

# Status of CAM-MPAS Development

## The Effects of Vertical Resolution in CAM-MPAS

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# Global Nonhydrostatic Atmospheric Simulation with MPAS



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Laura Fowler, Sang-Hun Park
- National Center for Atmospheric Research

*Based on unstructured centroidal Voronoi (hexagonal) meshes  
using C-grid staggering and selective grid refinement.*

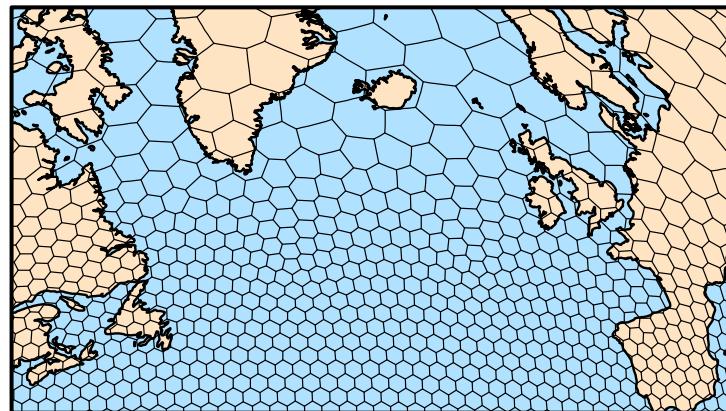
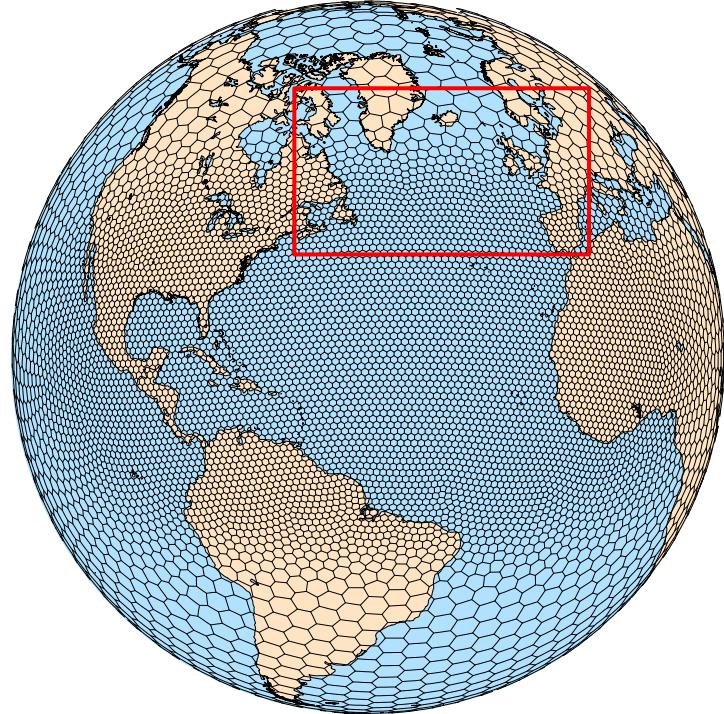
Collaboratively developed, primarily by NCAR and LANL/DOE

MPAS infrastructure - NCAR, LANL, others.

MPAS - Atmosphere (NCAR)

MPAS - Ocean (LANL)

MPAS - Ice, etc. (LANL and others)



# What is MPAS?

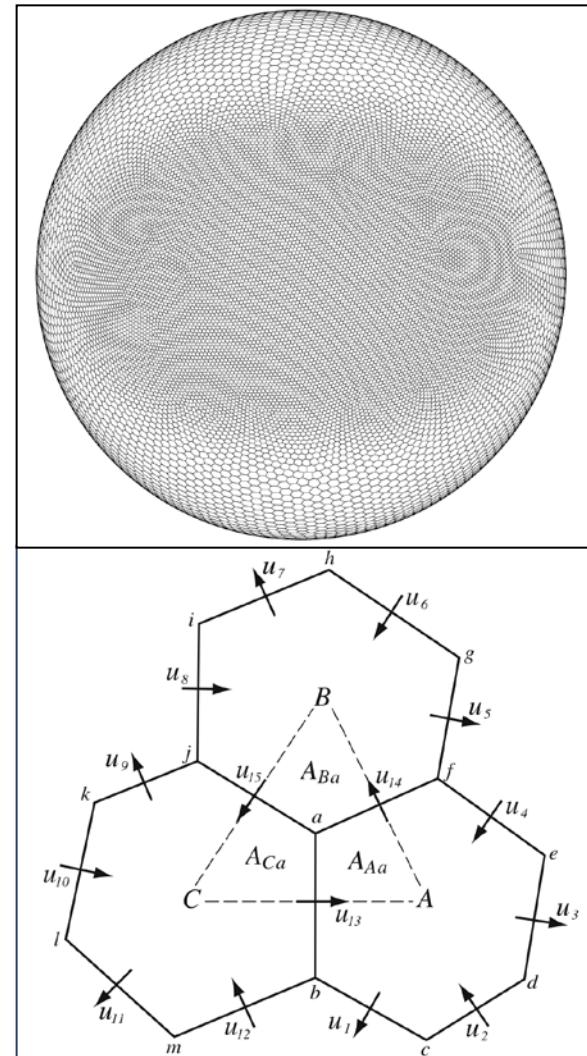
## MPAS GRID :: Centroidal Voronoi Meshes

### Unstructured spherical centroidal Voronoi meshes

- Cell centers are at cell center-of-mass (centroidal).
- Cell edges bisect and are orthogonal to the lines connecting cell centers.
- Uniform resolution – traditional icosahedral mesh.
- Mostly *hexagons*, some pentagons and 7-sided cells

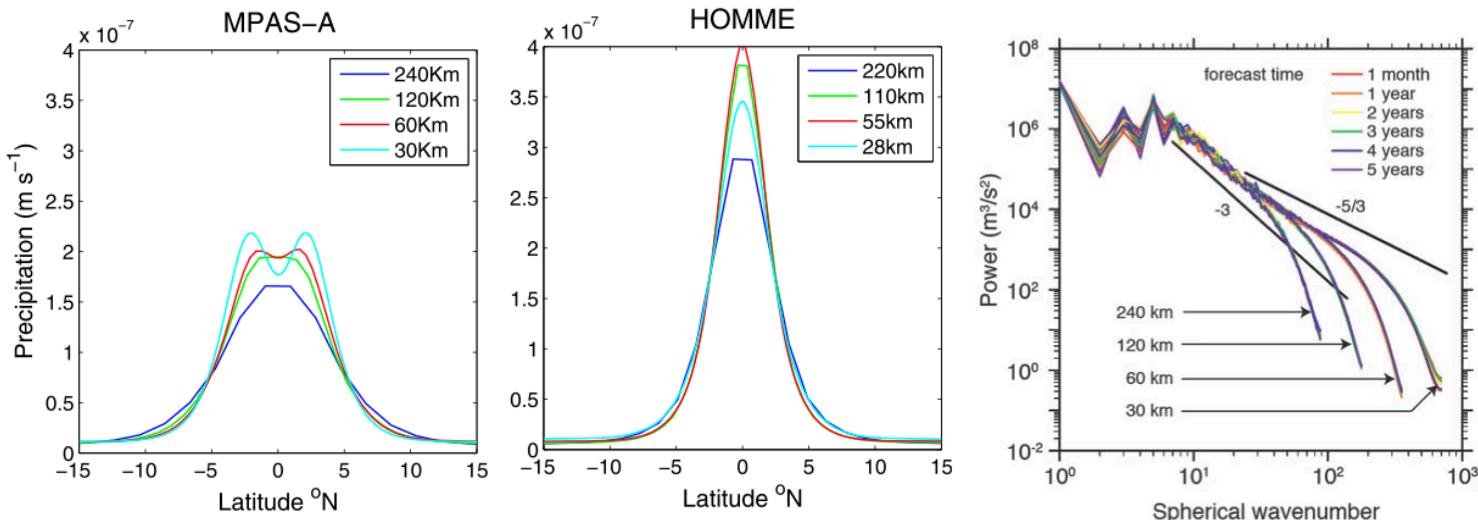
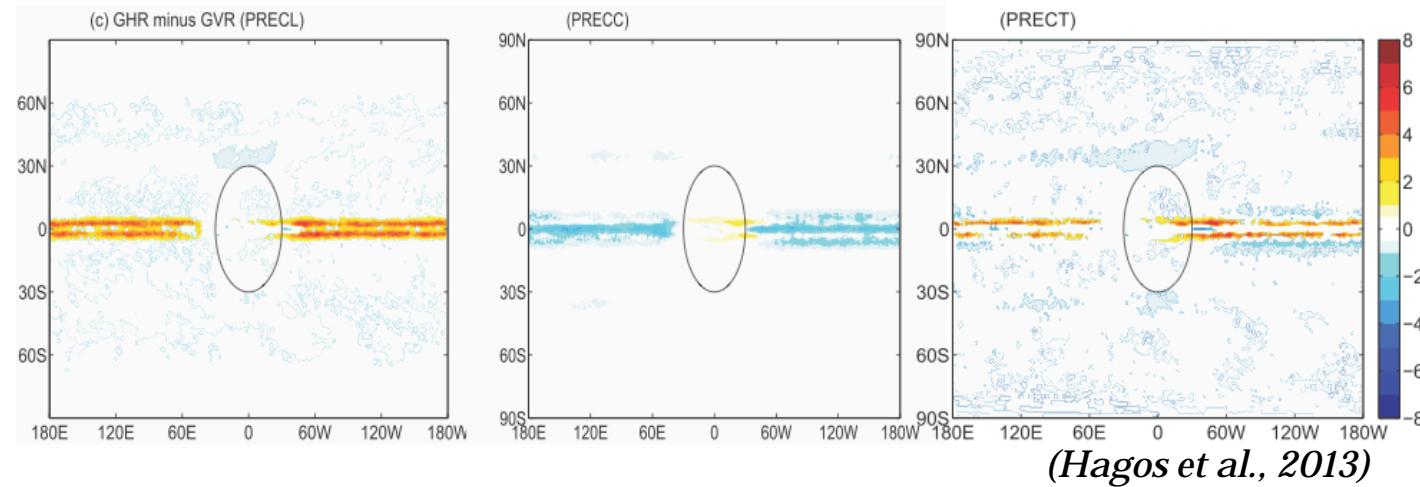
### C-grid

- Solve for normal velocities on cell edges.
- Gradient operators in the horizontal momentum equations are 2<sup>nd</sup>-order accurate.
- Velocity divergence is 2<sup>nd</sup>-order accurate for edge-centered velocities.
- Reconstruction of full velocity requires care.



