

# A New Paradigm for Concentric Eyewall Formation In Tropical Cyclones

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Michael T. Montgomery (NPS)



Typhoon Workshop  
Kesen'numa Oshima, Japan  
(27 August, 2012)



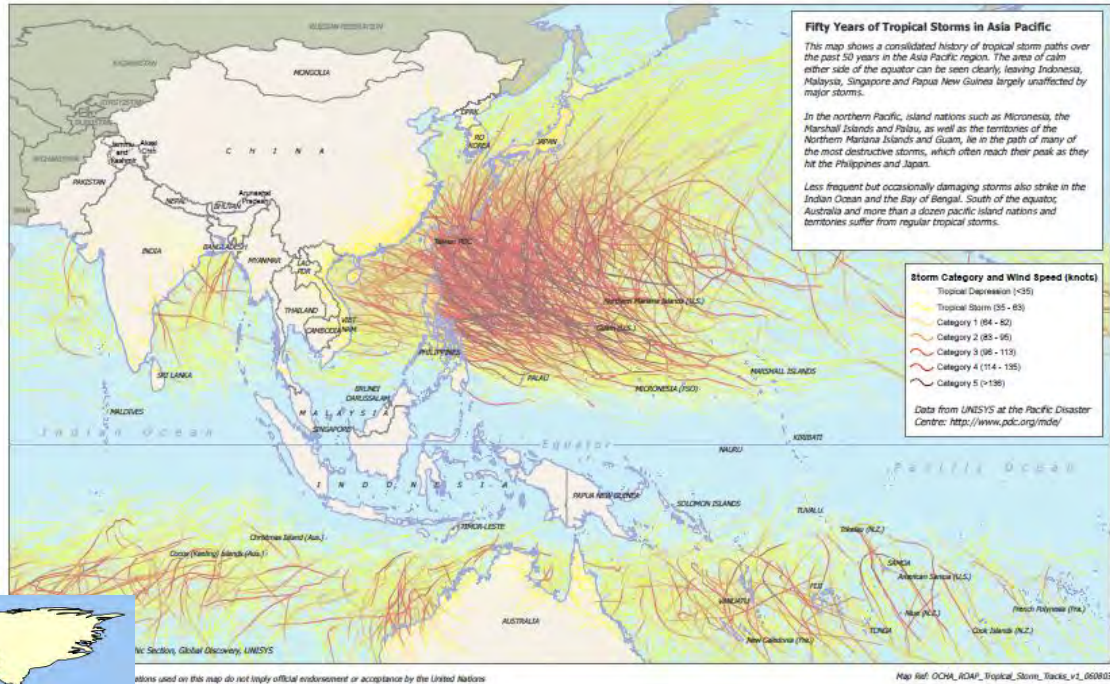
Acknowledging collaborators in **DOTSTAR** and **T-PARC**  
Grants: **NSC, CWB, RCEC/Academia Sinica, ONR**

# 易致災環境



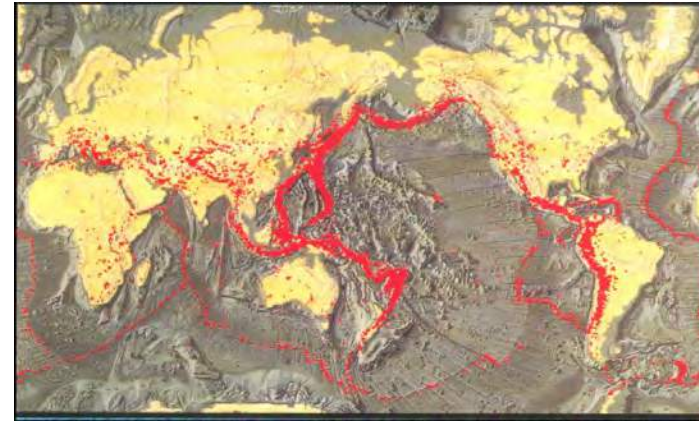
OCHA Regional Office for Asia Pacific  
**Tropical Storms in Asia Pacific: 1956 - 2006**  
 Issued: 3 August 2006

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)  
 Regional Office for Asia Pacific (ROAP)  
 Executive Suite, 2nd Floor, UNCT Building,  
 Rajadamnern Road, Bangkok 10200, Thailand  
 Map: <http://www.ochaonline.org/roap>

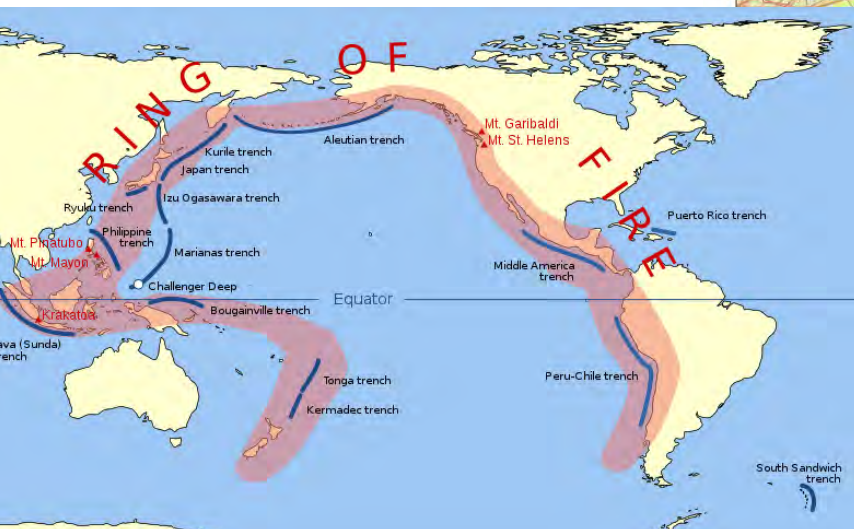


Typhoon Alley

452 volcanoes, 75% of the world's active and dormant volcanoes

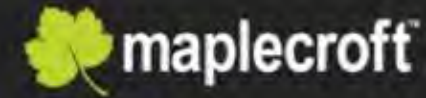


Pacific Ring of Fire  
 circum-Pacific seismic belt



英國風險管理顧問公司Maplecroft於最新公布之“2011年天然災害風險圖輯(the Natural Hazards Risk Atlas 2011 NR)” 台灣經濟活動之絕對災害風險指標(Absolute Economic Exposure Index)列為全球第四，與美國、日本與中國並列為具有極端風險之國家。

