Project: 974

Project title: HD(CP)2-II S5 (Cloud and Convective Organization)

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The HD(CP)² (High definition clouds and precipitation for advancing climate prediction) is a framework project funded by BMBF. The subproject S5 of phase II is about cloud and convective organization.

Key activities and achievements in 2016:

- ICON-NARVAL simulations (Fig.1): Convection resolving simulations with ICON over the tropical Atlantic accompanying the NARVAL-II campaign were successfully completed. Over 60 days were simulated within the period of the observational campaigns NARVAL-I (Dec 2013) and NARVAL-II (Aug 2016). These synoptic realistic simulations feature emergent phenomena in unprecedented detail, ranging from cold-pools of small cumuli, interacting squall lines of deep convection to hurricanes evolving from breaking easterly waves.
 - The simulations were performed in cooperation of with the HErZ group (Daniel Klocke (DWD) and Cathy Hohenegger (MPI-M). By combining resources from DWD, the full granted computing time in bm0974 was not consumed.
- The results of the ICON NARVAL simulations are further used as input data to large-eddy simulations with ICON-LEM over the tropical Atlantic within the HD(CP)2 M project.
- Great progress was made by applying satellite foreword operators to the model data and segmenting the cloud field in individual identities. A wide range of cloud statistics were derived which are currently evaluated in terms of convective aggregation.
- Improved understanding how radiation drives convective organization (Fig.2): The new method to compute 3D radiative transfer, developed in HD(CP)² phase I, was applied. By disentangling the various feedbacks and mechanisms, related to radiative heating, the influence on the cloud field evolution was studied.

Used resources:

- The work storage was a limiting factor as the produced data amounts exceeded the initial expectations.
- Despite the great scientific advancement, a fair amount of computing resources left unused, which was primarily given by the maternity leave of Rieke Heinze and Matthias Brueck starting only after June.





Fig.1: Convection resolving ICON simulations over the tropical Atlantic: high values of column

integrated ice water indicate region of deep convection. Note the wide range of horizontal scales of aggregation (Matthias Brueck, MPI-M)



Fig. 2: Shallow Cumulus cloud simulations with UCLA-LES driven with 1D radiative transfer (Twostream, top panel) and 3D radiative transfer (TenStream, bottom). Shown are surface fluxes (sensible and latent heat, L+H) and cloud liquid water content(LWC). The position of the sun in the case of 3D radiative transfer organizes the convection in cloud streets. (Fabian Jakub, LMU)

Publications

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