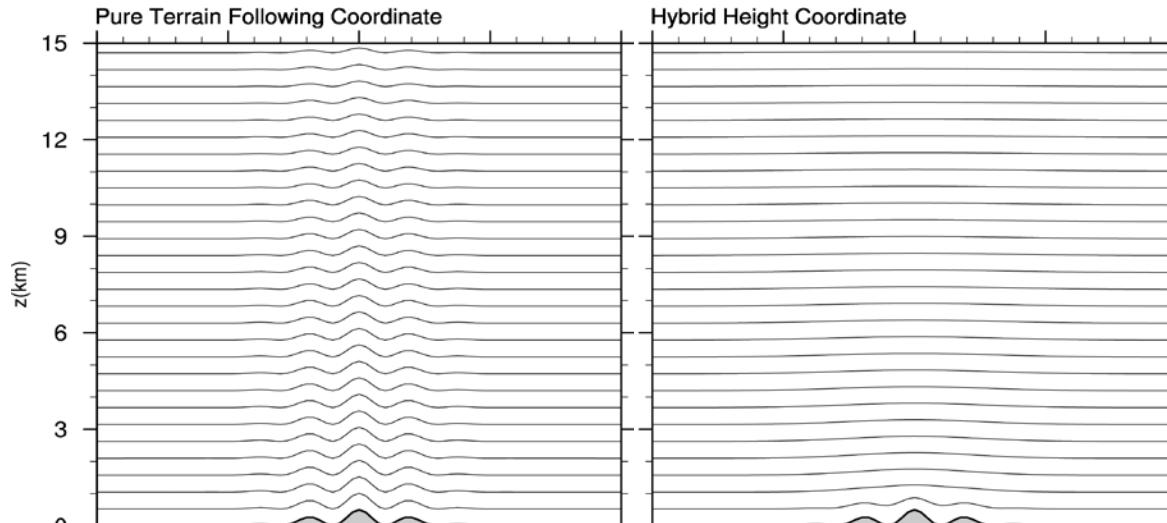
# CAM-MPAS history

- Scientific Results only with hydrostatic core so far



# CAM-MPAS

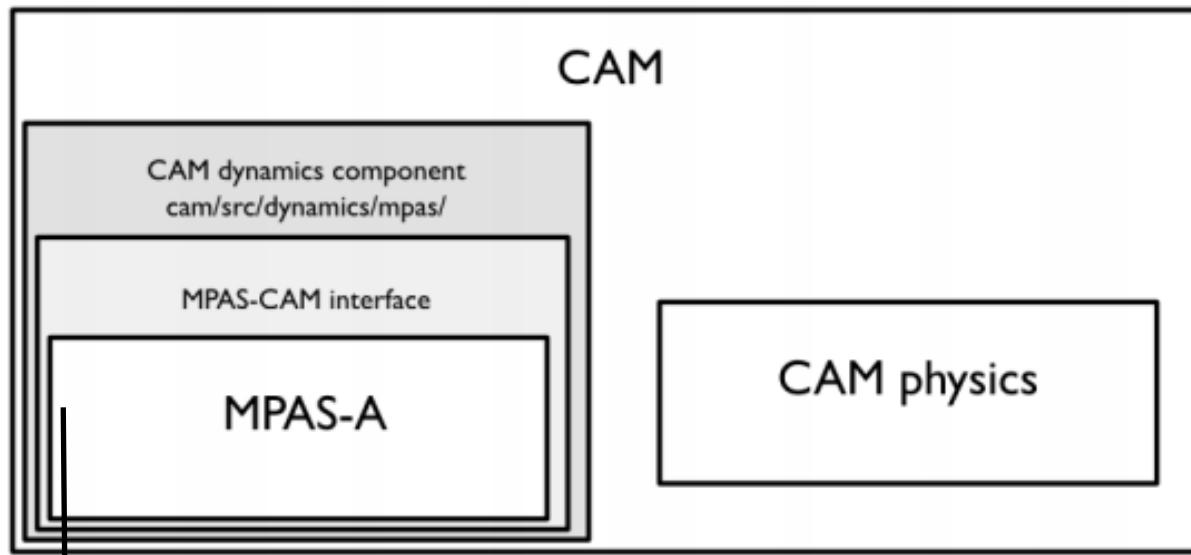
- Scientific Results only with hydrostatic core so far
- MPAS hydrostatic vs. non-hydrostatic
  - Different equation set
  - Vertical coordinate (hybrid height)



- In hydrostatic version, no more bug-fix

# CAM-MPAS

- History with non-hydrostatic MPAS
  - ✓ Held-Suarez test (2014.2)
  - ✓ Aqua-Planet Simulations (2014.6)
  - ✓ AMIP Simulation (2015.1)
- CAM-MPAS framework



- ✓ Additional requirement files (not generated automatically!)
  - namelist.input
  - Graph files for partitioning of meshes

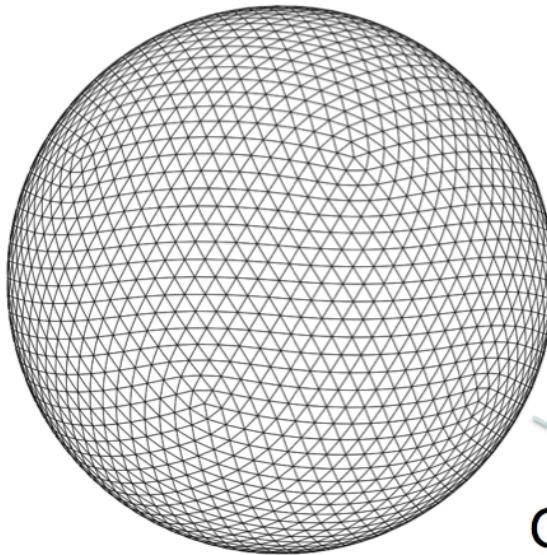
# CAM-MPAS configuration

## - namelist.input

```
&nhyd_model
...
    config_dt = 450.0 :: dynamic time-step (no explicit definition in "atm_in")
    config_start_time = '0001-01-01_00:00:00'
...
    config_len_disp = 120000.0 :: actual mesh-size (for the smallest grid)
    config_visc4_2dsmag = 0.05
...
    config_zd = 32000.0 :: starting level for vertical damping option
    config_xnutr = 0.2 :: damping coefficient
/
...
&restart
    config_do_restart = .true. :: false for 'starup' run
                                true for 'continue' or 'branch' run
/
```

*For more options, see MPAS tutorial  
:: <http://mpas-dev.github.io>*

# MPAS parallel decomposition



The *dual* mesh of a Voronoi tessellation is a Delaunay triangulation – essentially the connectivity graph of the cells

Parallel decomposition of an MPAS mesh then becomes a graph partitioning problem: **equally distribute nodes among partitions (give each process equal work) while minimizing the edge cut (minimizing parallel communication)**