## Absolute Economic Exposure Index 2011

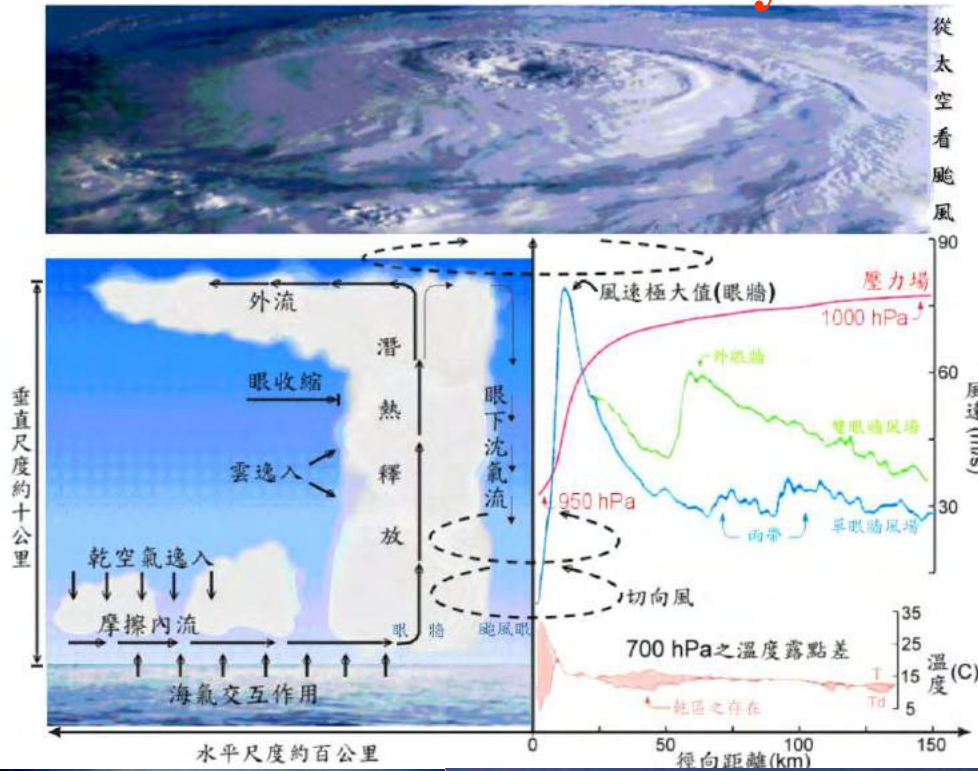


- USA, Japan, China and Taiwan have the greatest economic output exposed to natural hazards

- However, the emerging economies of Mexico, India, Philippines, Turkey and Indonesia also have significant economic output exposed to major natural hazards

# 颱風－流體動力學在大自然所展現的絕妙實例

## Beauty and the Beast



- 高速旋轉流  
(highly swirling)
- 強烈輻合輻散流  
(strong convergence)
- 劇烈濕對流  
(deep moist convection)
- 快速大氣－海洋交互作用  
(fast air-sea interaction)
- 多重尺度交互作用  
(multi-scale interaction)
- 地形效應  
(terrain effect)



## Dance with hurricanes

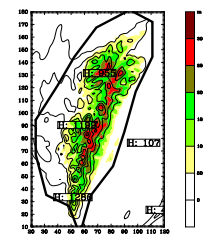




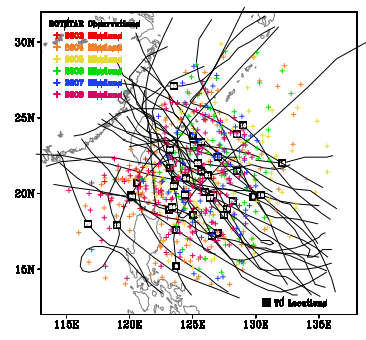
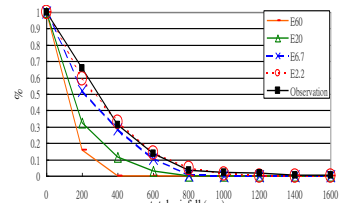
(Chun-Chieh Wu: 2002-2009)

(Wu et al. 2009a, b, MWR)

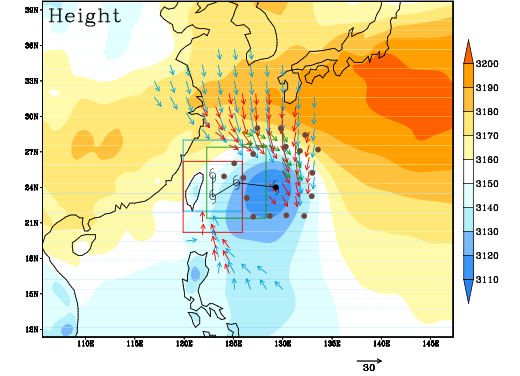
(Wu et al. 2007a JAS)



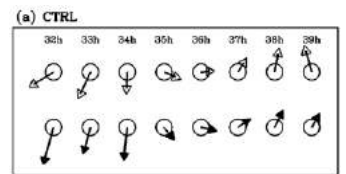
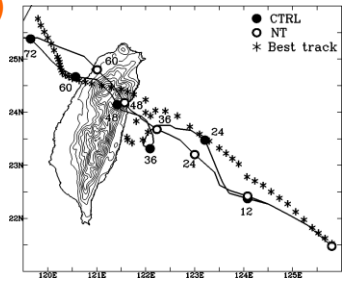
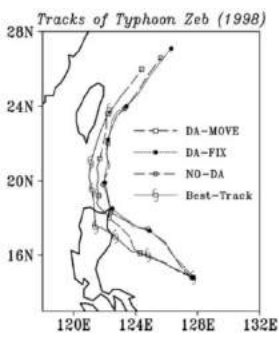
(Wu et al. 2002, WF)



ADSSV(VOR) -12hr, -24hr, -36hr, 700hPa



(Wu et al. 2006, JAS)



(Jian and Wu 2008, MWR)

