

US CLIVAR MJO WG

Telecon Minutes

May 5, 2006; 12:00-1:30pm US West Coast

Telecon Participants: L. Donner, E. Maloney, M. Moncrieff, S. Schubert, K. Sperber, F. Vitart, D. Waliser, W. Wang, K. Weickmann, C. Zhang. Written comments on the previously circulated discussion items provided by H. Hendon and S. Woolnough.

Metrics: Development and publication of metrics and example applications is considered to be a high priority for the WG. It was stressed that improved metrics for model development are essential to making progress in ascertaining why a robust simulation of the MJO is fleeting through the development cycle.

Action Items Include:

- Sperber to lead a sub-WG to develop a draft of metrics that would be applied to GCM model simulations. Important considerations include connections between rainfall/OLR and circulation, vertical structure, surface interactions, end-users and possibly with varying degrees of complexity, key variables, and validation data set standards. Emphasis will be placed on fields that can be validated, but we wish to be forward looking and consider metrics that may be verifiable in the future for CRMs. Apart from the contribution from the entire working group, primary contributors to include Maloney, Zhang, Woolnough, Hendon, B. Wang, etc. May identify and solicit comments from other researchers outside the WG.
- Waliser to lead a sub-WG to develop a draft of metrics that would be applied in forecast/hindcast settings. Important considerations include connections to simulation metrics above, identifying observed events in an objective manner, regional considerations and their skill, applications, etc. Apart from the contribution from the entire working group, primary contributors to include Vitart, Weickmann, Woolnough, Hendon/Wheeler, W. Wang, etc. May identify and solicit comments from other researchers/forecasters outside the WG.

Modeling Activities: Given the multiple avenues that this could take (e.g., model sensitivity, multi-model comparison, metric application, forecast assessments), it was thought that it was important to identify an inventory of present and near-term activities that would be useful for MJO investigation and help to constrain ideas for near-term action and investigation: [Action Items Include:](#)

- Schubert agreed to assemble an inventory of modeling activities that this WG should be cognizant of. This includes available data from both climate and forecast investigations. Important contributions and consultations likely to come from B. Wang, F. Vitart, W. Wang, L. Donner and K. Weickmann.

Prediction: Research, Experimental and Operational: A good deal of discussion about the end-users of products, outreach efforts (see below), and specifically what community would benefit from experimental forecasts that may be available at this time. More discussion is warranted on this issue in future telecons.

Applications: Though the ongoing experimental MJO forecasts are primarily geared towards the forecasting/research community, there has been limited outreach to the applications community. Presently limited assessment is made of global and tropical hazards associated with the MJO forecasts. It was stressed the WG needs to become more familiar with the needs of potential users of MJO forecasts, which in turn could influence the scope of MJO metrics that could be validated. [Action Items Include:](#)

- For each MJOWG panel meeting, extend an invitation for an invited presentation to at least one end user to better educate us with the needs of the applications, operations and/or threat assessment communities.

What's in a name? Given the limited lifetime of the working group the panel agreed to concentrate on MJO, and all agreed that henceforth the panel should be known as the MJOWG. **Action Items Include:**

- Inform US CLIVAR of the change.

First Working Group Meeting: It was agreed that a 1.5 day MJOWG panel meeting should be held on 25-26 July 2006 at Breckenridge, CO. **Action Items Include:**

- ASAP WG members are asked to confirm with Duane and/or Ken their that they plan to attend the First Working Group Meeting.
- Inform US CLIVAR (Jill Riesdorf) of the impending meeting, whose arrangements can be made in conjunction with the US CLIVAR Meeting that will be held 25-28 July at the same facility. Additionally, adequate meeting space, catering(?) etc. will have to be arranged.
- Need to invite H. Hendon and S. Woolnough to the panel meeting, and identify other candidates if either or both are unable to attend. We need to coordinate funding to support the participation of these experts.

First Workshop: It was agreed that the first workshop would be a focused meeting, most likely centered on exploiting the afore-mentioned metrics for the analysis of forecast and climate model simulations of MJO and/or centered specifically on the vertical structure of the MJO. The suggestion is to hold this workshop in conjunction with an upcoming International CLIVAR Asian-Australian Monsoons panel meeting. **Action Items Include:**

- Ascertain the date of CLIVAR Asian-Australian Monsoons panel meeting (Spring 2007?) to determine if the schedule is suitable to the members of the MJOWG.

Web Site & Outreach Activities Discussed in WG Proposal: Communication of the goals and progress of the MJOWG will be communicated via the US CLIVAR website:

http://www.usclivar.org/Organization/MJO_WG.html, through summaries in US CLIVAR Variations and International CLIVAR Exchanges, and through peer-reviewed publications. **Action Items Include:**

- It was agreed that each panel member would provide a 1 page contribution (plus figure) on a rotating basis for publication in the "Result of the Month" section of the MJOWG webpage. Waliser agreed to provide one or more example formats to be discussed in next telecon.
- Duane and Ken will start to provide material based on the proposed headings that were given in the agenda to C. Stephens so she can populate the web site.
- Provide 0.5-1 page summary for publication in US CLIVAR Variations and International CLIVAR Exchanges (October 2006 Monsoon Issue)

Next Telecon: Preliminary agreement was reached that the next telecom will be held on either 30 or 31 May 2006. **Action Items Include:**

- Confirm via email that this date is suitable to the majority of panel members.