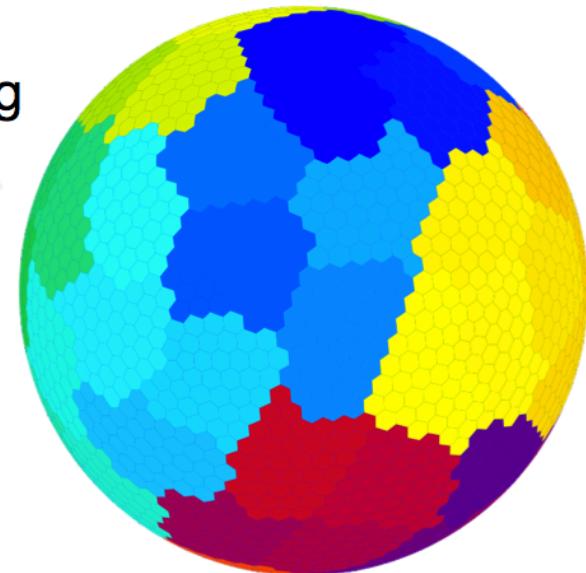
Graph partitioning

We use the Metis package for parallel graph decomposition

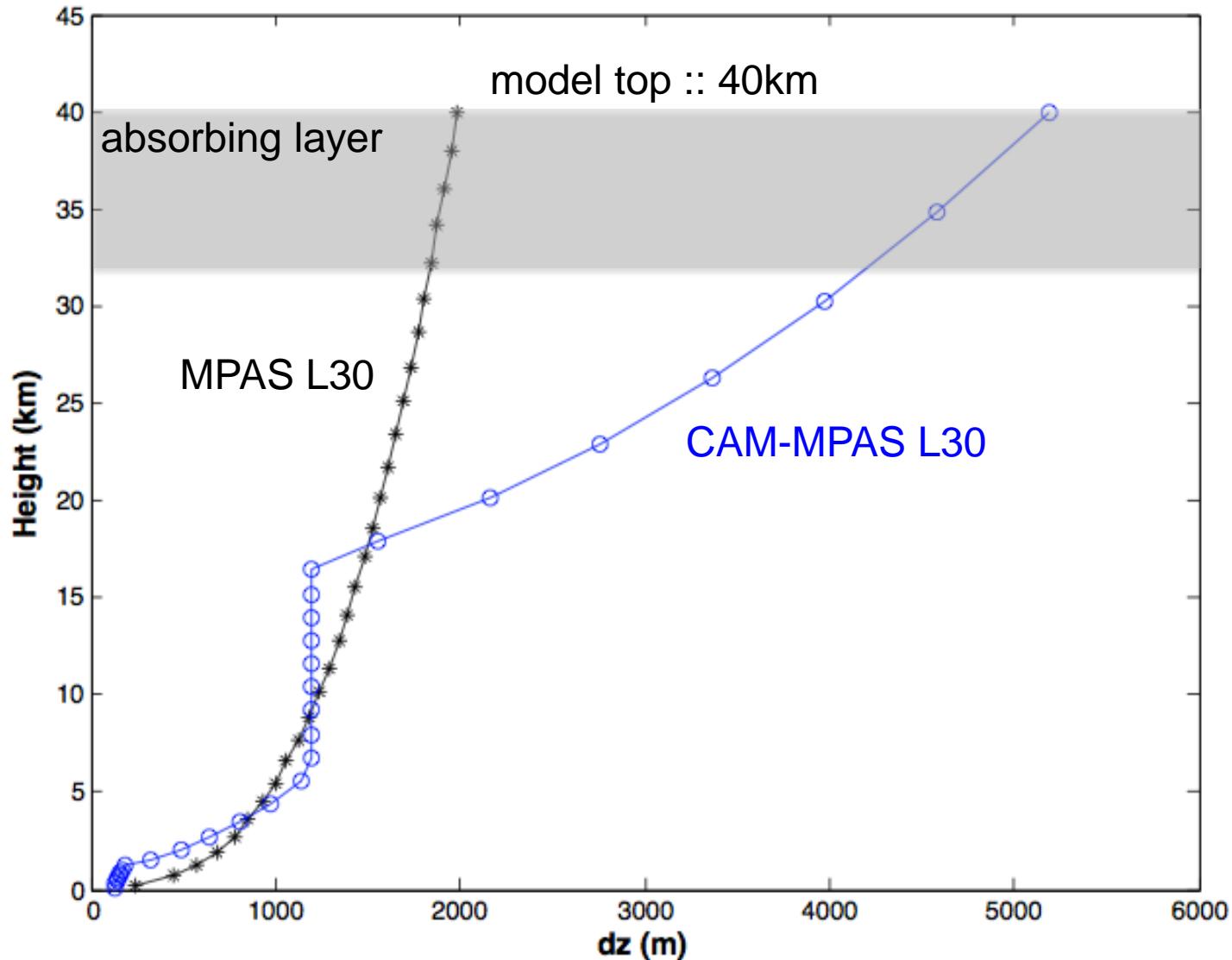
- Currently done as a pre-processing step, but could be done “on-line”

Metis also handles weighted graph partitioning

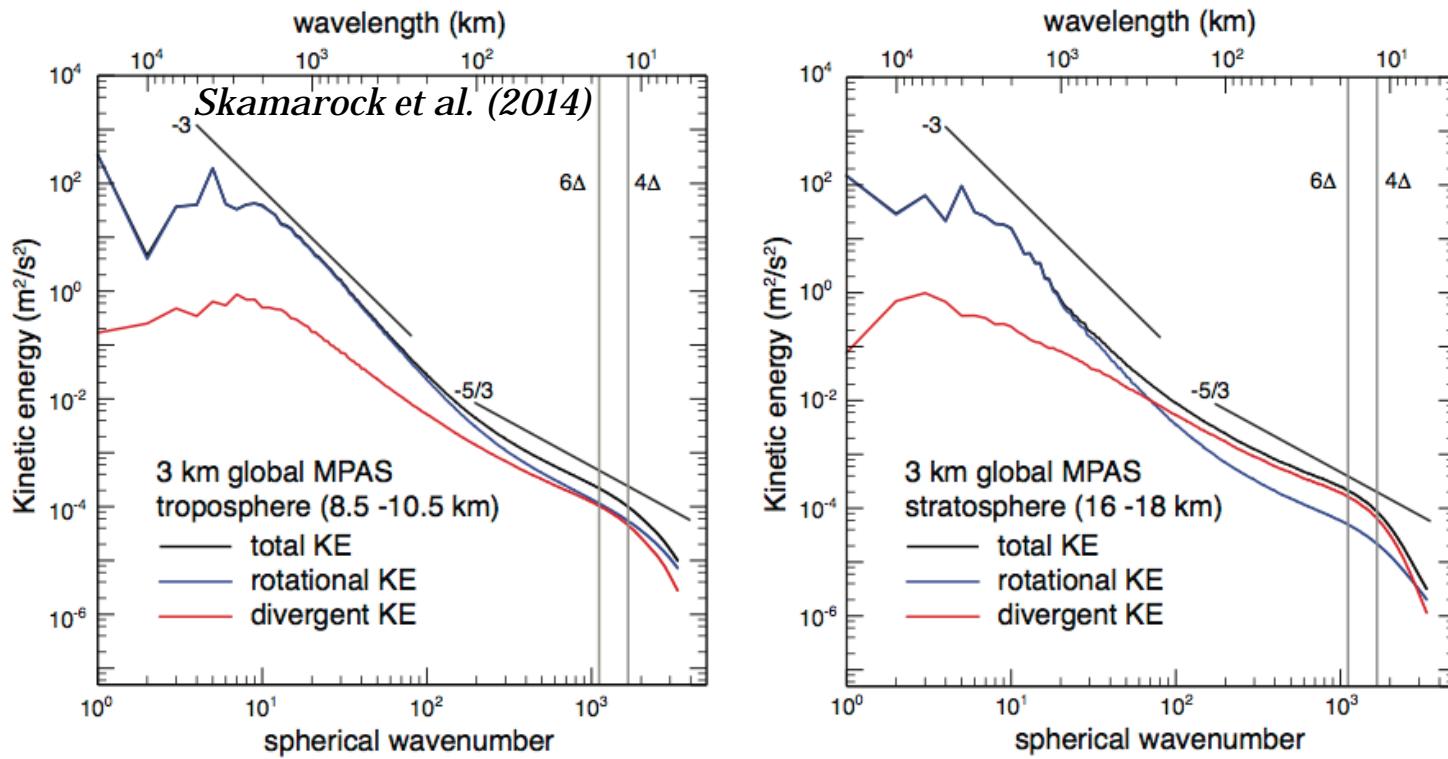
- Given *a priori* estimates for the computational costs of each grid cell, we can better balance the load among processes



# CAM-MPAS vertical levels



# MPAS Spectra



- MPAS diffusion :: 2D smagorinsky + hyper diffusion  
hyper diffusion  $\sim 0.05 \times \Delta^3$

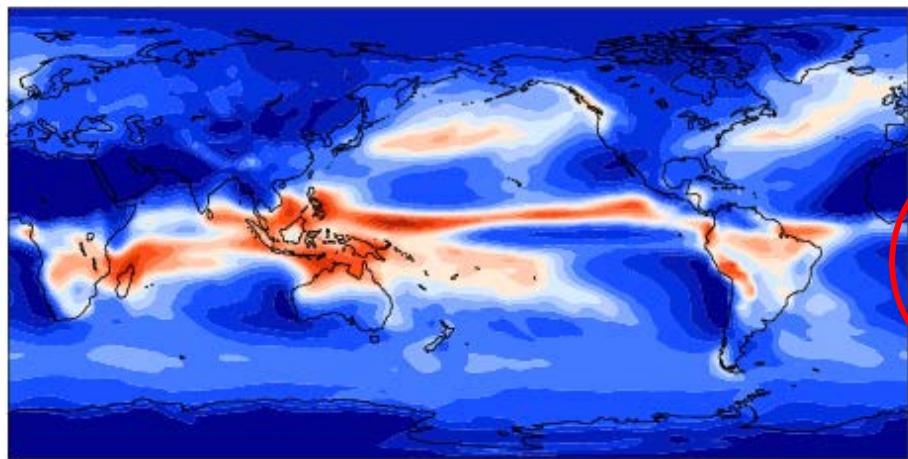
- units of  $\nu_4 [m^4/s]$

	240km	120km	60km	30km	15km
MPAS	$6.5 \times 10^{14}$	$8.6 \times 10^{13}$	$1.1 \times 10^{14}$	$1.35 \times 10^{12}$	$1.7 \times 10^{11}$
CAM-SE	$7.0 \times 10^{15}$	$1.0 \times 10^{15}$	$1.0 \times 10^{14}$	$1.0 \times 10^{13}$	$1.1 \times 10^{12}$

