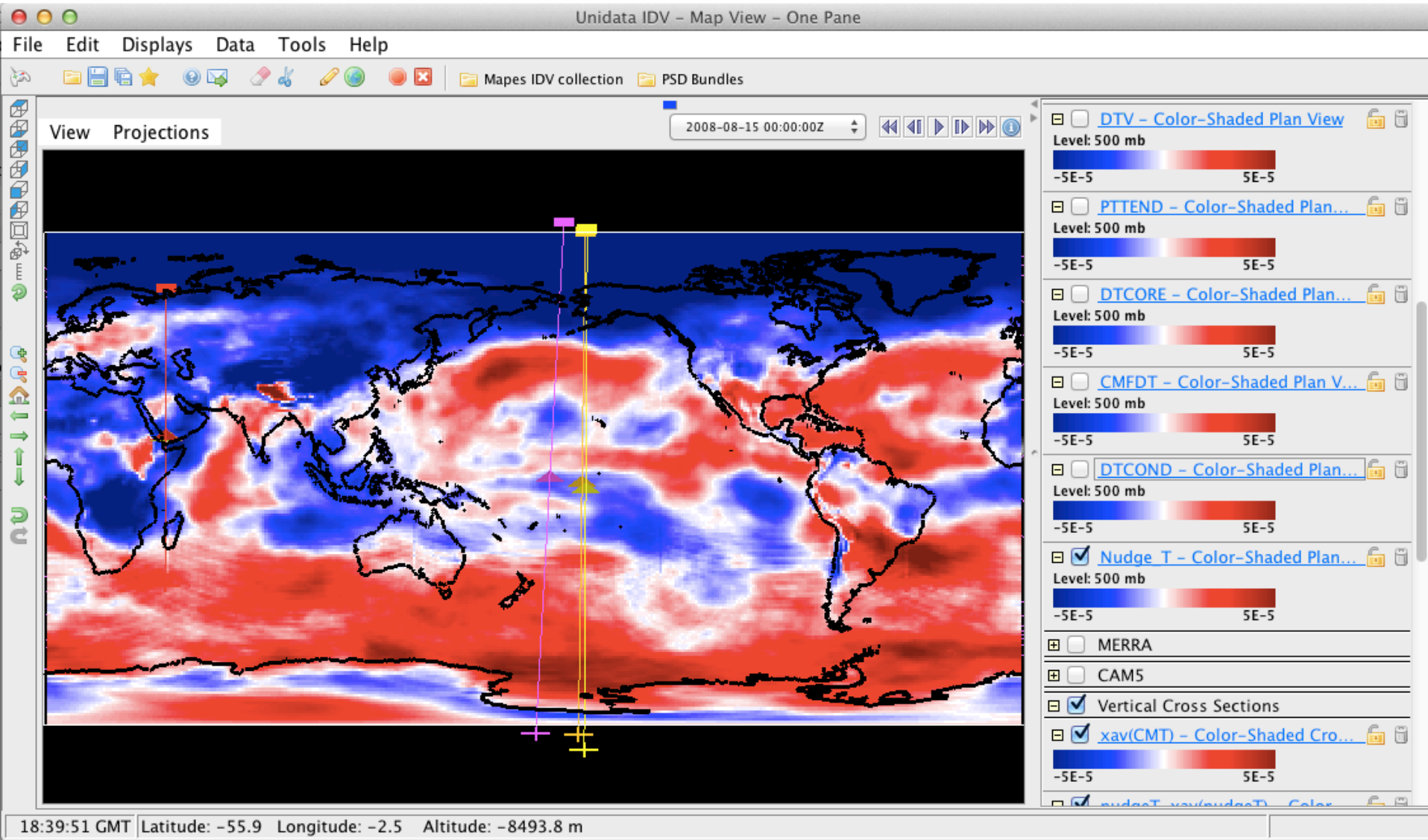
 Temperature

 Temperature (after physics)

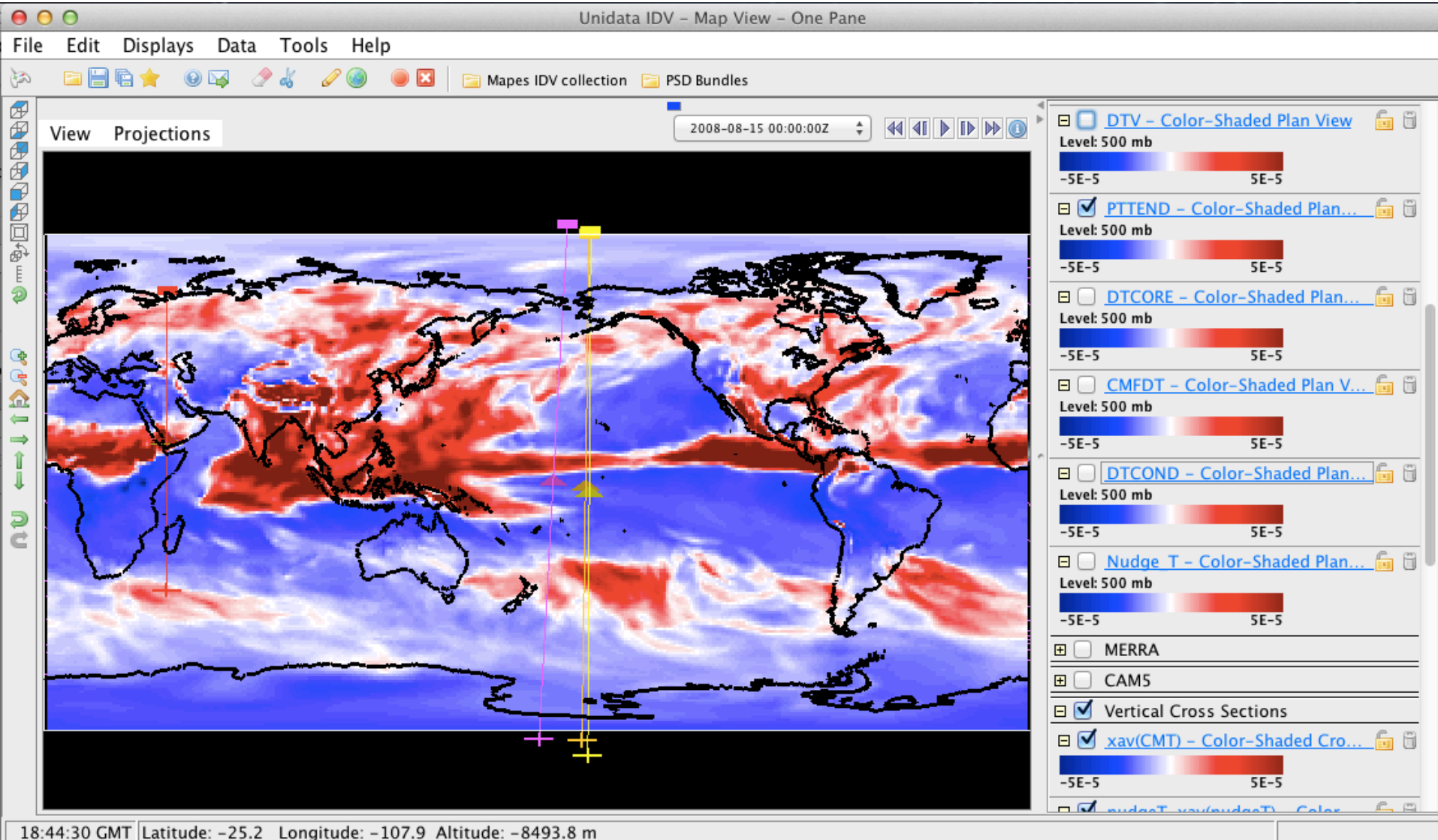


.....