Targeted observation in DOTSTAR

Typhoon intensity eyewall dynamics

Typhoon-terrain interaction

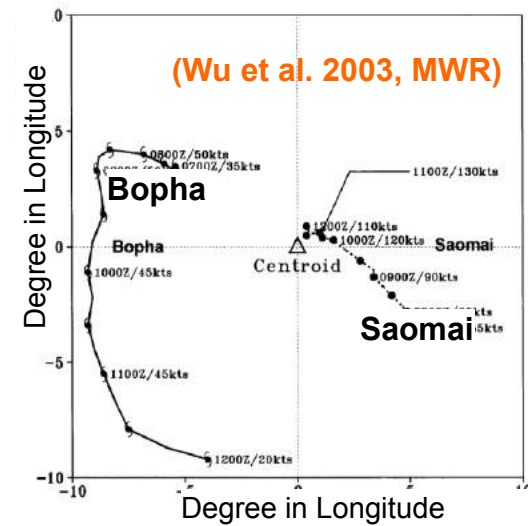
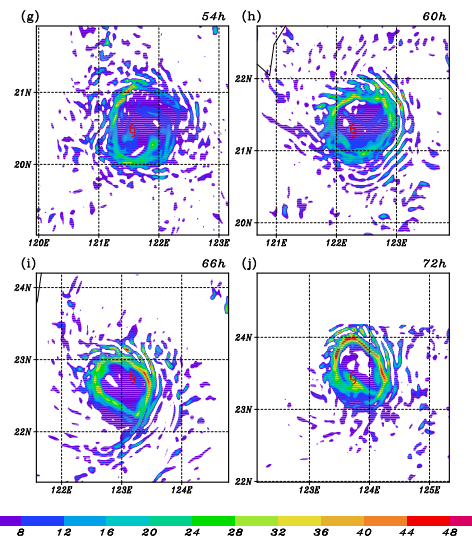
Typhoon movement

Typhoon rainfall

Typhoon-ocean interaction

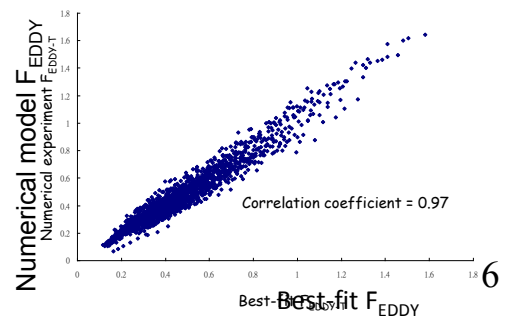
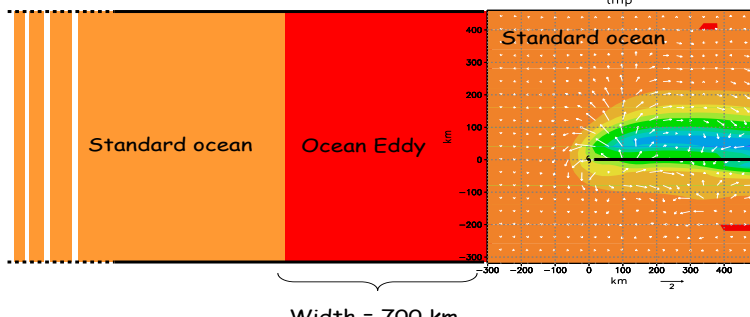
Typhoon-climate

(Wu et al. 2009c, MWR)

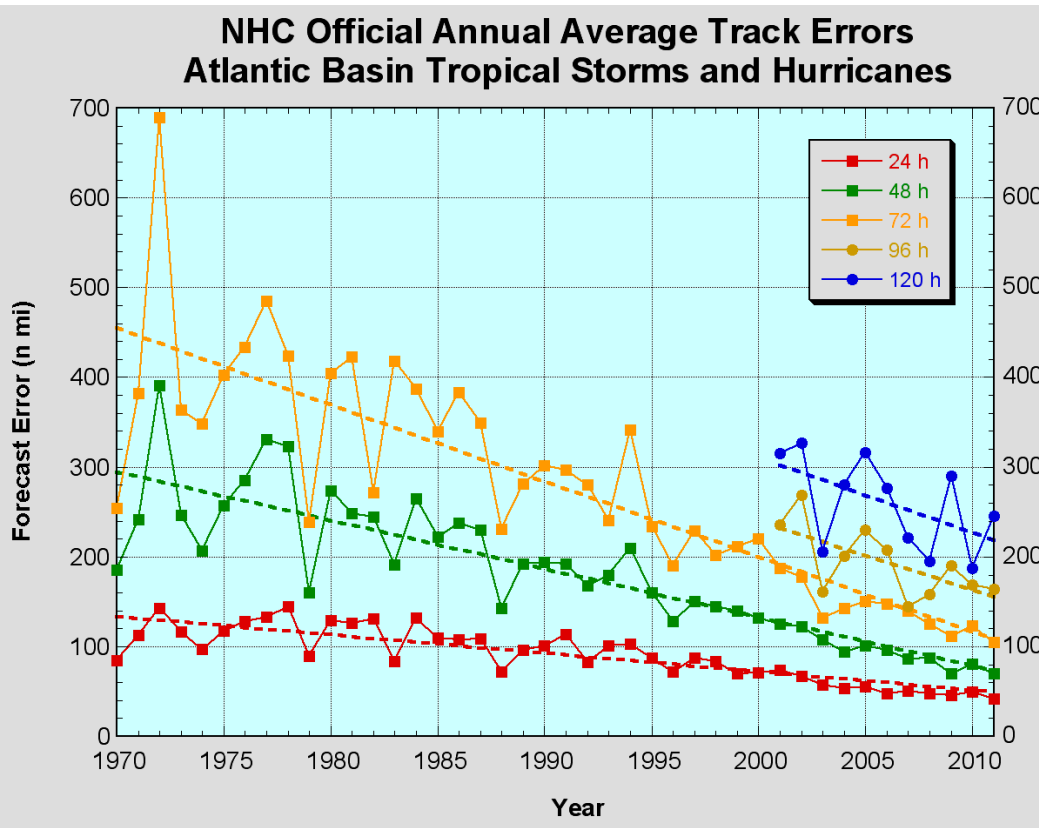


(Wu et al. 2003, MWR)

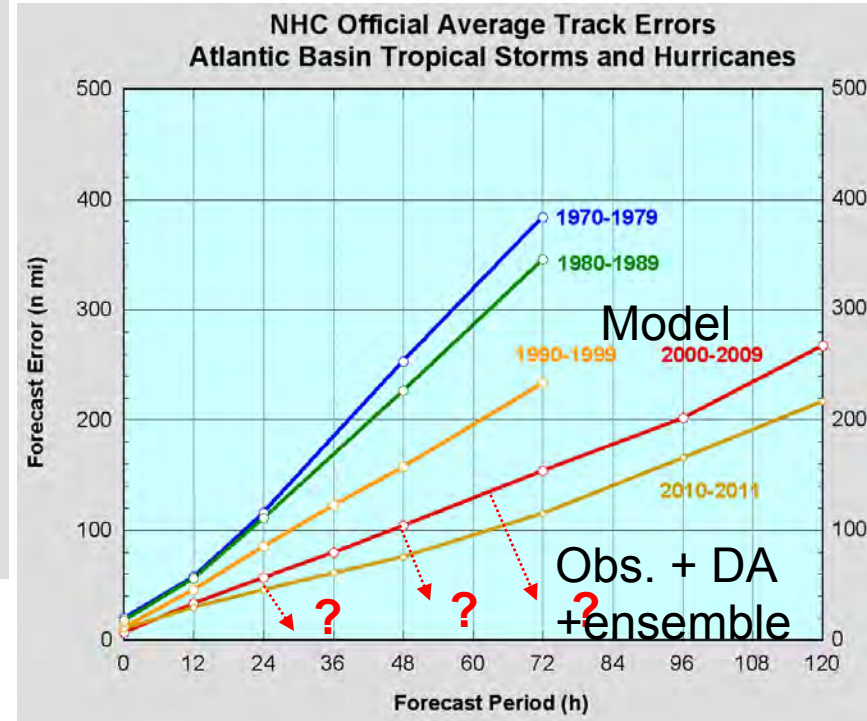
(Wu et al. 2007b, JAS)