# F\_2000\_CAM5 Case

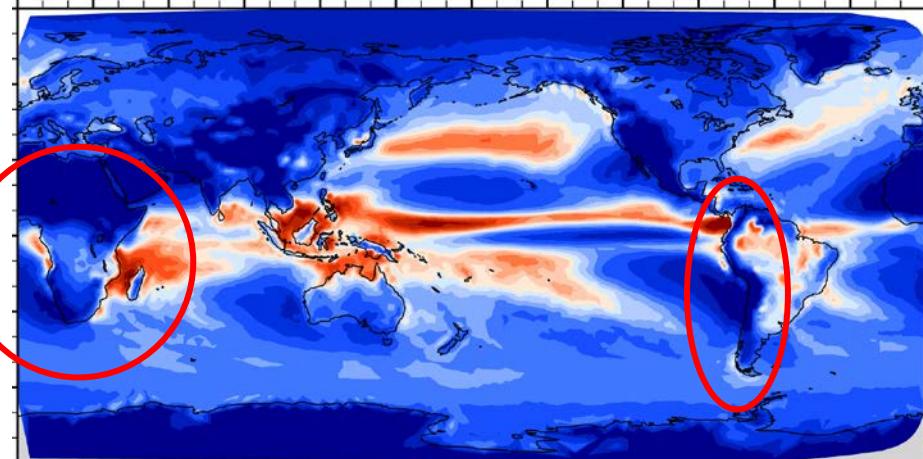
○ FV 1.9x2.5 DJF

max = 16.15



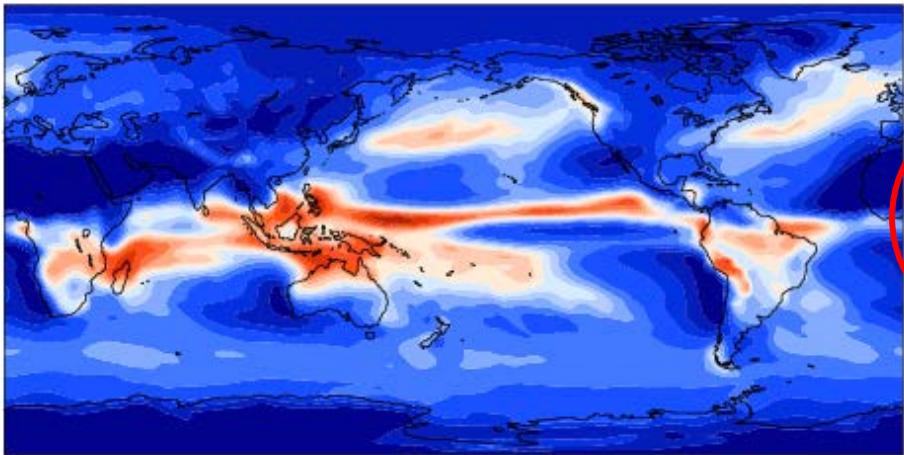
○ MP240a DJF

max = 23.47



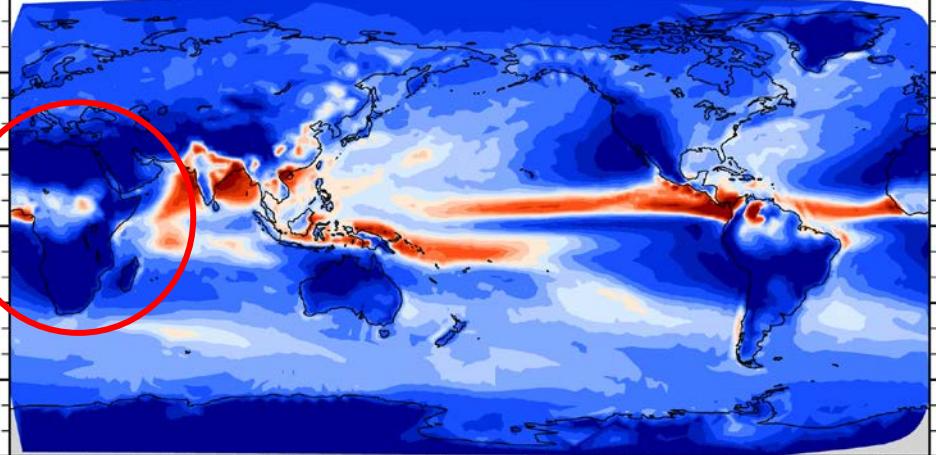
○ FV 1.9x2.5 JJA

max = 35.69



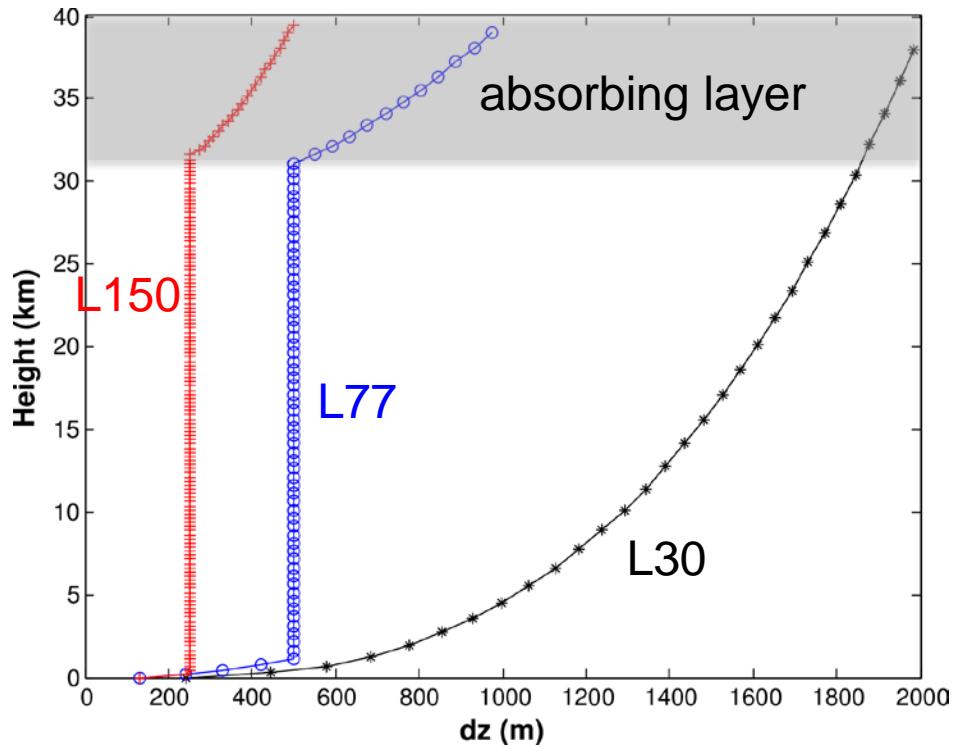
○ MP240a JJA

max = 44.13

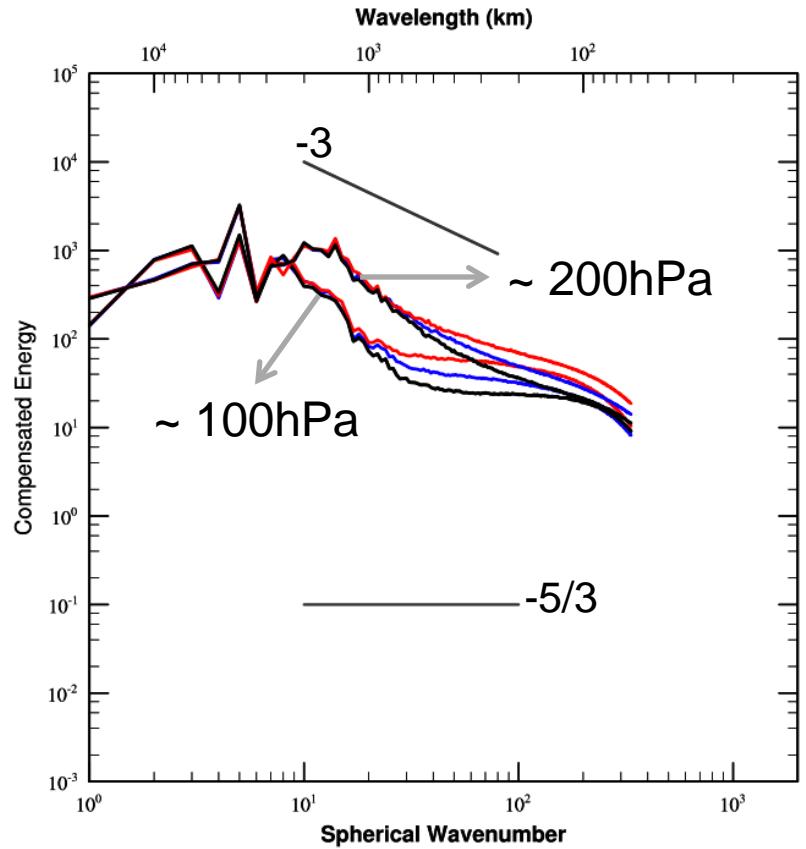


# KE Spectra for MPAS

- Vertical Levels Configurations