NudgeT = (-Tbias)/6h due to bug  
500mb (Aug 2008 monthly mean)

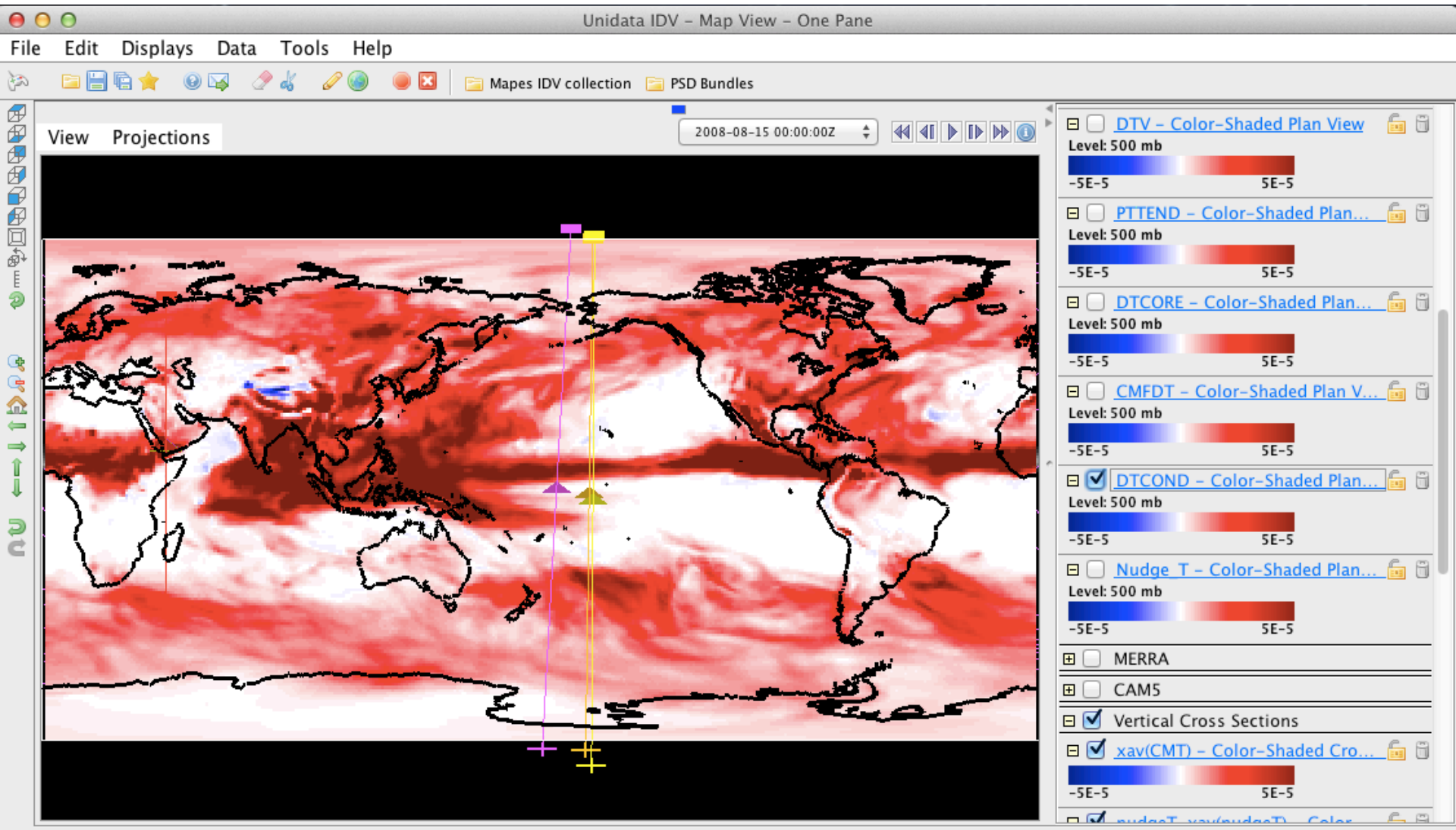


# PTTEND ("total physics") at 500mb

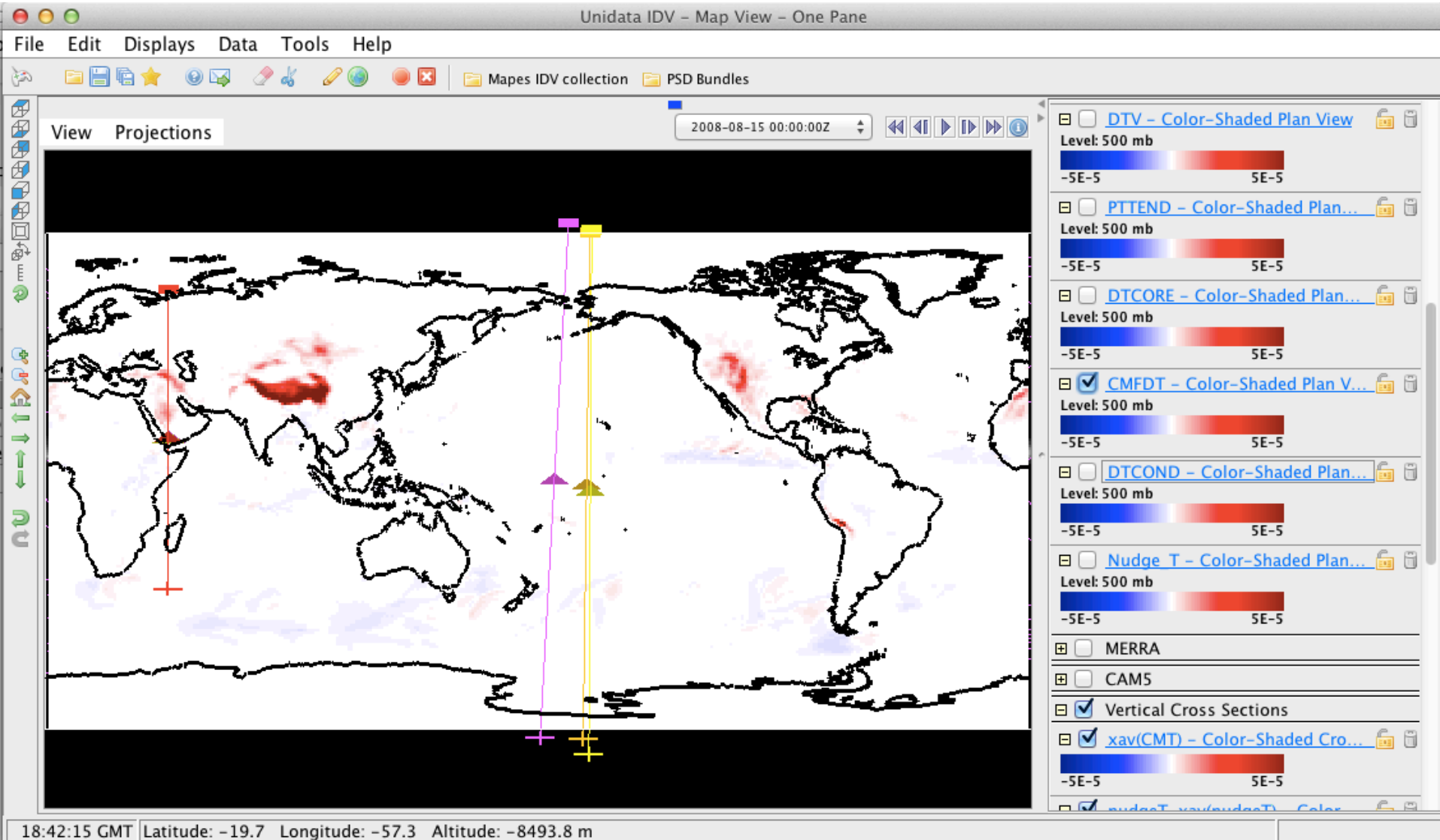


# at 500mb

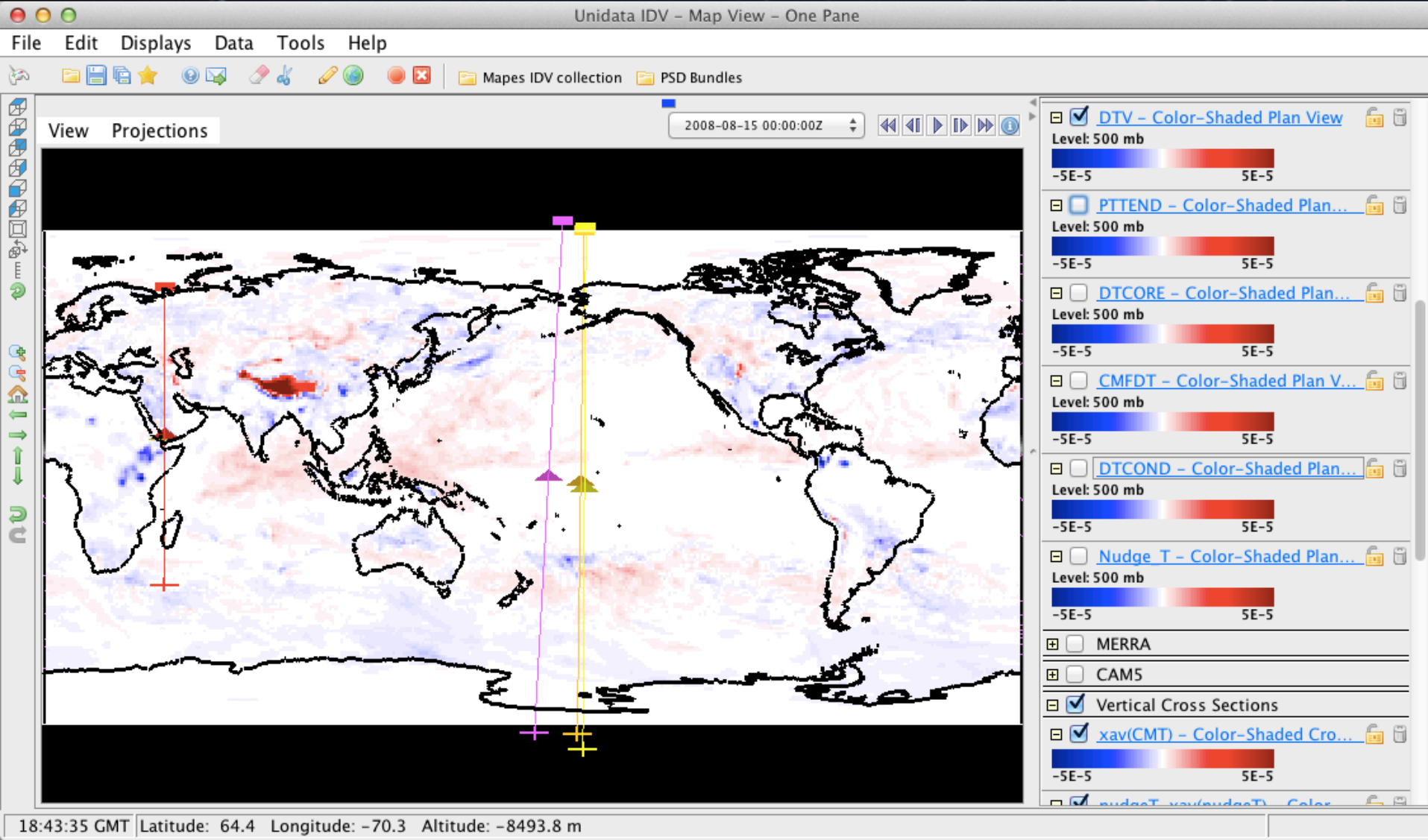
- Standard deviation of apparent velocity
- T Nudging Tendency
- T tendency - moist processes
- T tendency - orographic gravity wave drag
- T tendency DTCOND
- T tendency - moist processes
- T tendency due to dynamical core
- T total physics tendency