# Long-term decreasing trend in TC track prediction errors



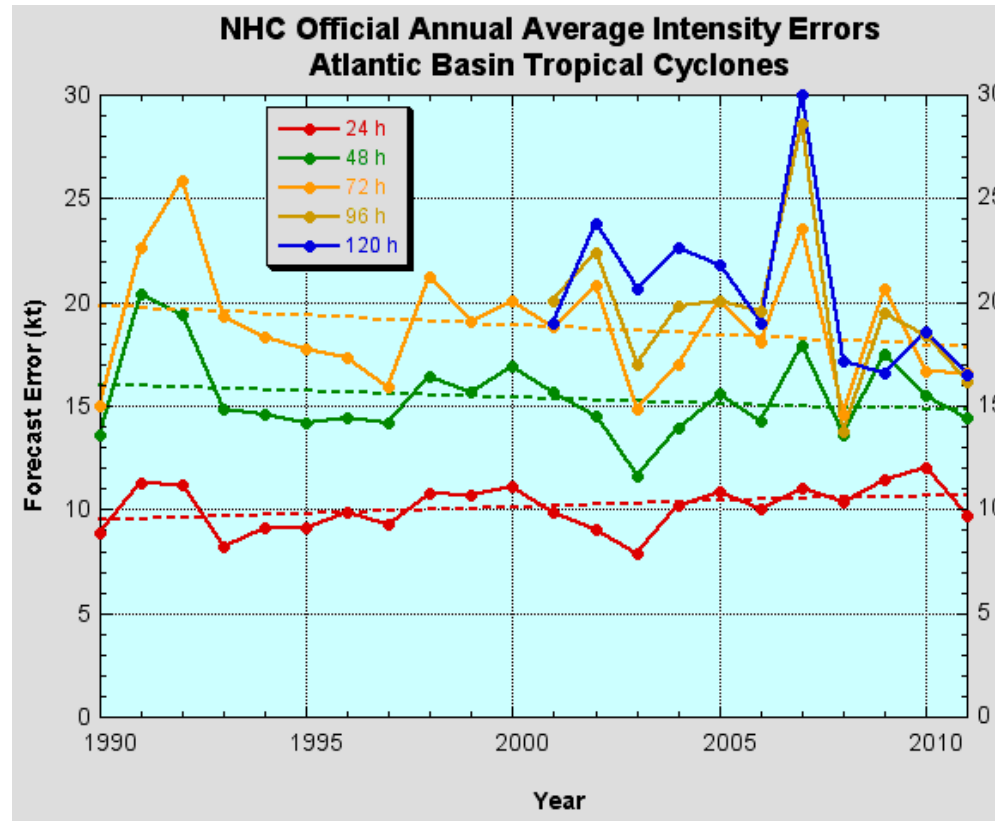
From NHC



Push the limit of predictability?

# Very limited progress in TC intensity prediction

From  
NHC



Internal dynamics – VRW, spiral rainbands, mesoscale vortices, eyewall processes

Environmental control – shear, trough-interaction (Wang and Wu 2004)

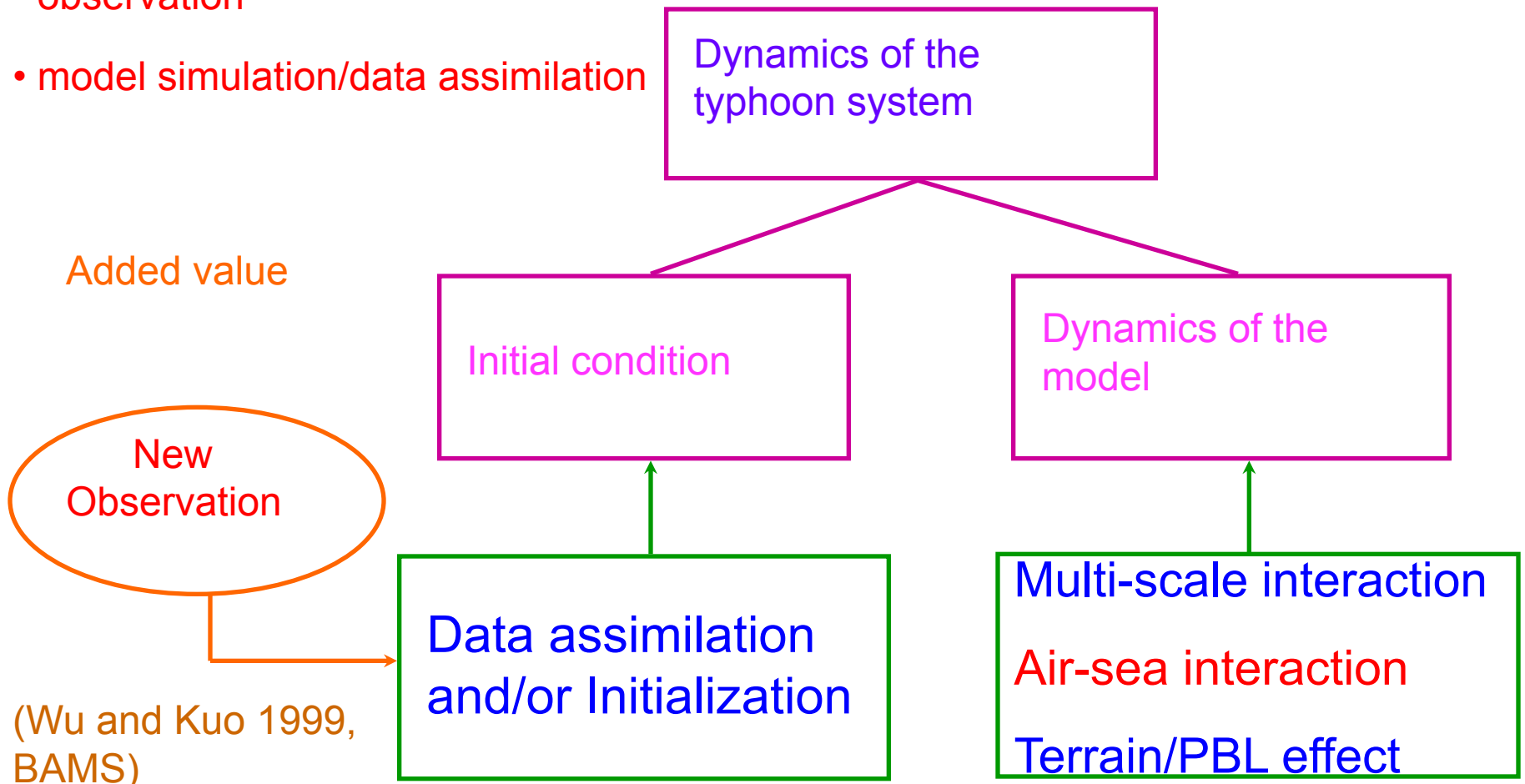
Boundary processes – sfc. fluxes, ocean mixing, sea spray, waves, land/topography