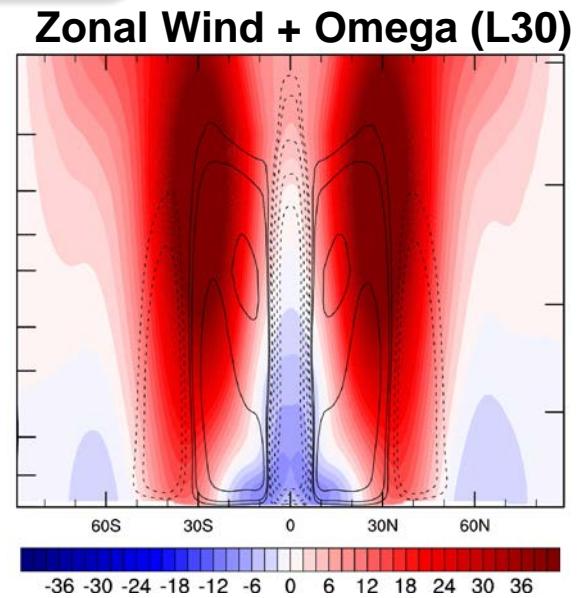
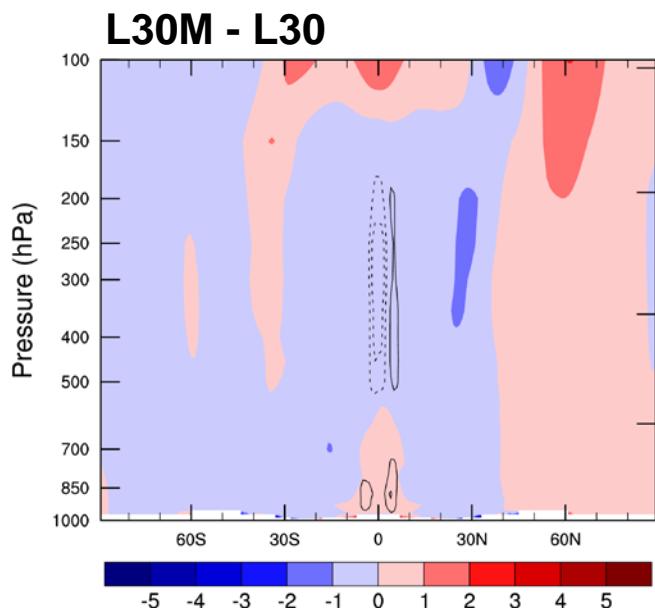
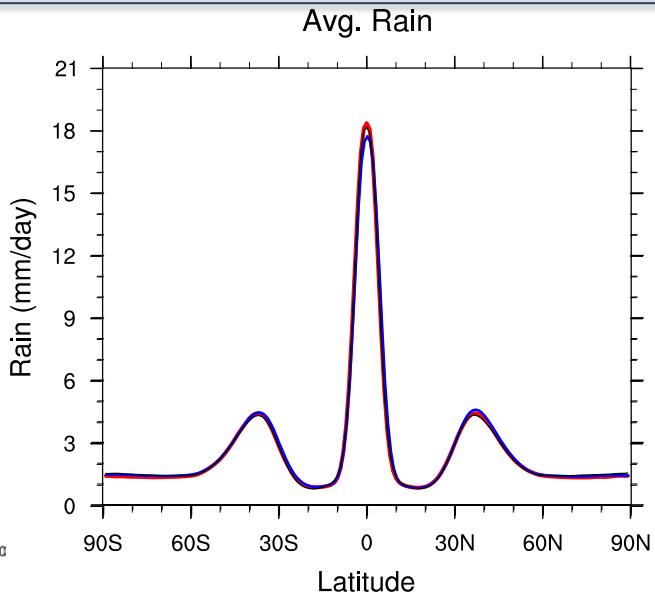
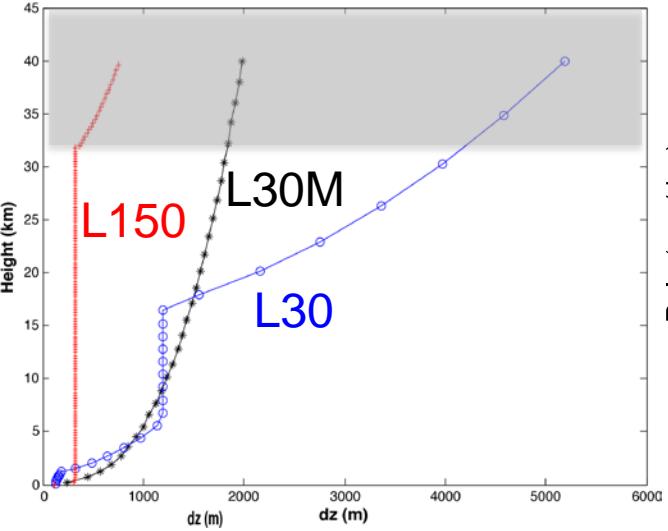


- Global 30km for 10days weather forecasting

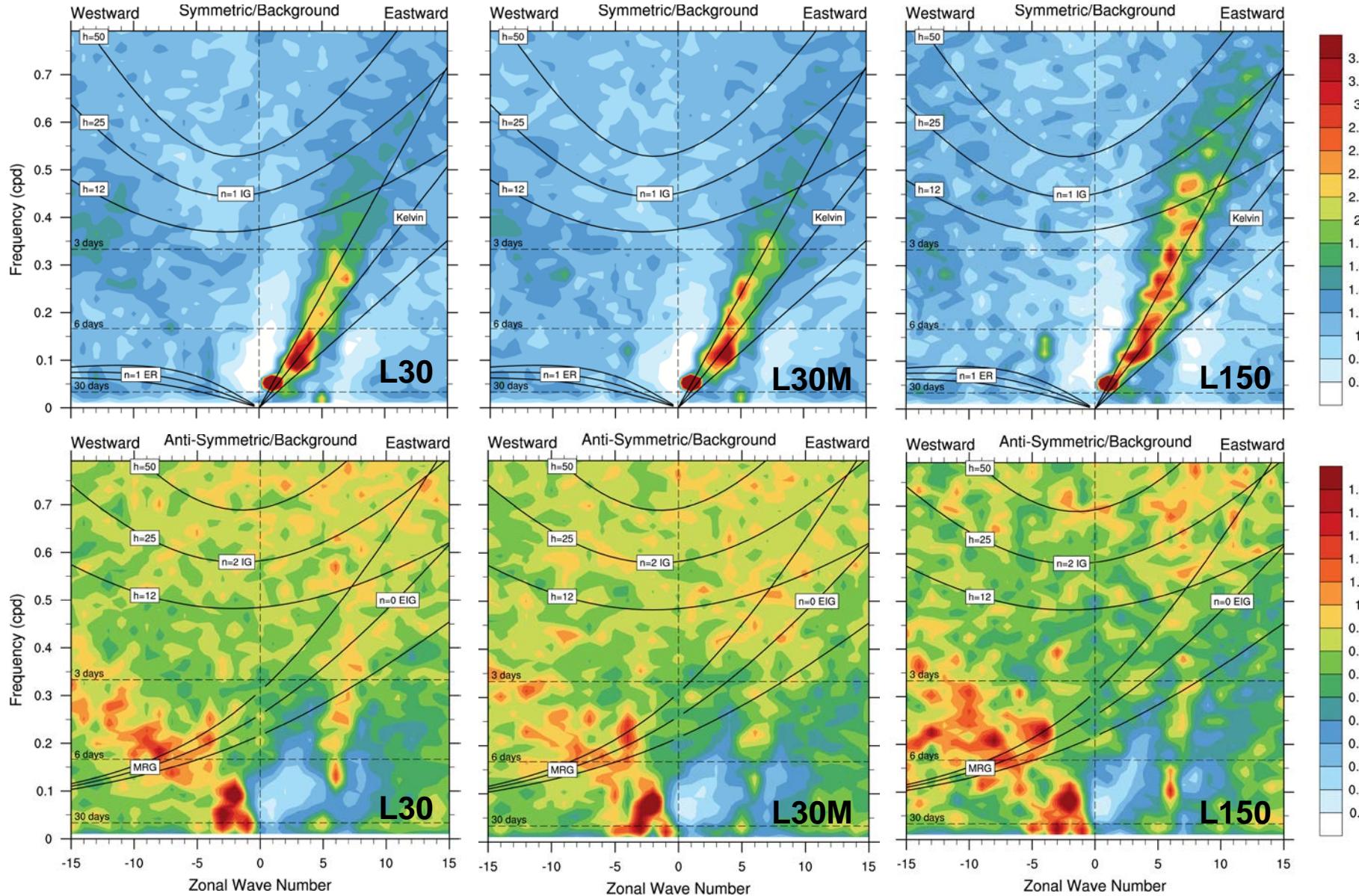


(*in prep. Park et al., 2015*)

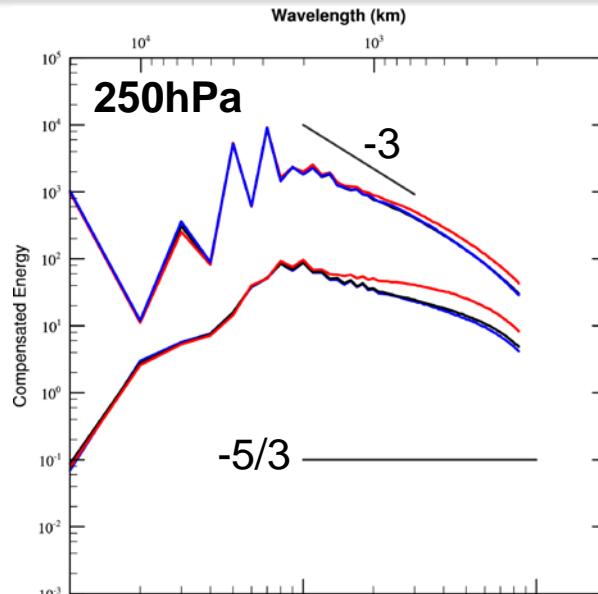
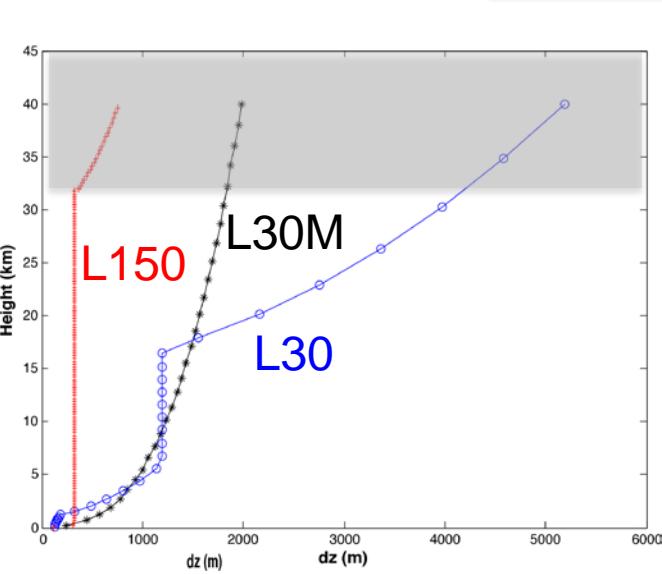
# CAM-MPAS APE



