

A process-oriented perspective on stochastic physics, with a focus on the effect of SPPT on warm conveyor belts in the IFS

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Warm Conveyor Belts (WCBs)



- Strongly ascending air streams in extra-tropical cyclones (e.g. Carlson, 1980)
- Ascent mainly driven by cloud-condensational processes (Wernli and Davies, 1997)
- Modification of the upper-level waveguide (e.g. Grams et al., 2011)



adapted from Quinting and Grams, 2021

Accounts for uncertainties in physics parametrizations Net physics tendencies are multiplied with a 2D random field

- Amplitude of perturbation scales with the magnitude of the net tendencies
- Symmetric zero-mean perturbations

90°N

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Stochastically Perturbed Parametrization

Tendencies (SPPT) (Buizza et al., 1999; Leutbecher and Palmer, 2008)



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Stochastically Perturbed Parametrization



Averaged over model levels 105-96

Experimental Setup



Model	ECMWF IFS CY46R1
Resolution	TCo399 (~ 36km) with 91 levels
Ensemble size	20 perturbed + 1 unperturbed control member
Simulated period	Aug. 15th - Oct. 15th 2016 ; restarted every other day (32 forecasts)
Lead time	288h (12 days)



5

Detection of WCBs / rapidly ascending air streams

- Lagranto Lagrangian Analysis Tool (Wernli and Davies, 1997; Sprenger and Wernli, 2015)
 - 48h-forward trajectories
 - Starting between 1000 and 750 hPa on global 100km grid
- Selection criterion: ascent of 600 hPa in 48h (Madonna et al., 2014)
- Detection in all ensemble members (~ 50M WCB-trajectories per experiment)
- Efficient "online" implementation







6

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Results – frequencies





Computed over all forecasts, lead times and members



Results – frequencies



Computed over all forecasts, lead times and members

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Results – trajectory counts





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Results – trajectory counts with leadtime





Results – distribution of vertical velocities





Results – distribution of vertical velocities





12

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Conclusions

13

 SPPT systematically increases the frequency of rapidly ascending air streams

SPPT makes the WCB frequencies in perturbed forecasts more consistent with analyses

Effects also visible in global omega distribution







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Outlook



- Sensitivities in other model uncertainty schemes: Stochastically perturbed parameters (SPP) (Ollinaho et al., 2017; Lang et al., 2021)
- Does the observed effect have an impact on the representation of the large-scale circulation?



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Thank you for your attention!



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https://worldview.earthdata.nasa.gov/

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04/03/21

15

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