# CMFDT ("shallow conv") at 500mb

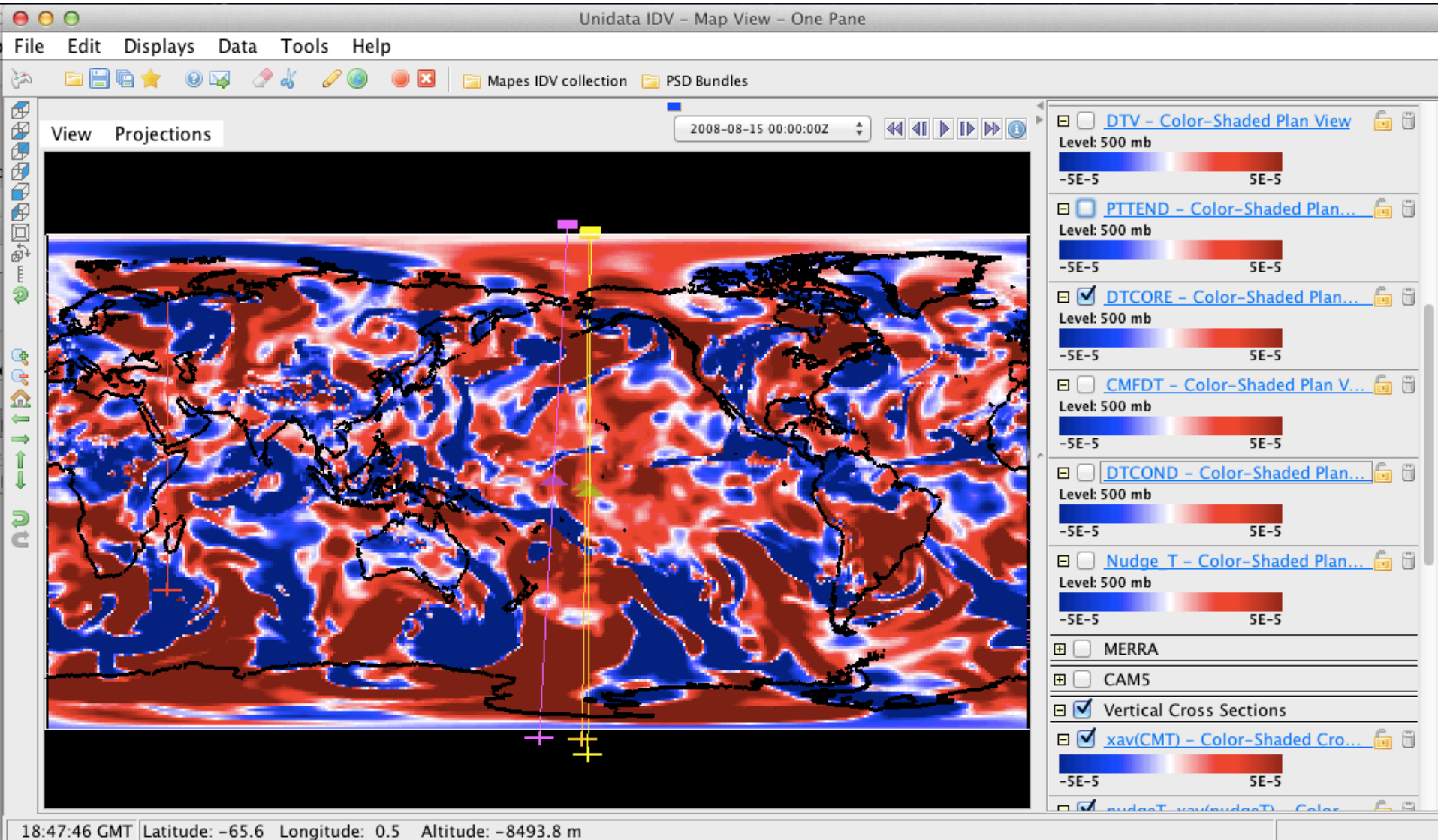


# DTV ("vert. diff.") at 500mb

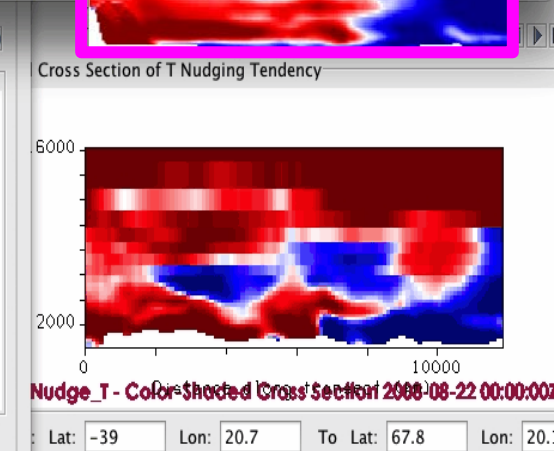
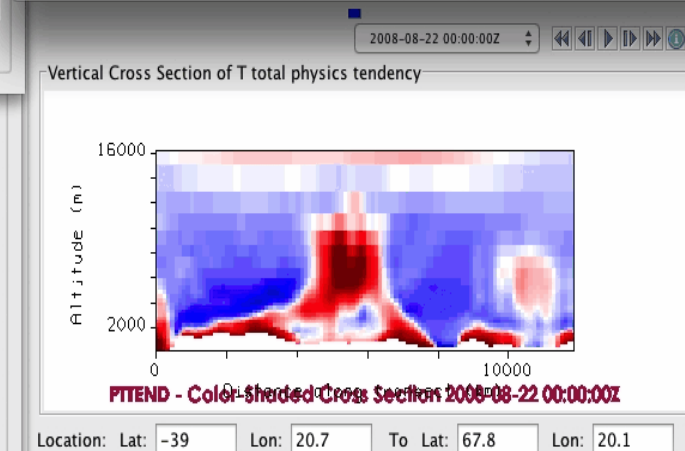