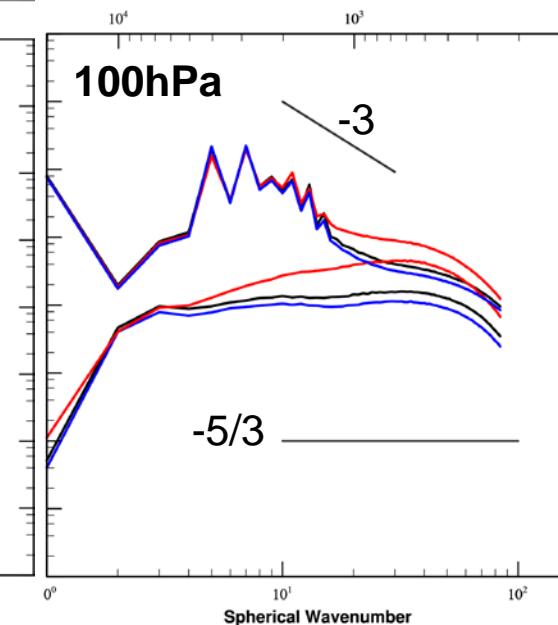
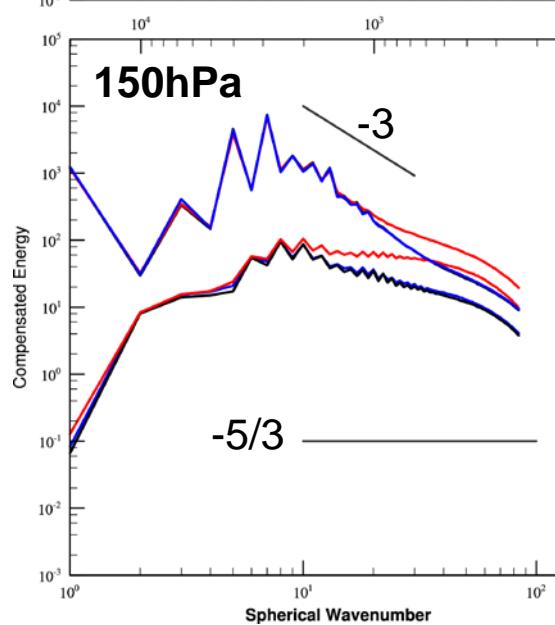
# CAM-MPAS APE



# CAM-MPAS APE



— L30  
— L30M  
— L150



# Summary

- CAM-MPAS will be in the branch very soon
- But, diffusion coefficient should be revised based on the CAM simulations
- Regarding to vertical resolution, sensitivity is shown in CAM-MPAS
- In the KE spectra, the results are not converged yet even in  $dz \sim 250m$
- Very welcome to share idea, information for CAM-MPAS  
(shpark@ucar.edu)

# Future Plans

- More simulations are needed for CAM-MPAS (AMIP type)
- Weather Forecasting using CAM-MPAS (with variable resolution)

The screenshot shows the WRF model website interface. On the left, there's a sidebar for the "MPAS-Atmosphere 2014 Tropical Cyclone Forecast Experiment". It includes text about "Aug. and Sept. 2014 daily 10-day forecasts" and "(1) uniform 15 km mesh (2) var-res 60-15 km meshes". Below this is a globe with concentric circles representing different model resolutions (16 km, 20 km, 30 km, 40 km, 50 km, 55 km). The main content area has a header "WRF > THE WEATHER RESEARCH & FORECASTING MODEL". It features a "Back to the MMM Real-time Modeling Page" link. Below this are five small maps labeled "Precipitation", "Surface Wind", "500 mb Height", "850 mb Height", and "Precipitable Water". A red arrow points from the word "WRF" in the sidebar to the "THE WEATHER RESEARCH & FORECASTING MODEL" header. At the bottom, there's a section titled "Choose an NCAR MPAS 15km Forecast" with tabs for "15km CONUS", "STEP Hydromet 3KM", "FRAPPE 3km", "15km MPAS Forecast" (which is selected), "15km WRF Forecast", and "36KM Hurricane". A dropdown menu under "15km MPAS Forecast" lists various MPAS configurations, with "MPAS UNIFORM 15 KM (Global)" currently selected. The URL at the bottom of the page is [http://wrf-model.org/plots/realtime\\_mpas.php](http://wrf-model.org/plots/realtime_mpas.php).

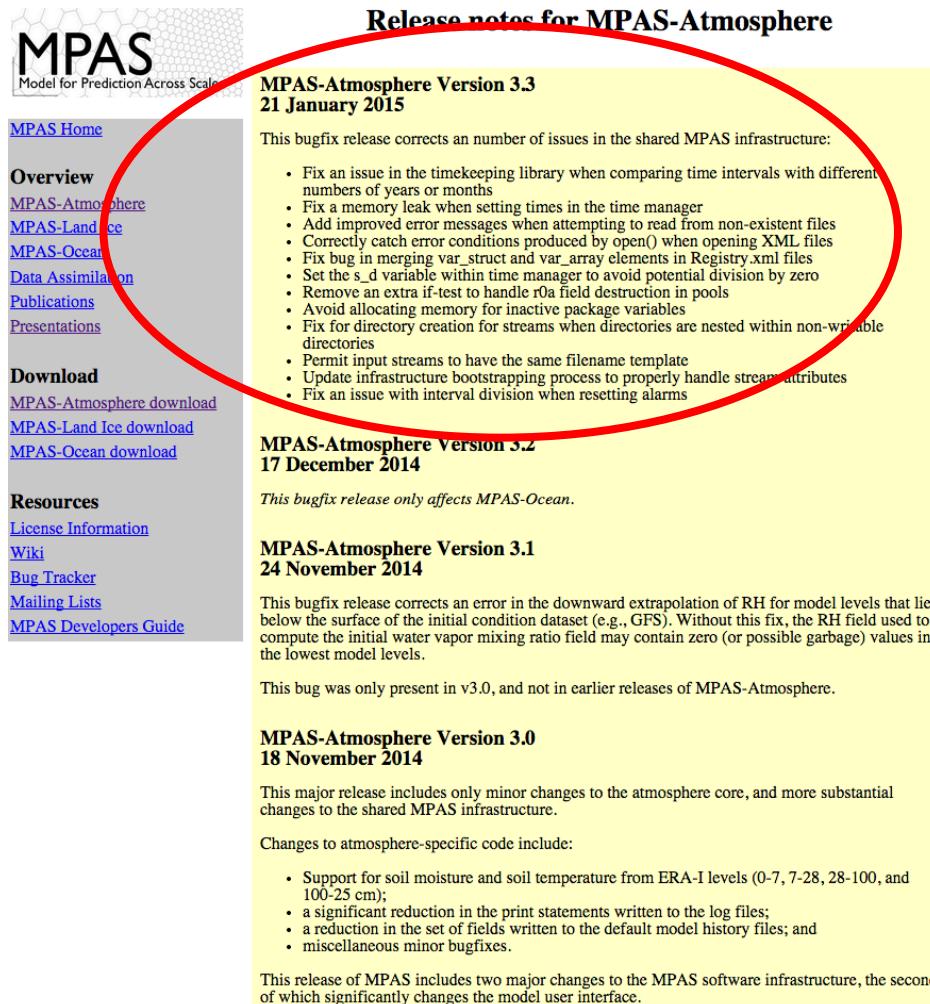
- CAM-MPAS will be up-to-date (current MPAS is v3.3)
- Dynamical core comparison inside of CAM

Thanks for Mike Levy and Mariana Vertenstein

# Current Status of MPAS

MPAS release is available at

**<http://mpas-dev.github.io>**



**Release notes for MPAS-Atmosphere**

**MPAS-Atmosphere Version 3.3**  
21 January 2015

This bugfix release corrects a number of issues in the shared MPAS infrastructure:

- Fix an issue in the timekeeping library when comparing time intervals with different numbers of years or months
- Fix a memory leak when setting times in the time manager
- Add improved error messages when attempting to read from non-existent files
- Correctly catch error conditions produced by open() when opening XML files
- Fix bug in merging var\_struct and var\_array elements in Registry.xml files
- Set the s\_d variable within time manager to avoid potential division by zero
- Remove an extra if-test to handle rba field destruction in pools
- Avoid allocating memory for inactive package variables
- Fix for directory creation for streams when directories are nested within non-writable directories
- Permit input streams to have the same filename template
- Update infrastructure bootstrapping process to properly handle stream attributes
- Fix an issue with interval division when resetting alarms

**MPAS-Atmosphere Version 3.2**  
17 December 2014

*This bugfix release only affects MPAS-Ocean.*

**MPAS-Atmosphere Version 3.1**  
24 November 2014

This bugfix release corrects an error in the downward extrapolation of RH for model levels that lie below the surface of the initial condition dataset (e.g., GFS). Without this fix, the RH field used to compute the initial water vapor mixing ratio field may contain zero (or possible garbage) values in the lowest model levels.

This bug was only present in v3.0, and not in earlier releases of MPAS-Atmosphere.

