

Title: Dataset associated with “Ocean Surface Flux Algorithm Effects on Tropical Indo-Pacific Intraseasonal Precipitation”

Abstract: Surface latent heat fluxes help maintain tropical intraseasonal precipitation. We develop a latent heat flux diagnostic that depicts how latent heat fluxes vary with the near-surface specific humidity vertical gradient (dq) and surface wind speed ($|V|$). Compared to fluxes estimated from $|V|$ and dq measured at tropical moorings and the COARE3.0 algorithm, tropical latent heat fluxes in the NCAR CESM2 and DOE E3SMv1 models are significantly overestimated at $|V|$ and dq extrema. MJO sensitivity to surface flux algorithm is tested with offline and inline flux corrections. The offline correction adjusts model output fluxes toward mooring-estimated fluxes; the inline correction replaces the original bulk flux algorithm with the COARE3.0 algorithm in atmosphere-only simulations of each model. Both corrections reduce the latent heat flux feedback to intraseasonal precipitation, in better agreement with observations, suggesting that model-simulated fluxes are overly supportive for maintaining MJO convection.

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Recommended data citation – Hsu, C.-W., DeMott, C. A., Branson, M., Reeves Eyre, J., & Zeng, X. (2021). Dataset associated with “Ocean Surface Flux Algorithm Effects on Tropical Indo-Pacific Intraseasonal Precipitation.” Colorado State University. Libraries. <http://dx.doi.org/10.25675/10217/234033>

Associated article citation – Hsu, C.-W., DeMott, C. A., Branson, M. D., Reeves Eyre, J., & Zeng, X. (2022). Ocean surface flux algorithm effects on tropical Indo-Pacific intraseasonal precipitation. *Geophysical Research Letters*, 49, e2021GL096968. <https://doi.org/10.1029/2021GL096968>

Format of data files – netCDF, zip

Location where data were collected – the ocean region between 20S-20N and 30E-180

Time period during which data were collected – 1998-2014

File Information – This is a preprocessed dataset generated from the E3SM (E3SM.zip) and CESM2 (CESM2.zip) model run. Each zip file contains three different simulations and 8 variables in each simulation.

E3SM.zip contains:

- E3SM_CLIMO_COARE.nc[S1] – This is a climatology forcing type simulation with surface forcing fixed at 2000 for 6 years with COARE flux algorithm applied.
- E3SM_CLIMO_ORIGINAL.nc – This is a climatology forcing type simulation with surface forcing fixed at 2000 for 6 years with original flux algorithm applied.
- E3SM_COUPLED.nc – This is an ocean-atmosphere coupled simulation from 1998-2014 with original flux algorithm applied.

CESM2.zip contains:

- CESM2_AMIP_COARE.nc – This is an atmosphere-only simulation with surface forcing based on 1998-2014 with COARE flux algorithm applied.
- CESM2_AMIP_ORIGINAL.nc – This is an atmosphere-only simulation with surface forcing based on 1998-2014 with original flux algorithm applied.
- CESM2_COUPLED.nc – This is an ocean-atmosphere coupled simulation from 1998-2014 with original flux algorithm applied.

Definitions of acronyms, site abbreviations, or other project-specific designations used in the data file names or documentation files

E3SM – Energy Exascale Earth System Model

CESM2 – Community Earth System Model Version 2

Variable information –

PS – surface pressure (Pa)

TS – surface temperature (K)

hfls – latent heat flux (W m^{-2})

pr – precipitation ($\text{kg m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$)

huss – surface specific humidity (kg/kg)

sfcWind – surface wind speed (m s^{-1})

qsurf – surface saturated specific humidity (kg/kg)

dq – specific humidity disequilibrium (kg/kg)

Method(s)

1. Crop the data to the desired time period (1998-2014) and region of interest (between 20S-20N and 90E-180)
2. Calculate surface saturated specific humidity based on surface temperature and surface pressure
3. Calculate specific humidity disequilibrium based on surface specific humidity and surface saturated specific humidity

Software – Python 3.8

Limitations to reuse – None