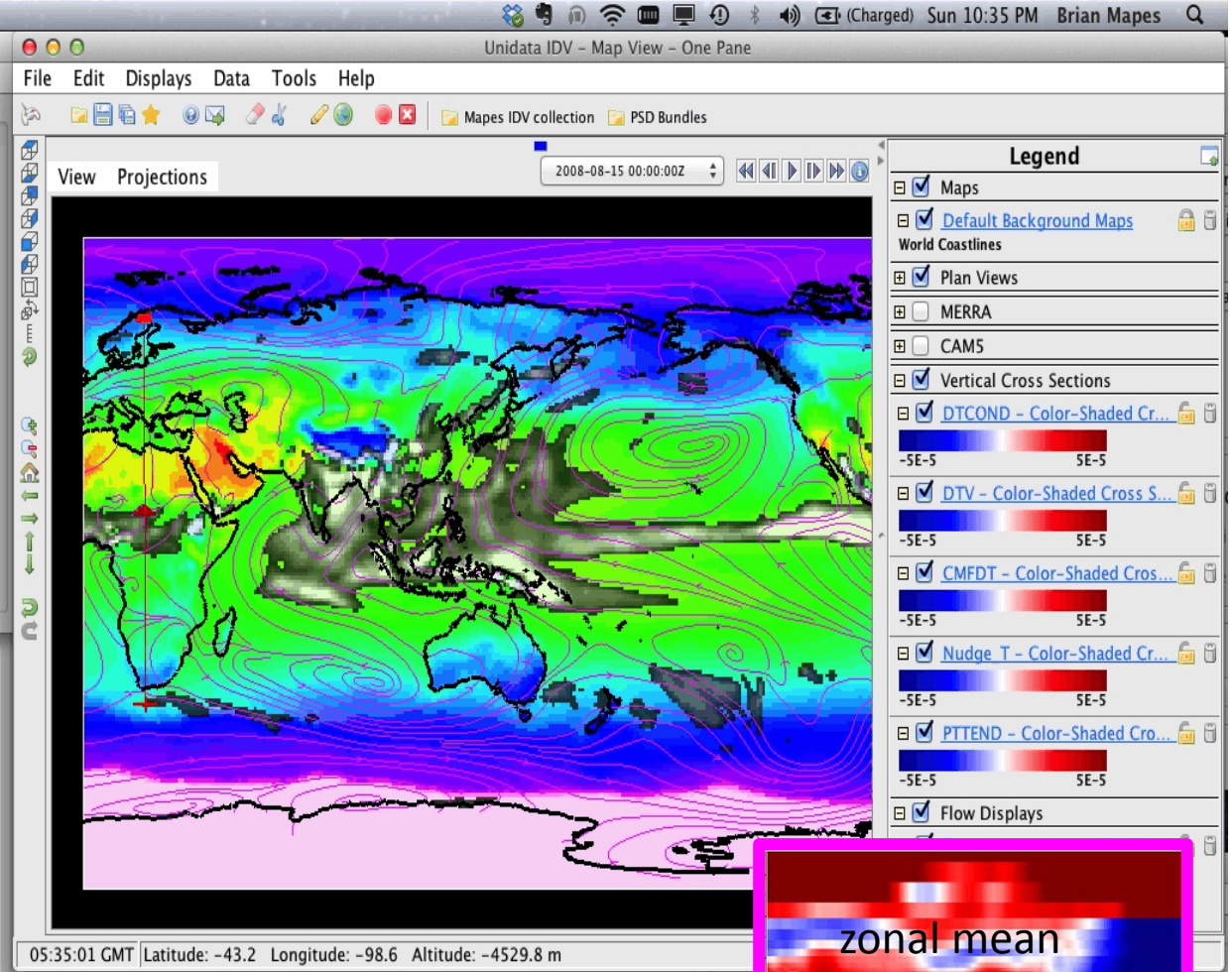
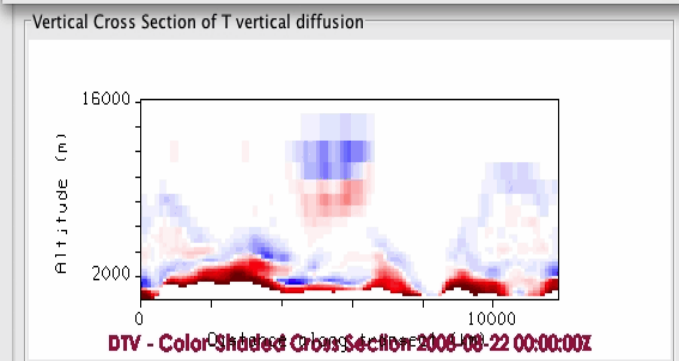
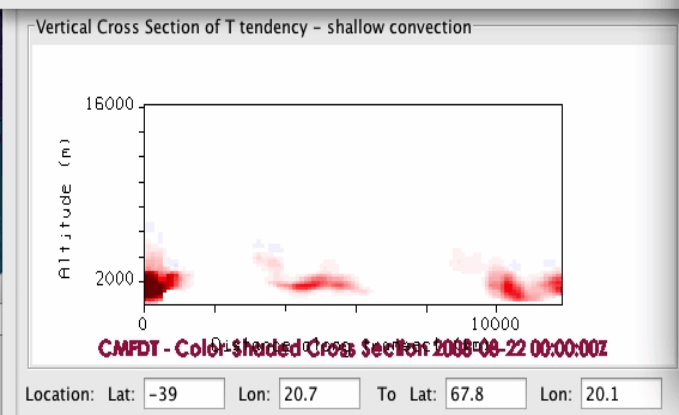
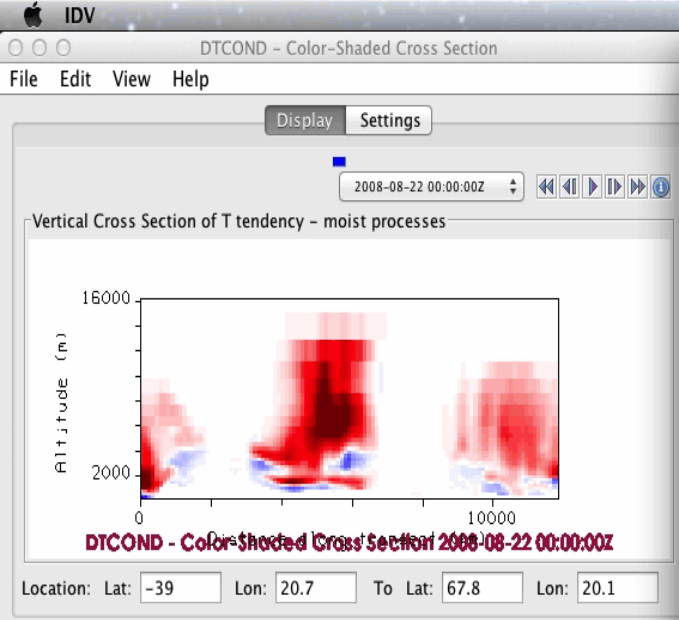