**MPAS-Atmosphere Version 3.0**  
18 November 2014

This major release includes only minor changes to the atmosphere core, and more substantial changes to the shared MPAS infrastructure.

Changes to atmosphere-specific code include:

- Support for soil moisture and soil temperature from ERA-I levels (0-7, 7-28, 28-100, and 100-25 cm);
- a significant reduction in the print statements written to the log files;
- a reduction in the set of fields written to the default model history files; and
- miscellaneous minor bugfixes.

This release of MPAS includes two major changes to the MPAS software infrastructure, the second of which significantly changes the model user interface.

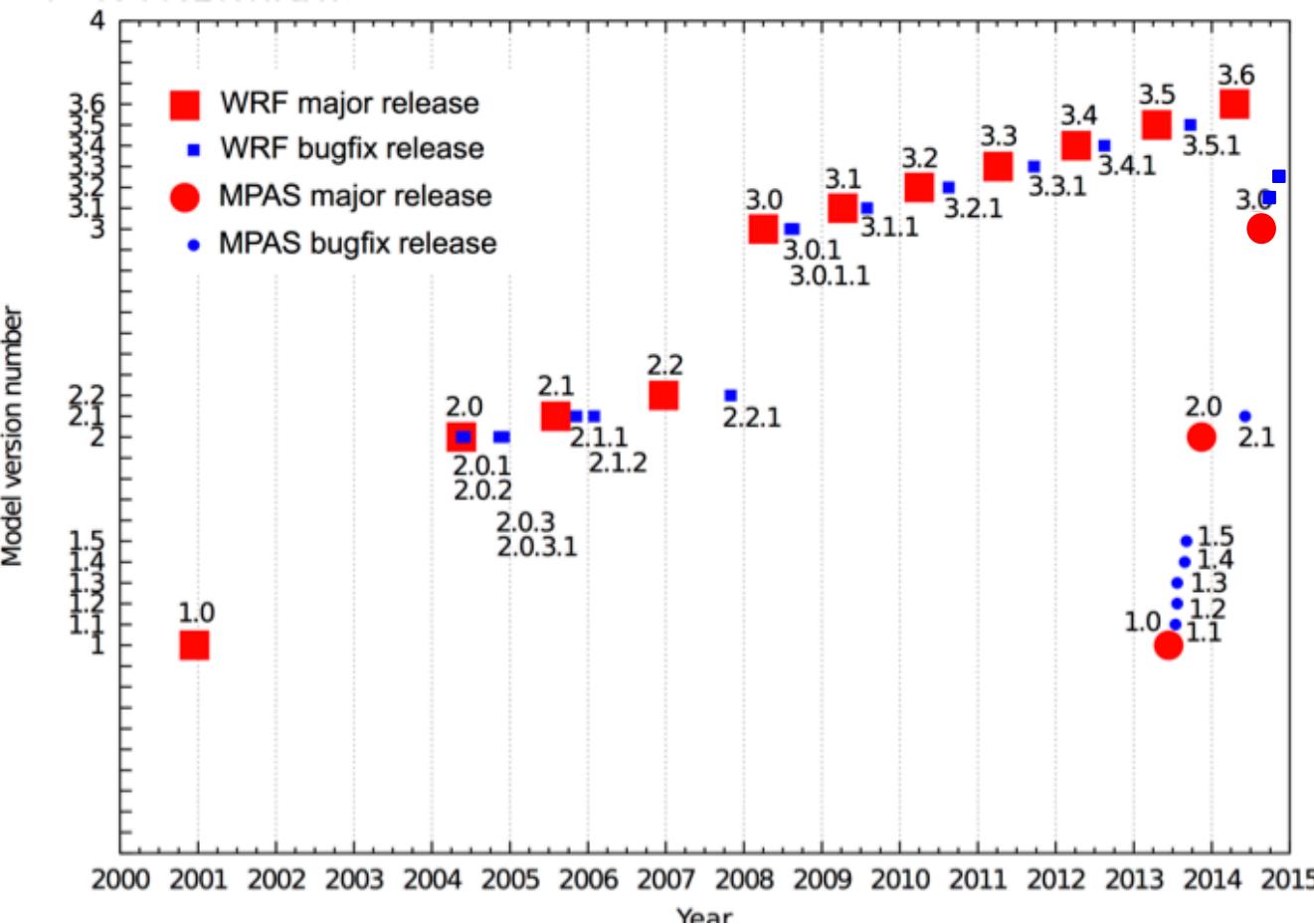
**Current version is : v3.3**

**CAM-MPAS is based on  
v2.0**

# Current Status of MPAS

MPAS release is available at

<http://mpas-dev.github.io>



**Current version is : v3.3**

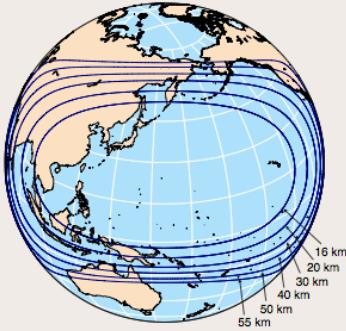
**CAM-MPAS is based on  
v2.0  
(but, major bugs are  
up-to-date)**

# Recent Activity of MPAS

- 10 days weather forecasting (15km) for Typhoon and Hurricane (2014)

**MPAS-Atmosphere**  
2014 Tropical Cyclone  
Forecast Experiment

Aug. and Sept. 2014  
daily 10-day forecasts  
(1) uniform 15 km mesh  
(2) var-res 60-15 km meshes



wrf-model.org/plots/realtime\_mpas.php

Apps For quick access, place your bookmarks here on the bookmarks bar. [Import bookmarks now...](#)

**WRF** THE WEATHER RESEARCH & FORECASTING MODEL

Back to the MMM Real-time Modeling Page

Quick Look (click)

Precipitation Surface Wind 500 mb Height 850 mb Height Precipitable Water

Choose an NCAR MPAS 15km Forecast

15km CONUS	STEP Hydromet 3KM	FRAPPE 3km	15km MPAS Forecast	15km WRF Forecast	36KM Hurricane
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Model Run Initialized At: 2014-11-03 (00 Z)

Forecast Hour: Loop all hours

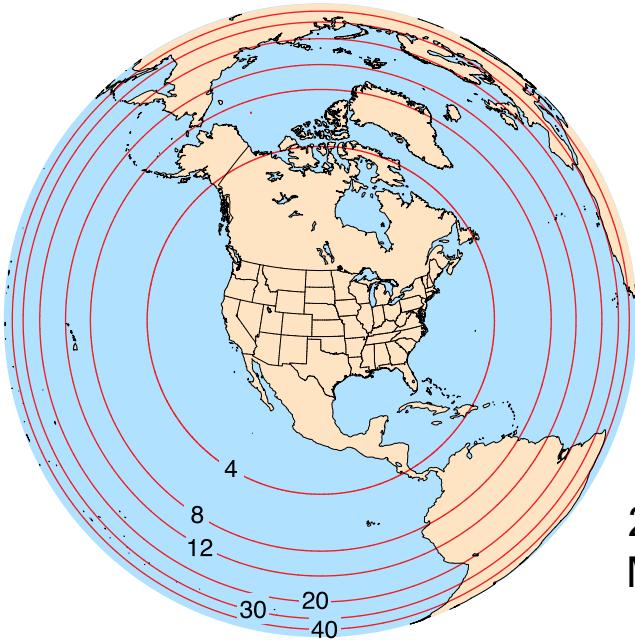
Choose either MPAS 15 km uniform *or* variable grid plots ([MPAS forecast configurations](#))

MPAS UNIFORM 15 KM (Global)  
MPAS UNIFORM 15 KM (Atlantic)  
MPAS UNIFORM 15 KM (East Pacific)  
MPAS UNIFORM 15 KM (West Pacific)  
MPAS VARIABLE 15–60 KM (15 KM over AL)  
MPAS VARIABLE 15–60 KM (Atlantic)  
MPAS VARIABLE 15–60 KM (15 KM over WP)  
MPAS VARIABLE 15–60 KM (W. Pacific)

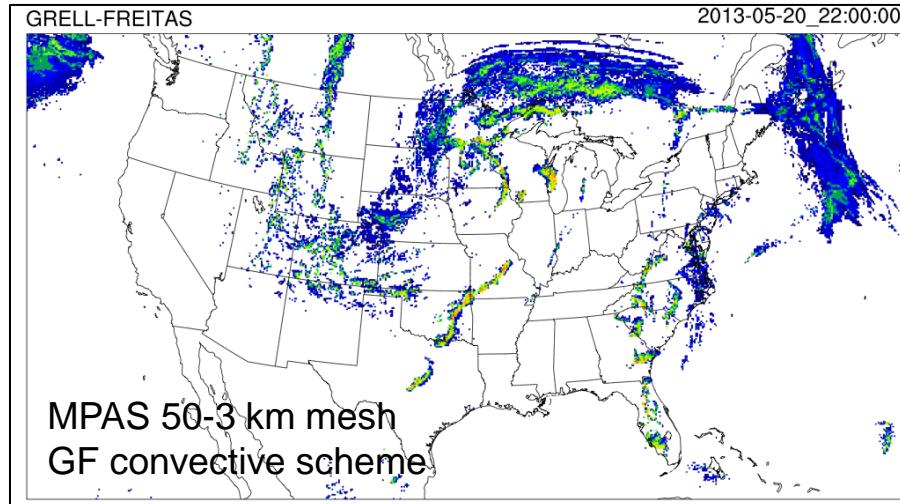
[View Forecast](#) [CLEAR CHOICES](#)



