

#### Atmospheric Physics Computational Models and Data Analysis



Joseph J. Trout, Ph.D. Drexel University Joseph.trout@drexel.edu 610-348-6495 A Presentation to the Physics Department at the Richard Stockton State College of New Jersey Wednesday, 2 March 2011

### I. A Short Course on Atmospheric Physics

- II. ERICA Aircraft Data
- III. Cyclone Models
- **IV. LAMPS90 NWP Model Simulations**
- V. Data Analysis Wavelets



## A Short Course on Atmospheric Physics



#### Front:

A front may be defined as a sloping zone of pronounced transition in the thermal and wind fields. Consequently, they are characterized by a combination of:

A. Large Static Stability
B. Large Horizontal Temperature Gradient .
C. Absolute Vorticity ( horizontal wind shear).
D. Vertical Wind Shear.

When depicted on a quasi-horizontal surfaces, fronts appear as long, narrow features in which the along front scale is typically an order of magnitude greater than the across front scale. (1000-2000 km versus 100-200 km). (Keyser, 1986)



 $10 \, km \approx 6.21 \, miles$ 

## Front:

#### A front is an "elongated" zone of "strong" temperature gradient and relatively large static stability and cyclonic vorticity. (Bluestein, 1986)



 $10 \, km \approx 6.21 \, miles$ 

#### Front:

A front is an "elongated" zone of "strong" temperature gradient and relatively large static stability and cyclonic vorticity. (Bluestein, 1986)

•<u>Strong</u> - At least an order of magnitude greater than the synoptic scale value of 10 K/ 1000 km.

•<u>Elongated</u> - A zone whose length is roughly half an order of magnitude greater than its width.

•<u>Static Stability</u> - Buoyancy forces and gravitational forces lead to decelerating a parcel's upward motion

•<u>Cyclonic Vorticity</u> - The curl (turning) of the wind with counter clockwise cyclonic circulation around a low in N. H. being positive.



#### **Zero Order Model**



7

#### Drexel UNIVERSITY

#### First Order Model

#### Cold Front – "Cold" Air Mass Replaces "Warm" Air Mass.







#### Cold Front – "Cold" Air Mass Replaces "Warm" Air Mass.







Cold-Type Occlusion – Air behind advancing cold front colder than cool air ahead of warm front





Warm-Type Occlusion – Air behind the advancing cold front is not as cold as the air ahead of the warm front.









Terminology:





#### **Vorticity :**

Defined as the curl of a vector. It is the rotation of air around a vertical axis.

Front

Cold

Warm



#### **Convergence (Divergence) :**

Convergence - The winds result in a net inflow of air. Generally associate this type of convergence with low-pressure areas, where convergence of winds toward the center of the low results in an increase of mass into the low and an upward motion.

Divergence – The winds produce a net flow of air outward. Generally associated with high-pressure cells, where the flow of air is directed outward from the center, causing a downward motion.

#### **Virtual Temperature:**

Virtual Temperature takes into account the moisture dependence of an air parcel. Virtual Temperature is the temperature that makes the ideal gas equation correct when considering moist air.

$$T_{v} = (1 + 0.6 q) T$$

 $T_v$  = Virtual Temperature q = Mixing Ratio = Ratio of mass of water vapor to mass of dry air. T = Temperature PV = nRT Ideal Gas Law



#### **Potential Temperature:**

Potential Temperature is the temperature an air parcel would have if it were bought adiabatically to a reference pressure of 1000mb.

$$\Theta \approx T \left( \frac{P_o}{P} \right)^{R/cp}$$

 $\theta$ =Potential Temperature T = Temperature of the Air Parcel  $P_o$ =Reference Pressure (1000 mb) P = Pressure of the Air Parcel R = Universal Gas Constant  $C_P$ = Specific Heat at Constant Pressure



#### **Equivalent Potential Temperature:**

Equivalent Potential Temperature is the temperature an air parcel would have if it were bought adiabatically to a reference pressure of 1000mb and all the moisture condensed out and the latent heat used to warm the parcel.

$$\theta_e \approx \theta \, e^{\left(\frac{L_C q_s}{C_P T}\right)}$$

 $\theta_e =$ Equivalent Potential Temperature

 $\theta =$  Potential Temperature

- T = Temperature of the Air Parcel
- R = Universal Gas Constant

 $C_P$  = Specific Heat at Constant Pressure





# Experiment on Rapidly Intensifying Cyclones over the Atlantic (ERICA)

#### Data collected by aircraft.





#### This is what I want.





#### This is what I received.





#### **Virtual Temperature**





#### **Potential Temperature**



Distance Through Front [ km ]



