# Improving the understanding and prediction of the TC systems

(in memory of Dr. Yoshio Kurihara)

Key issues:

- dynamics
- observation
- model simulation/data assimilation



Added value

New  
Observation

(Wu and Kuo 1999,  
BAMS)



# Outline

- **Observation:**  
DOTSTAR, T-PARC and Typhoon Sinlaku (2008)  
(Wu et al. 2012a, MWR)
- **Data Assimilation and simulations:**  
EnKF data assimilation and analyses  
(Wu et al. 2010, JAS; Wu et al. 2012b, MWR)
- **Dynamical Analysis:**  
Axisymmetric dynamical processes  
(Huang et al. 2012, JAS)

# Objectives

## Part I

- Constructing a dataset for Typhoon Sinlaku by using T-PARC data and a new vortex initialization method via the WRF model.
- **Showing the evolution of the concentric eyewall cycle in terms of different parameters.**
- Studying the impact of the amount of the assimilated data.

## Part II

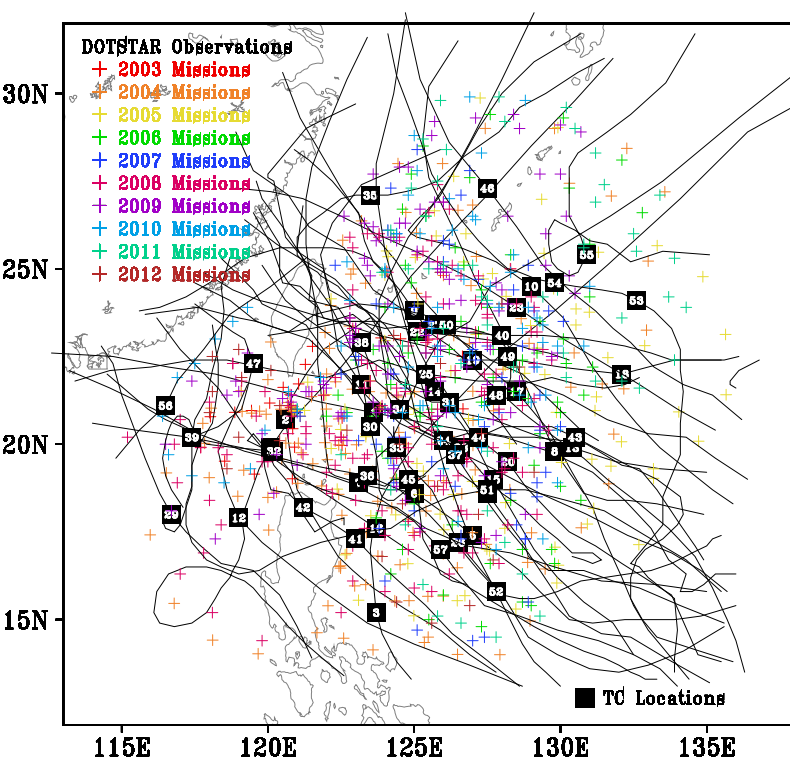
- Investigating potential precursors to SEF and providing a corresponding dynamical interpretation.
- Proposing a new pathway to SEF based on an axisymmetric view. *(Unbalanced response within and just above the boundary layer.)*

## Part III

- Validating the presenting pathway in the data-denial experiments.

➔ *Investigation of the dynamics of concentric eyewall formation*

# Dropwindsonde Observations for Typhoon Surveillance near the Taiwan Region (DOTSTAR, 2003 – present)



Up to present, 61 missions have been conducted in DOTSTAR for 47 typhoons, with 993 dropwindsondes deployed during the 329 flight hours.

42 typhoons affecting Taiwan

32 typhoons affecting (mainland) China

9 typhoons affecting Japan

5 typhoons affecting Korea

14 typhoons affecting Philippines



- Useful real-time data available to major operational forecast centers
- Positive impact to the track forecasts to models in major operation centers (NCEP/GFS, FNMOC/NOGAPS, JMA/GSM)  
Wu et al. (2005 BAMS, 2007a JAS, 2007b WF, 2009a,b,c MWR), Chou and Wu (2008 MWR), Chen et al. (2009 MWR, Weissmann et al. (2010 MWR) JAS), Yamaguchi et al. (2009 MWR), Chou et al. (2010 JGR)
- Targeted observation

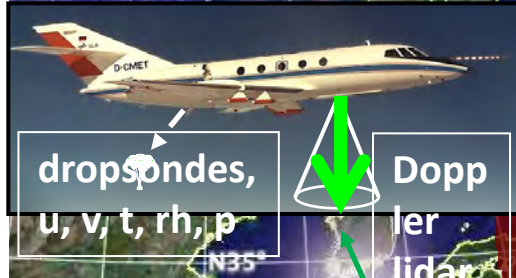
# THORPEX-PARC Experiments (2008) and Collaborating Efforts

Understand the lifecycle of TC and improve its predictability –

- Genesis
- Intensity and structure change
- Recurvature (targeted obs.)
- Extra-tropical transition (ET)

Upgraded Russian  
Radiosonde Network for IPY

Winter storms  
reconnaissance  
and driftsonde



dropsondes,  
u, v, t, rh, p

Dopp  
ler  
lidar

NRL P-3 and  
HIAPER with the  
DLR Wind Lidar

Falcon

KEOP

ProbeX

TH08

SCS Exp

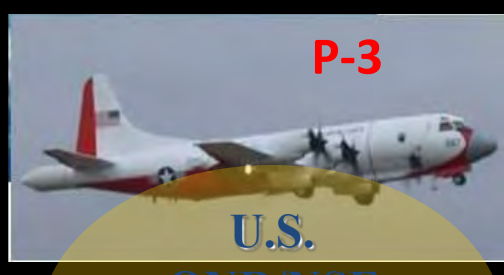
Tropic of Earth

9

DOTSTAR

Drift

P-3



U.S.