# DTCORE at 500mb















*(bug, not monthly mean output?)*



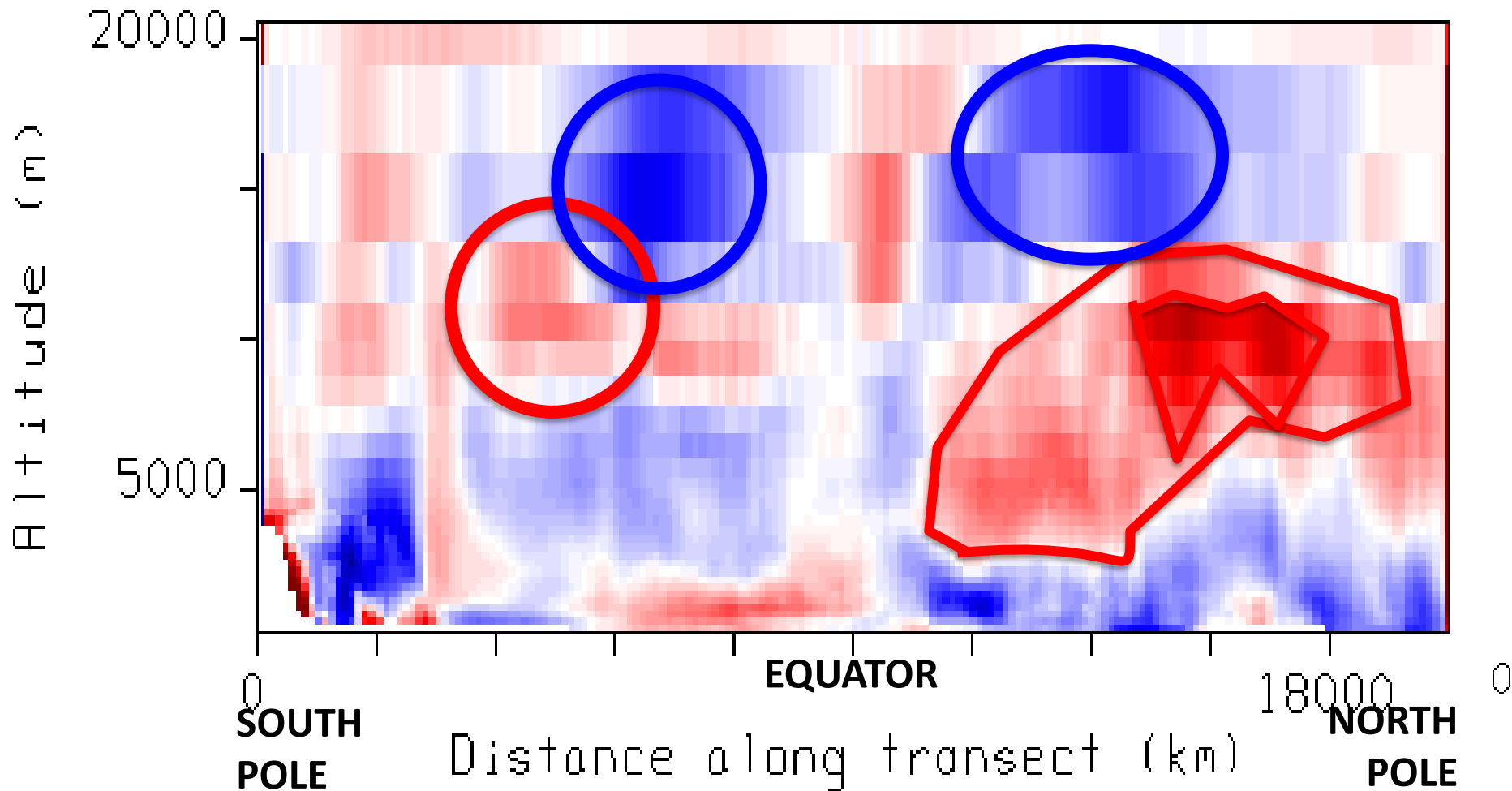




# Wind budgets

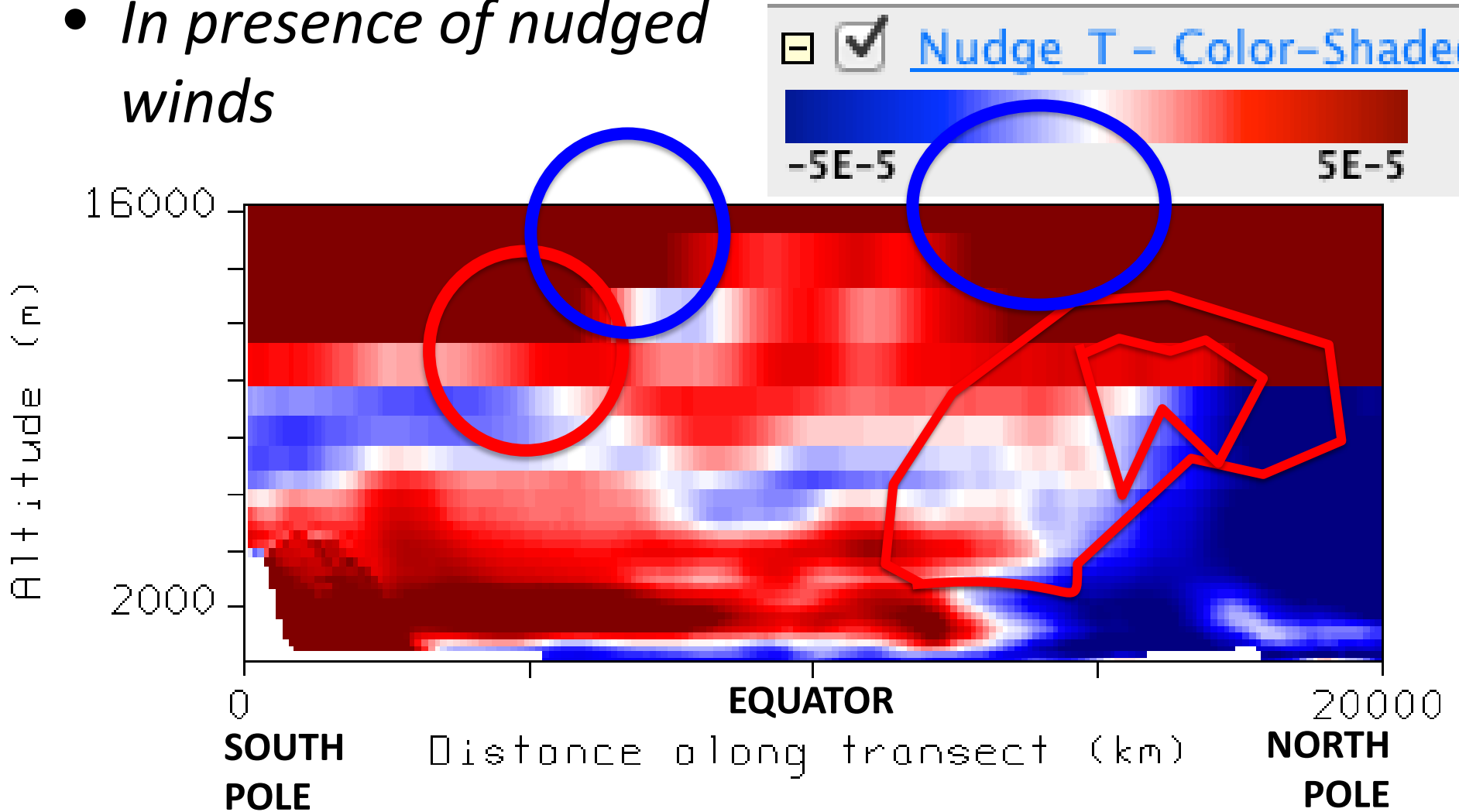
-   U Nudging Tendency
-  U tendency - orographic gravity wave drag
-  U tendency - ZM convective momentum transport
-  u tendency by convection
-  u tendency by PBL
-  U vertical diffusion
-  V Nudging Tendency
-  V tendency - orographic gravity wave drag
-  V tendency - ZM convective momentum transport
-  v tendency by convection
-  v tendency by PBL
-  V vertical diffusion
-  Vertical diffusion diffusivities (heat/moisture)

# Zonal average of `dudt_nud`



# Zonal average of $(-T_{\text{bias}}/6\text{h})$

- In presence of nudged winds*



# Want to build a balanced diagnosis

- Thermal nudging  $\rightarrow$  PV source
- Curl of wind nudging  $\rightarrow$  PV source

# Conclusions

- Nudging **escorts model through realistic states**
  - albeit pulled a bit off its attractor/manifold
- After the run, nudging tendencies are essentially **a data set on model process (tendency) errors**
- Leap: **Interpret** errors as process shortcomings...?
  - *exploratory* data analysis initially... IDV my new fave...
- Multi-model, multi-reanal intercomparisons.
  - Data please? RAMADDA repository is all set up...
    - Standardize, then we can develop standard diagnostics.
- **Better CAM budget outputs?**
  - *Dani inquired last week...thanks!*