## **Cyclone Models**







UNIVERSITY

## Stages in the Life Cycle of a Mid-latitude Wave Cyclone





















(c) Cyclonic circulation established

(d) Occlusion begins





(e) Occluded front developed





(f) Cyclone dissipates




### Cloud Patterns – Mature Wave Cyclone





# Limited Area Mesoscale Prediction System

(LAMPS 90)



Conservation of Horizontal Momentum



Conservation of Horizontal Momentum

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \left(-u\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} - v\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} - w\frac{\partial u}{\partial z}\right) - \frac{1}{\rho}\frac{\partial P}{\partial y} + fv + \frac{uv}{r_e}\tan\alpha + \frac{\partial u}{\partial t_{conv}} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial t_s}$$
$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} = \left(-u\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} - v\frac{\partial v}{\partial y} - w\frac{\partial v}{\partial z}\right) - \frac{1}{\rho}\frac{\partial P}{\partial y} + fu + \frac{u^2}{r_e}\tan\alpha + \frac{\partial v}{\partial t_{conv}} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial t_s}$$
$$\mathbf{i}. \qquad \mathbf{i}. \qquad \mathbf{i}. \qquad \mathbf{i}. \qquad \mathbf{i}. \qquad \mathbf{v}. \qquad \mathbf{v}. \qquad \mathbf{v}. \qquad \mathbf{v}. \qquad \mathbf{v}. \qquad \mathbf{v}.$$

- i. local time change
- ii. advection
- iii. pressure gradient force
- iv. Coriolis force
- v. curvature term
- vi. convective transport
- vii. eddy transport



Conservation of Vertical Momentum  $\frac{\partial w}{\partial t} = \left(-u\frac{\partial w}{\partial x} - v\frac{\partial w}{\partial y} - w\frac{\partial w}{\partial z}\right) - \frac{1}{\rho}\frac{\partial P}{\partial z} - g + \frac{u^2 + v^2}{r_e} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial t_{conv}} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial t_s}$ i. ii. iv. v. vi. vi. vii.

- i. local time change
- ii. advection
- iii. pressure gradient force
- iv. gravity
- v. curvature term
- vi. convective transport
- vii. eddy transport



Conservation of Thermal Energy



$$+\frac{1}{\rho c_{P}}\left(\frac{\partial P}{\partial t}+u\frac{\partial P}{\partial x}+v\frac{\partial P}{\partial y}-w\frac{\partial P}{\partial z}\right)+\frac{\partial T}{\partial t_{conv}}+\frac{\partial T}{\partial t_{rad}}+\frac{\partial T}{\partial t_{s}}$$
iv. vi. vii.

- i. local time change
- ii. advection
- iii. latent heat (condensation/evaporation)
- iv. compressional warming
- v. convective transport
- vi. radiation (heating/cooling)
- vii. eddy transport



Conservation of Mass  

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = \left( -u \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x} - v \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial y} - w \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial z} \right) + \left( -\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} \right)$$
i. iii.

- i. local time change
- ii. advection
- iii. divergence

Ideal Gas Law PV = nRt $P = \rho R T$ 



#### **Incoming and Outgoing Long and Short Wave Radiation**

$$R_{N} = K \uparrow + K \downarrow + I \downarrow + I \uparrow - G = Q_{*} - G$$

$$K \downarrow = \begin{cases} ST_{k} \sin \Psi & daytime, \quad \sin \Psi > 0 \\ 0 & nighttime, \quad \sin \Psi \le 0 \end{cases}$$

$$elevation \ angle \quad \sin \Psi = \sin \phi \, \sin \delta_{s} - \cos \phi \, \cos \delta_{s} \cos \left[ \left( \frac{\pi t_{UTC}}{12} \right) + \lambda \right]$$

$$\phi \quad latitude$$

$$\lambda \quad \log itude$$

$$\delta_{s} = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{\sin t_{l} \sin o_{b}}{\sqrt{1 - x^{2}}} \right) \quad solar \ declination \qquad t_{l} \ celestial \ longitude$$

$$o_{b} = .409095$$



#### There are eight variables required to start the model:

- 1. East-West Components of the Horizontal Wind
- 2. North-South Components of the Horizontal Wind
- 3. Temperature
- 4. Moisture
- 5. Pressure
- 6. Terrain
- 7. Surface Water Coverage
- 8. Surface Temperature