ONR/NSF  
TCS-08

[NRL P-3, WC-130]



DOTSTAR

Image © 2006 TerraMetrics  
Image © 2006 NASA  
© 2006 Europa Technology

JAMSTEC/IORGG

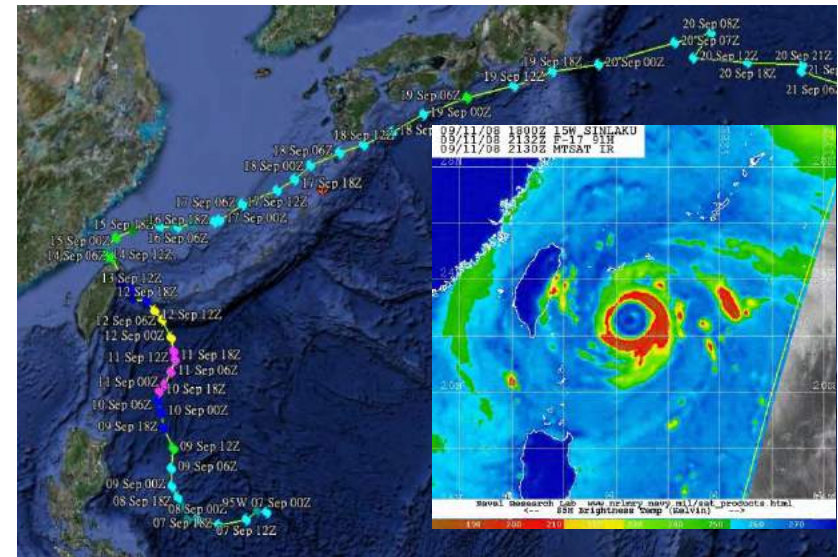
Elsberry and Harr (2009)

C-130



# Motivations

- Typhoon Sinlaku (2008) is a case in point under T-PARC (THORPEX – Pacific Asian Regional Campaign) with *the most abundant flight observations*.
- *The new method for TC initialization* based on EnKF data assimilation and the WRF model (Details in **Wu et al. 2010, JAS**)



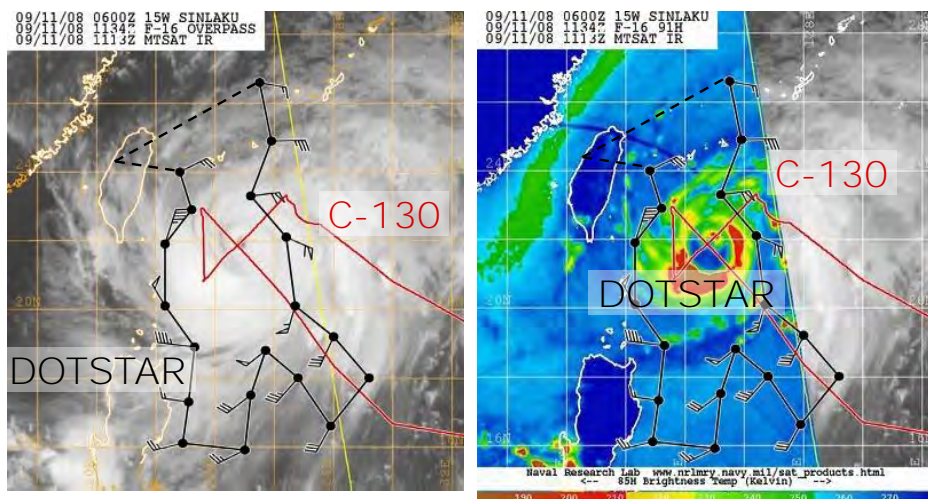
# Objectives

- To construct *a high-spatio-temporal model dataset* for Sinlaku from Sept. 9 to 13. (**Wu et al. 2012b, Part I, MWR**)
- To investigate the dynamics of the *concentric eyewall formation and cycle* in Sinlaku. (**Huang et al., 2012, Part II, JAS**)

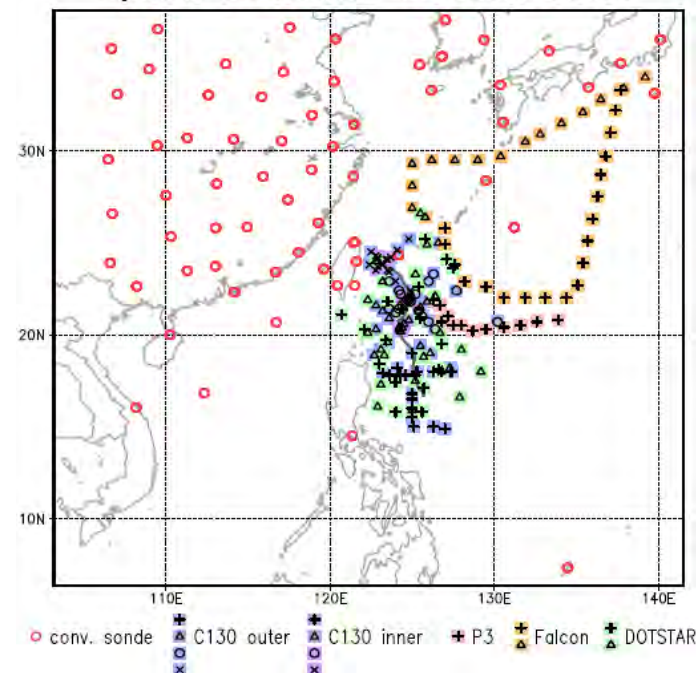
# Data

## THORPEX Pacific Asian Regional Campaign ( T-PARC )

- 2008/09/08 17:00 ~ 09/13 03:00 UTC



Spatial Distribution of Observations



**9 flight missions with 159 dropwindsondes**

	Conv. radiosonde	Dropwindsondes				
		DOTSTAR ASTRA	DLR Falcon	NRL P-3	USAF C-130	
					Inner core	Others
<b>Total available</b>	623	36 (2 flights)	34 (2 flight)	12 (1 flight)	20	57
					(4 flights)	

(Wu et al. 2012b, MWR)