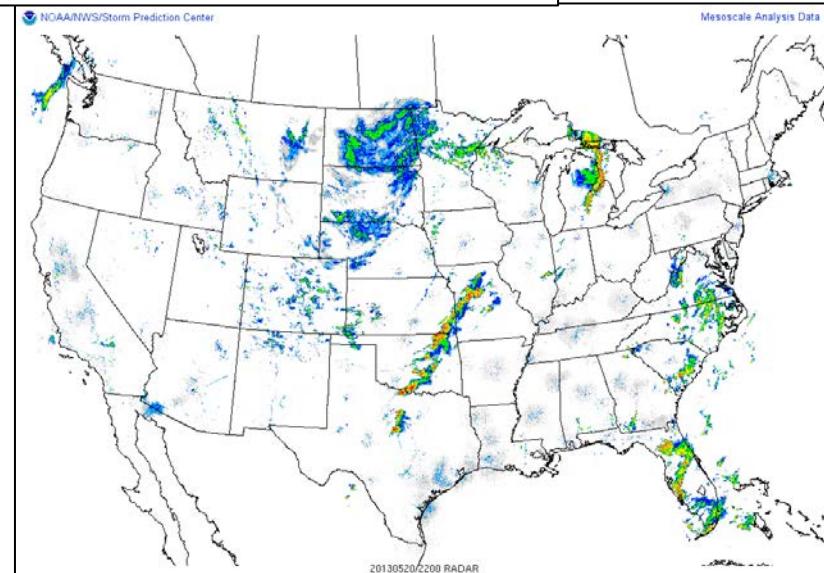
# Recent Activity of MPAS



3-50 km mesh,  $\Delta x$  contours 4, 8, 12, 20, 30, 40  
approximately 6.85 million cells  
68% have  $< 4$  km spacing



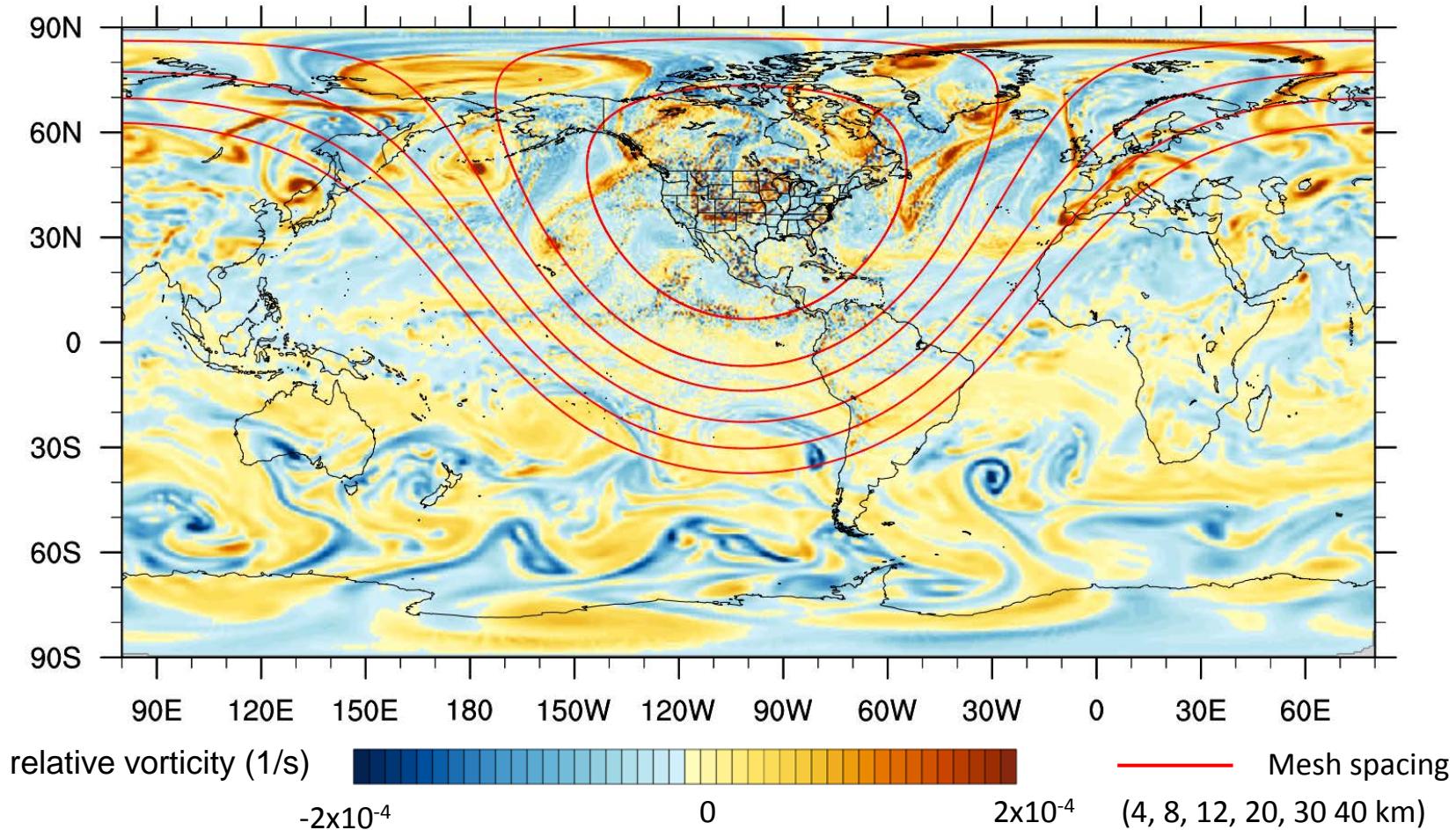
Radar reflectivity  
2013-05-20\_22:00  
Moore OK tornado



# Recent Activity of MPAS

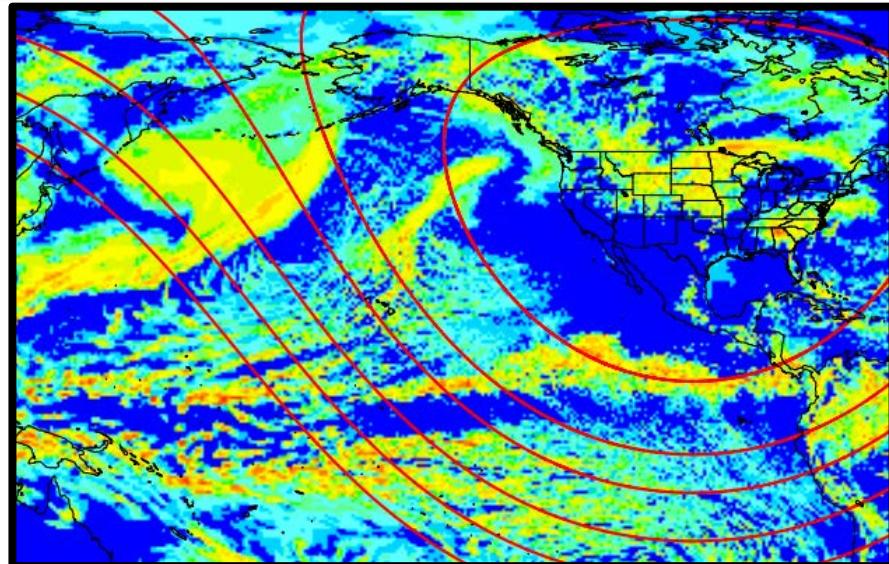
MPAS 50-3 km mesh

2 day 22h forecast valid at 2013-05-20\_22:00 500 hPa relative vorticity

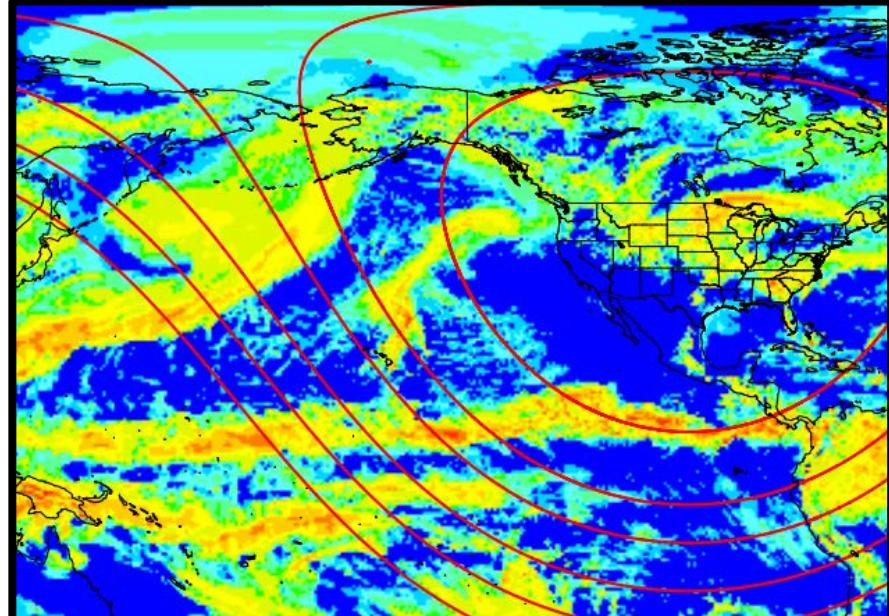


# Recent Activity of MPAS

MPAS 50-3 km mesh,  
No deep convection scheme  
3 day 12h forecast valid at 2013-  
05-21\_12:00  
Accumulated precipitation



MPAS 50-3 km mesh,  
Grell-Freitas convection scheme  
3 day 12h forecast valid at 2013-  
05-21\_12:00  
Accumulated precipitation



— Mesh spacing  
(4, 8, 12, 20, 30 40 km)