88/12/13/1200Z 88/12/13/1200Zinit



Drexel UNIVERSITY

#### **Incipient Frontal Cyclone**

)

2.ØØ H

88/12/13/1800Z 88/12/13/1200Zinit





**Frontal Fracture** 

2.ØØ H

88/12/14/0200Z 88/12/13/1200Zinit





#### **Bent Back and T- Bone Phase**

2.ØØ H

88/12/14/1400Z 88/12/13/1200Zinit





Warm Core Frontal Seclusion





**Terrain Following Coordinates** 











Drexel UNIVERSITY





Drexel UNIVERSITY













# **Data Analysis**

# **Fourier versus Wavelet**



## Computation of Fourier Series on Interval $-\pi \leq x \leq +\pi$

$$f(x) = a_o + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left[ a_k \cos(kx) + b_k \sin(kx) \right]$$

Fourier Coefficients of the Function f(x):

$$a_{0} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-a}^{a} f(x) dt$$
$$a_{k} = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-a}^{a} f(x) \cos(kx) dt$$
$$b_{k} = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-a}^{a} f(x) \sin(kx) dt$$



# Computation of Fourier Series on Interval $-\pi \leq x \leq \pi$



### Computation of Fourier Series on Interval -a <= x <= a

1.8 1.6 - k=0 k=2 1.4 -k=3 **-** k=4 1.2 -k=5 **-**k=6 — k=7 1 — k=8 k=9 k=10 0.8 -0.6 0.4 0.2 0 -6.28 -3.14 1.57 3.14 -4.71 -1.57 0 4.71 6.28

Sawtooth



 $S_{10}(x) = \frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{2}{\pi} \sum_{k=0}^{1} \frac{1}{(2k+1)^2} \cos((4k+2)x)$ 

Х

f(x)

62

**Even** 

#### Fast Fourier Transform (FFT)





Original Signal discretized with  $2^8 = 256$  points.  $0 \le t \le 2\pi$ 

### Fast Fourier Transform (FFT)





Original Signal discretized with  $2^8 = 256$  points.  $0 \le t \le 2\pi$ Sun Performance Library FFT used to generate the Discrete Fourier Coefficients  $\hat{y}_k$ , k = 0, ..., 255. 64 Noise has a frequency that is larger than 5 cycles per  $2\pi$  interval.

#### Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) – Use to Filter out Noise.





Original Signal discretized with  $2^8 = 256$  points.  $0 \le t \le 2\pi$ Sun Performance Library FFT used to generate the Discrete Fourier Coefficients  $\hat{y}_k$ , k=0,...,255. Noise has a frequency that is larger than 5 cycles per  $2\pi$  interval. Keep only  $\hat{y}_k$  for  $0 \le k \le 5$  and set  $\hat{y}_k = 0.0$  for  $6 \le k \le 128$ . By Theorem,  $\hat{y}_k = 0$  for  $128 \le k \le 250$ . Applying FFT to filter  $\hat{y}_k$ 



### **III. What is a wavelet?**



# Haar Wavelet Analysis

Scaling Function:  $\phi$  Sometimes called the Father Wavelet.

Wavelet :  $\Psi$  Sometimes called the Mother Wavelet.



Haar Scaling Function

# **Haar Wavelet Analysis**

Scaling Function: $\phi$ Sometimes called the Father Wavelet.Wavelet : $\psi$ Sometimes called the Mother Wavelet.

Haar Scalir







## Haar Wavelet Analysis

Scaling Function:  $\phi$  Sometimes called the Father Wavelet.

Wavelet :  $\psi$  Sometimes called the Mother Wavelet.



$$\psi(x) = \phi(2x) - \phi(2(x-1/2)) = \phi(2x) - \phi(2x-1)$$



# **Other Wavelets - Shannon** $\psi(x) = \frac{\sin(\pi x)}{2}$



 $\pi x$ 





**Other Wavelets – Linear Spline** 

$$\psi(x) = -x e^{\frac{-x^2}{2}}$$



Х



## **Other Wavelets**

#### 1)Haar

- Compact Support
- Discontinuous
- 2)Shannon
  - Very Smooth
  - Extend throughout the whole real line
  - Decay at infinity very slowly
- 3)Linear Spline
  - Continuous
  - Have infinite support
  - Decay rapidly at infinity

Finite or Compact Support

Let  $V_0$  be the space of all functions of the form:  $\sum_{k=1}^{n} a_k \phi(x-k) = a_k \in R$ 

where k range over set of positive or negative integers. Since k ranges over a finite set, each element of  $V_0$  is zero outside a bounded set.