# Methodology

## EnKF data assimilation/ WRF model

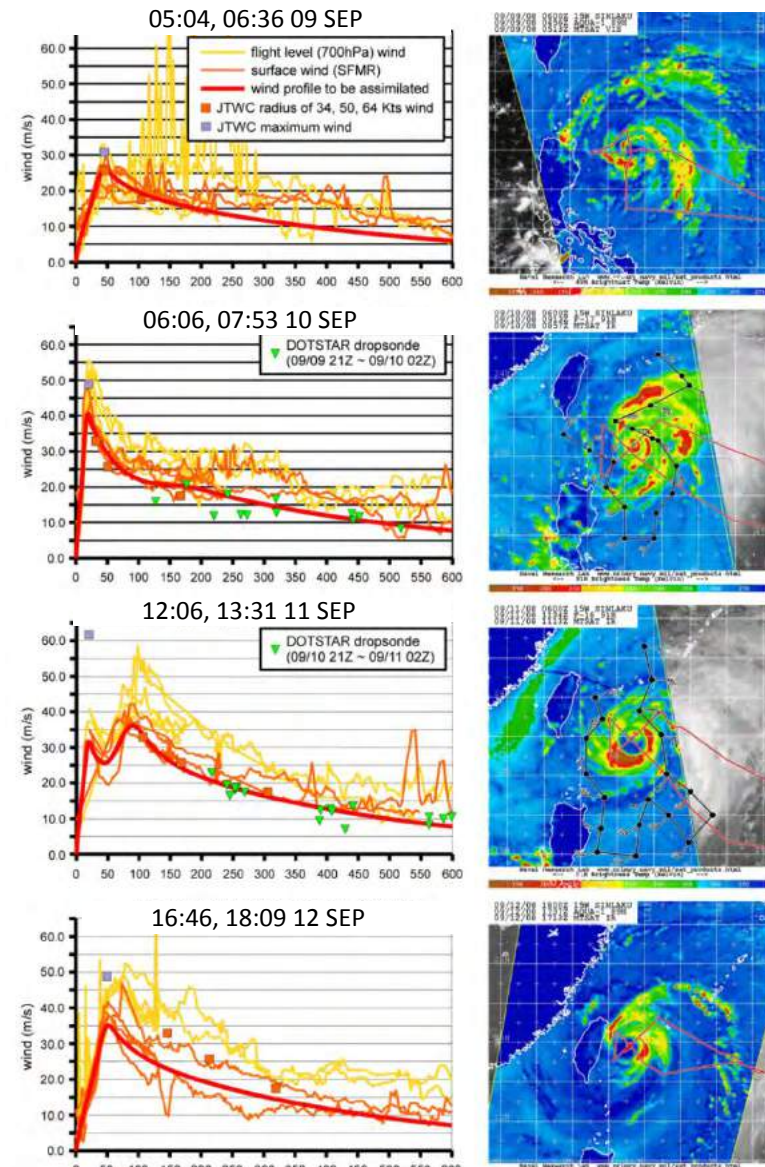
- Observation operators related to TCs (Wu et al. 2010a)

*center position / motion vector / axisymmetric wind structure*

- 3 hour best track data
- TC radius (34, 50 kts) data from JTWC.
- Surface wind from the T-PARC data (dropsondes and SFMR)

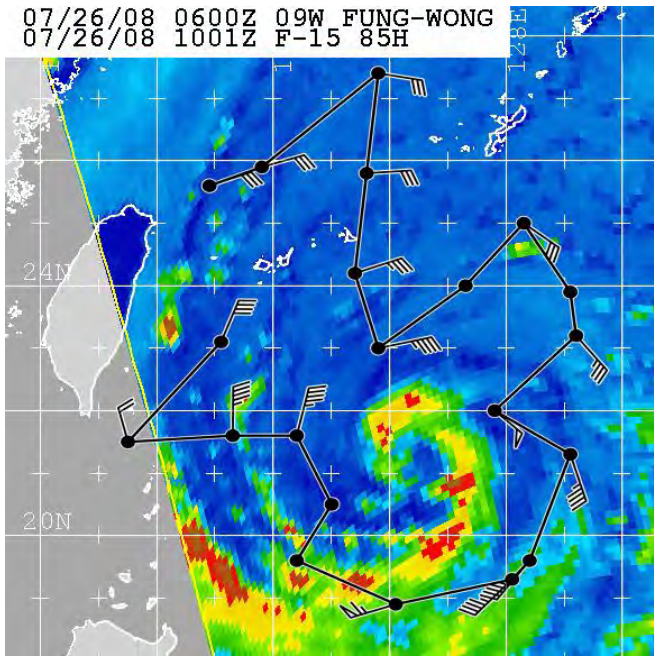
- Rapid update Cycle (RUC): 30 mins
- horizontal resolution : 5 km
- 35 vertical layers
- 30-min output interval
- 28 ensemble members

(Wu et al. 2012b, MWR)