- extra slides

# T nudging "Cp bug" (6000h not 6h relaxation timescale)

- makes 2013 June Breckenridge result more understandable (next 2 slides)

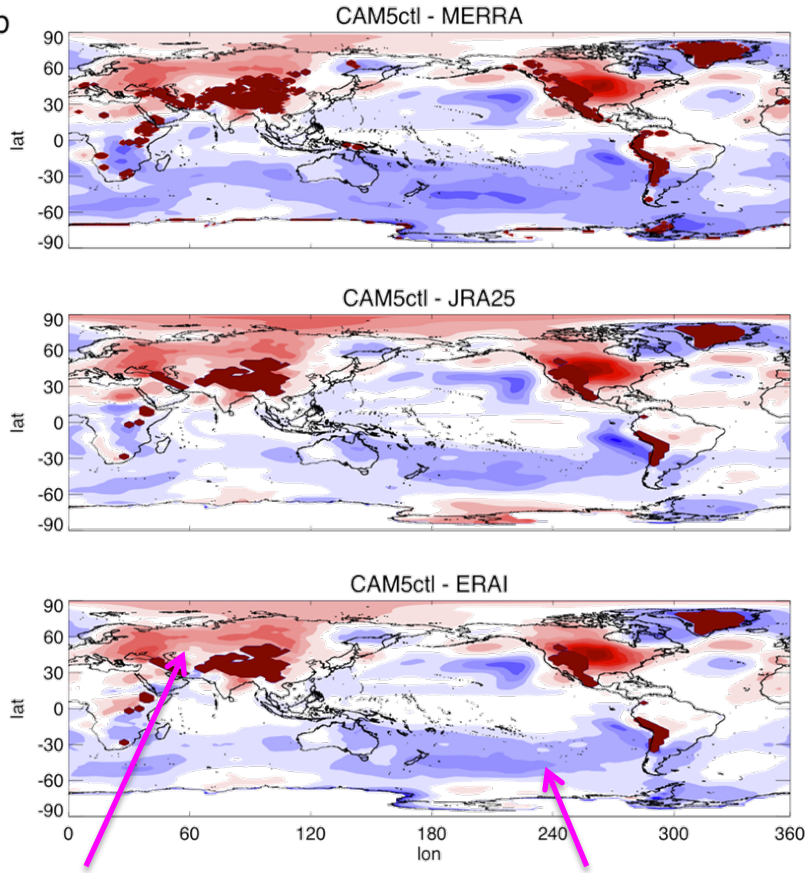


# JJA Temp 850mb

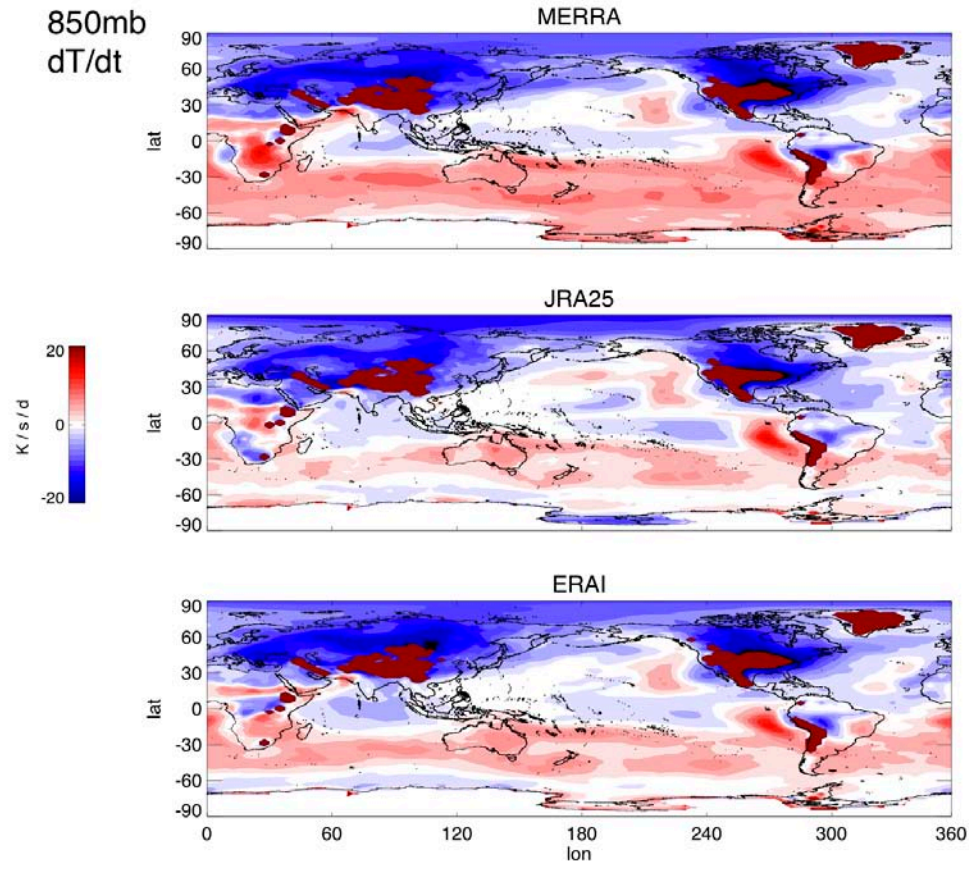
## Mean Bias CTL

## Nudging DT/Dt

850mb  
Temp



850mb  
dT/dt

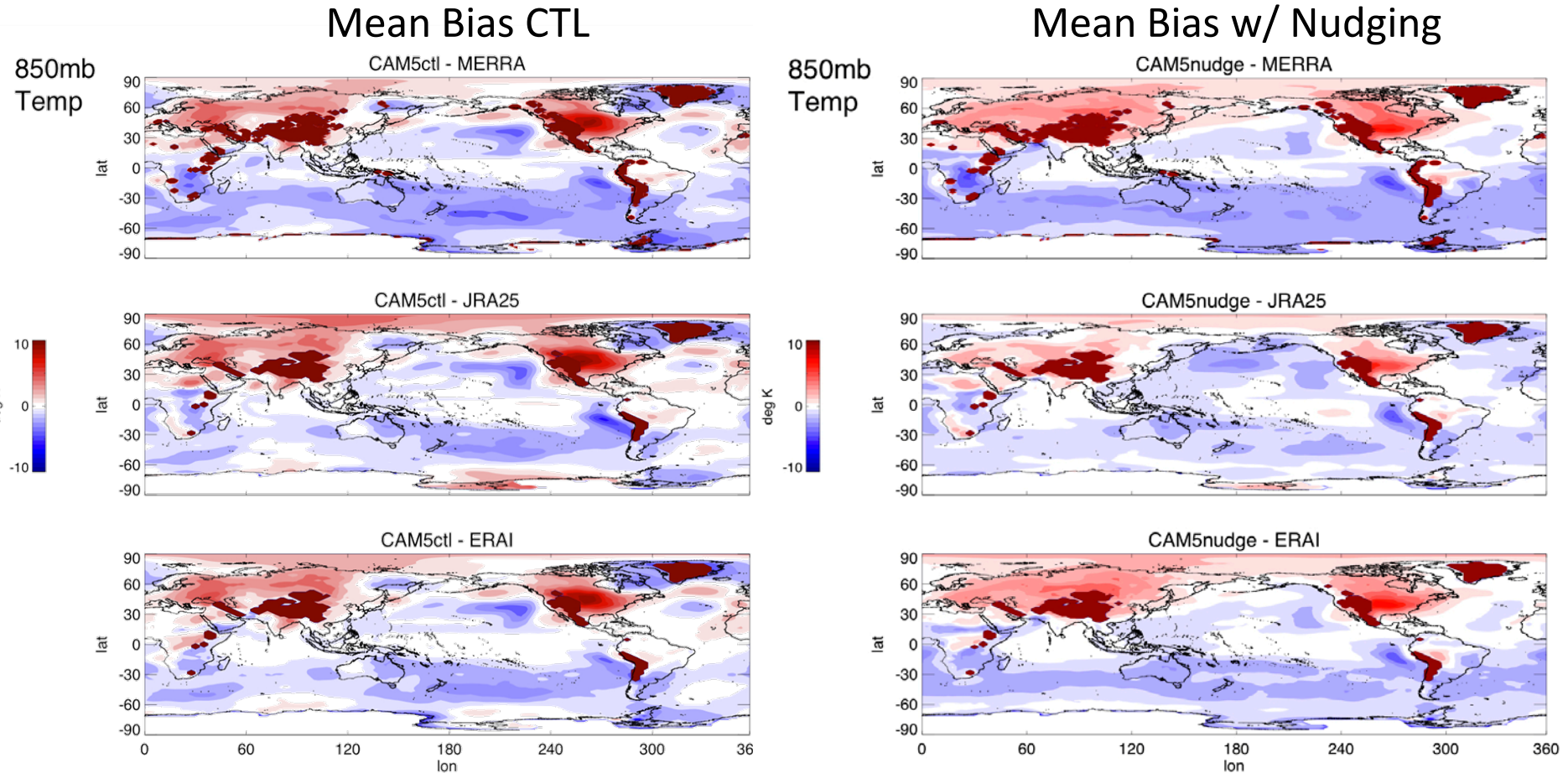


NH land too Hot

SH ocean too Cold

**Nudging directly opposes  
the pattern of errors**

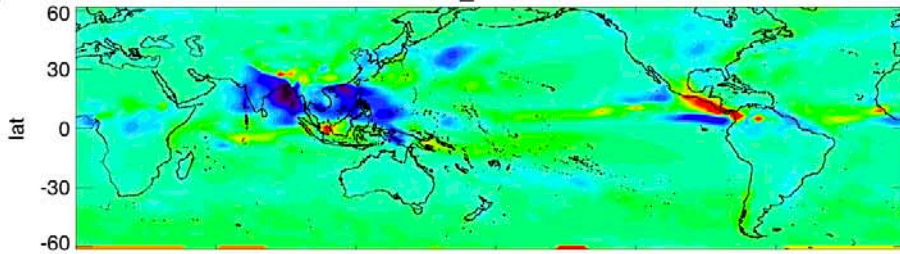
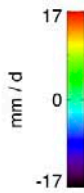
# But Marginal improvement of $T_{850\text{mb}}$ errors



Some stronger tendencies overpower nudging:  