### **Other Wavelets - Daubechies**

# **Enter Ingrid Daubechies:**

- •Simplest is Haar wavelet, only discontinuous wavelet.
- •Others are continuous and compactly supported.
- •As you move up hierarchy, become increasingly smooth (have prescribed number of continuous derivative).



#### **Other Wavelets - Daubechies**







DAUB4

DAUB4 Recurrence Relation:  $\Phi(r) = h_0 \Phi(2r) + h_1 \Phi(2r-1) + h_2 \Phi(2r-2) + h_3 \Phi(2r-3)$ 

#### Say you want to approximate 12+1 points.

. . . . . . . . . . . . .

Initial Values : r = 0, 1, 2, 3

First Iteration: 
$$r = \frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2}, \frac{5}{2}$$
  
Second Iteration:  $r = \frac{1}{4}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{5}{4}, \frac{7}{4}, \frac{9}{4}, \frac{11}{4}$ <sup>75</sup>



### **Other Wavelets - Daubechies**

The function  $\phi$  serves as the basic building block for its associated wavelet, denoted by  $\psi$ , and defined by the following recursion:

$$\begin{split} \psi(r) &\equiv -\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{3}}{4}\right) \Phi(2r-1) + \left(\frac{3+\sqrt{3}}{4}\right) \Phi(2r) - \left(\frac{3-\sqrt{3}}{4}\right) \Phi(2r+1) + \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{3}}{4}\right) \Phi(2r+2) \\ \psi(r) &\equiv -h_0 \Phi(2r-1) + h_1 \Phi(2r) - h_2 \Phi(2r+1) + h_3 \Phi(2r+2) \end{split}$$

 $\Psi(r) = (-1)^{(1)} h_{1-1} \Phi(2r-1) + (-1)^{(0)} h_{1-0} \Phi(2r-0) + (-1)^{(-1)} h_{1-[-1]} \Phi(2r-[-1]) + (-1)^{(-2)} h_{1-[-2]} \Phi(2r-[-2]) + (-1)^{(-1)} h_{1-[-2]} \Phi(2r-[-2]) +$ 

Because  $\phi(r)=0$  if  $r \le 0$  or  $r \ge 3$ , it follows that  $\psi(r)=0$  if  $2r+2 \le 0$  or  $2r-1 \ge 3$ , or, equivalently, if,  $r \le -1$  or  $r \ge 2$ . For values r such that -1 < r < 2, the recursion yields  $\psi(r)$ .





# **Using Wavelets to Filter Data**





Original Signal discretized with  $2^8 = 256$  points.  $0 \le t \le 2\pi$ Numerical Recipes Daub 8 used to generate wavelet coefficients  $\hat{y}_k$ , k = 0, ..., 255. Keep only wavelet coefficients with a magnitude > 1.



### Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) – Use to Filter out Noise.





Original Signal discretized with  $2^8 = 256$  points.  $0 \le t \le 2\pi$ Sun Performance Library FFT used to generate the Discrete Fourier Coefficients  $\hat{y}_k$ , k=0,...,255. Noise has a frequency that is larger than 5 cycles per  $2\pi$  interval. Keep only  $\hat{y}_k$  for  $0 \le k \le 5$  and set  $\hat{y}_k = 0.0$  for  $6 \le k \le 128$ . By Theorem,  $\hat{y}_k = 0$  for  $128 \le k \le 250$ . Applying FFT to filter  $\hat{y}_k$ 



# **IV. Comparison of DWT to FFT**



# **Comparison of DWT to FFT** $f(t)=2\sin(2\pi f_1 t)+3\sin(2\pi f_2 t)+\sin(2\pi f_3 t)$

$$f_1 = 5 Hz$$
  
$$f_2 = 20 Hz$$
  
$$f_3 = 80 Hz$$

Three Mixed Frequencies





#### **Comparison of DWT to FFT** $f_1 = 5 Hz$ $f_2 = 20 Hz$ $f(t) = 2 \sin(2\pi f_1 t) + 3 \sin(2\pi f_2 t) + \sin(2\pi f_3 t)$ $f_3 = 80 Hz$

Three Mixed Frequencies





#### **Comparison of DWT to FFT** $f_1 = 5 Hz$ $f_2 = 20 Hz$ $f_2 = 20 Hz$ $f_3 = 80 Hz$

Wavelet - Contour Plot

 $333111\_cont\_plot.txt$ 



**Comparison of DWT to FFT**  

$$f(t) = 2\sin(2\pi f_1 t) + 3\sin(2\pi f_2 t)$$

$$f(t) = 2\sin(2\pi f_1 t) + \sin(2\pi f_3 t)$$

 $f_1 = 5 Hz$  $f_2 = 20 Hz$  $f_3 = 80 Hz$ 

Three Frequencies





**Comparison of DWT to FFT**  

$$f(t) = 2\sin(2\pi f_1 t) + 3\sin(2\pi f_2 t)$$

$$f(t) = 2\sin(2\pi f_1 t) + \sin(2\pi f_3 t)$$

Three Frequencies





 $f_1 = 5 Hz$ 

 $f_2 = 20 Hz$ 

 $f_{3} = 80 Hz$ 

# **Comparison of DWT to FFT**

$$f(t) = 2\sin\left(2\pi f_1 t\right) + 3\sin\left(2\pi f_2 t\right)$$

 $f_1 = 5 Hz$  $f_2 = 20 Hz$  $f_3 = 80 Hz$ 

$$f(t) = 2\sin\left(2\pi f_1 t\right) + \sin\left(2\pi f_3 t\right)$$

Wavelet - Contour Plot

333222\_cont\_plot.txt



Comparison of DWT to FFT  

$$f_1 = 2 \sin(2\pi f_1 t) + 3 \sin(2\pi f_2 t)$$
  
 $f(t) = 2 \sin(2\pi f_1 t) + \sin(2\pi f_3 t)$   
File Name: 333222\_w4out.txt  
 $f_1 = 2 \sin(2\pi f_1 t) + \sin(2\pi f_3 t)$ 

Comparison of DWT to FFT  

$$f_1 = 5 Hz$$
  
 $f_2 = 20 Hz$   
 $f_3 = 80 Hz$   
 $f(t) = 2 \sin(2\pi f_1 t) + \sin(2\pi f_3 t)$   
File Name: 333222\_w5out.txt  
 $f_1 = 0$   
 $f_1 = 5 Hz$   
 $f_2 = 20 Hz$   
 $f_3 = 80 Hz$   
 $f(t) = 2 \sin(2\pi f_1 t) + \sin(2\pi f_3 t)$ 

Drexel

Comparison of DWT to FFT  

$$f(t) = 2 \sin(2\pi f_1 t) + 3 \sin(2\pi f_2 t)$$
  
 $f(t) = 2 \sin(2\pi f_1 t) + \sin(2\pi f_3 t)$   
File Name: 333222\_w6out.txt  
 $\int_{0}^{16} \int_{0}^{0} \int_{0}^{0}$ 

UNIVERSITY

Comparison of DWT to FFT  

$$f_1 = 5 H_2$$
  
 $f_2 = 20 H_2$   
 $f_3 = 80 H_2$   
 $f(t) = 2 \sin(2\pi f_1 t) + \sin(2\pi f_3 t)$   
File Name: 333222\_w7out.txt  
 $\int_{0}^{1} \frac{1}{2} \int_{0}^{1} \frac{1}$ 

Comparison of DWT to FFT  

$$f_1 = 5 Hz$$
  
 $f_2 = 20 Hz$   
 $f_3 = 80 Hz$   
 $f(t) = 2 \sin(2\pi f_1 t) + \sin(2\pi f_3 t)$   
File Name: 333222\_w8out.txt  
 $f_1 = 5 Hz$   
 $f_3 = 80 Hz$   
 $f(t) = 2 \sin(2\pi f_1 t) + \sin(2\pi f_3 t)$ 









Wavelet - Contour Plot

3087311062787\_cont\_plot.txt





Wavelet - Contour Plot

 $3087311062787\_cont\_plot.txt$ 







Wavelet - Contour Plot

3087311062787\_cont\_plot.txt





Wavelet - Contour Plot

 $3087311062787\_cont\_plot.txt$ 







**Conclusions:** 

1.) The structure of the fronts was found from the data collected.

2.) The model reproduced the cyclone well, even though the resolution was too coarse to reproduce the fronts.

3.) Wavelet Analysis can be useful to analyze the data.



What to do Next:

1.) Continue to improve the model, increasing resolution.

2.) Analyze the data collected and the model data to see how well the model reproduces the atmosphere.





# Thank You. Question?



Joseph J. Trout, Ph.D. Drexel University st92l7c3@drexel.edu 610-348-6495