*(from surface? from imbalance like in v wind?)*

Precip

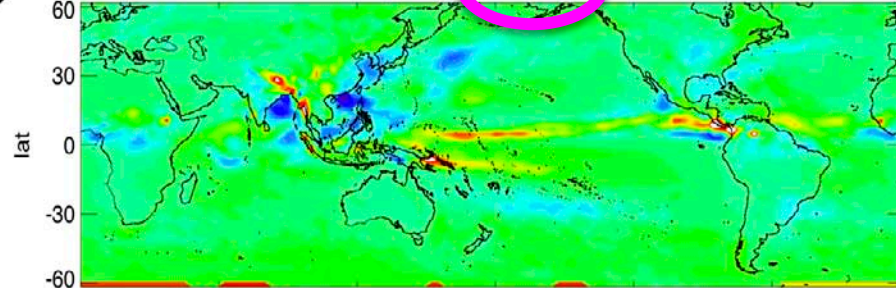
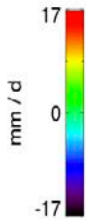
CAM5\_ctl - CMAP



← Control error in precipitation

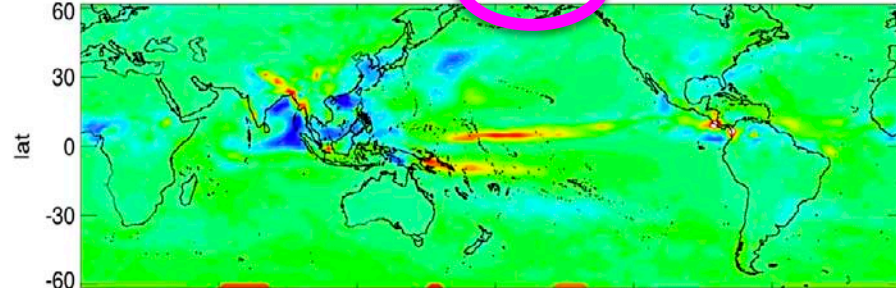
Precip

CAM5\_nudge\_MERRA - CMAP

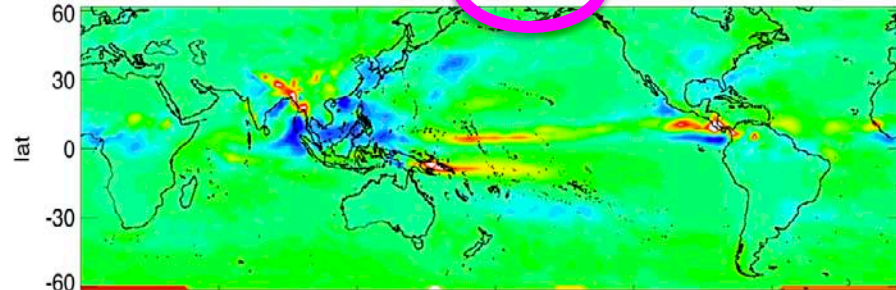


All 3 Nudgings  
of  $\{u,v\}$  only  
reduce precip  
errors

CAM5\_nudge\_JRA - CMAP



CAM5\_nudge ERAI - CMAP



All 3 similar

# Special thanks

- NCAR/CISL for computing resources
- Julio Bacmeister
- Patrick Callaghan
- Jerry Olson