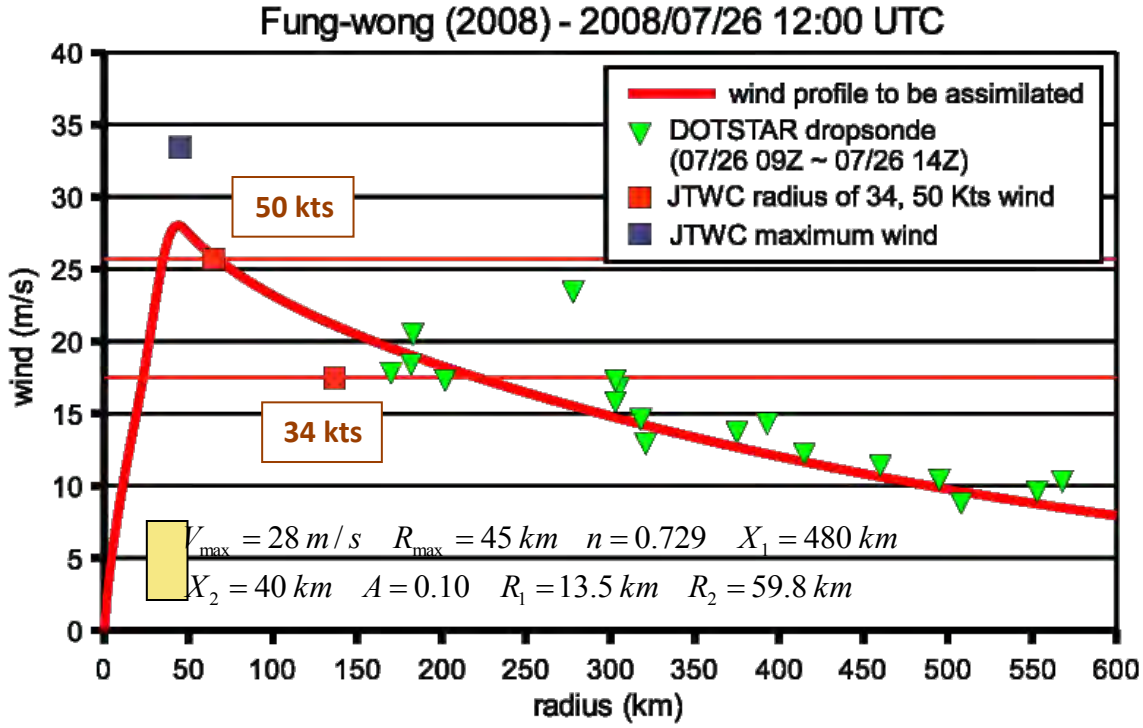


# Assimilation of Tropical Cyclone Track and Structure Based on the Ensemble Kalman Filter (EnKF)

- Observation data for Typhoon Fung-wong
  - Three-hour track data from CWB, interpolated to 30 minutes interval by cubic-spline method
  - TC radius (34, 50 kts) data from JTWC.
  - **DOTSTAR** (Wu et al. 2005, 2007) **surface wind data** (MBL150, Franklin 2003) on 26 July. 1200 UTC (final time of the initialization period).



(Wu et al. 2010, JAS)

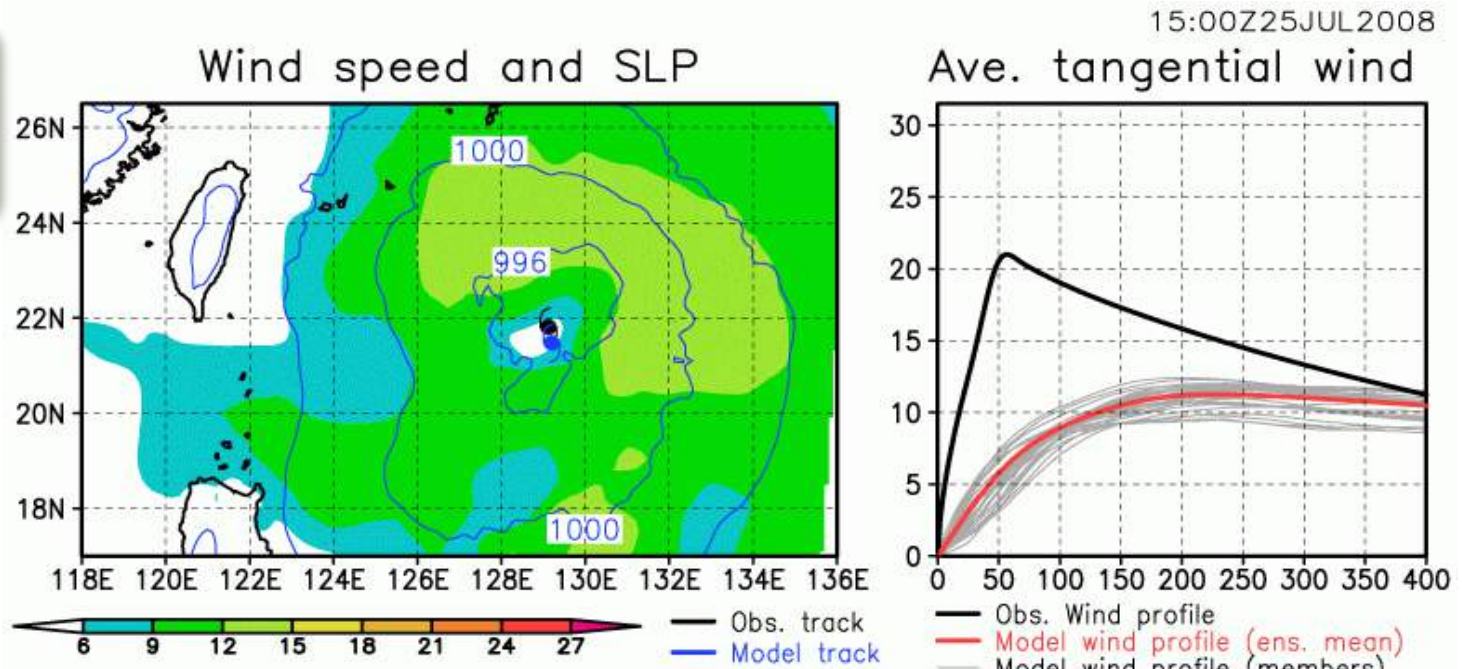


After Willoughby et al. (2006)

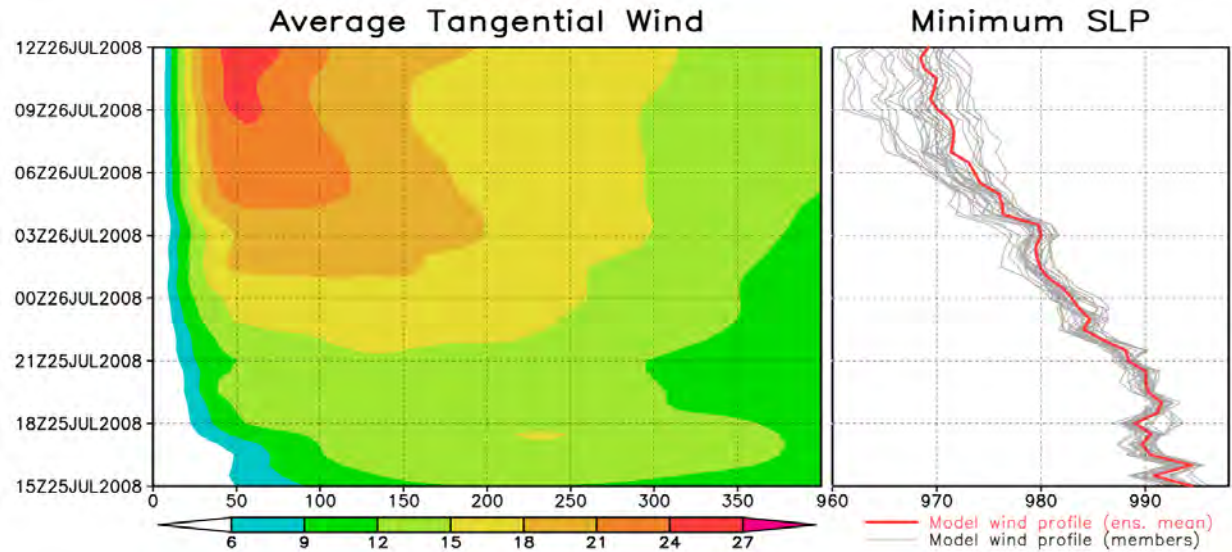


- Results – Wind and SLP fields

CTRL  
experiment



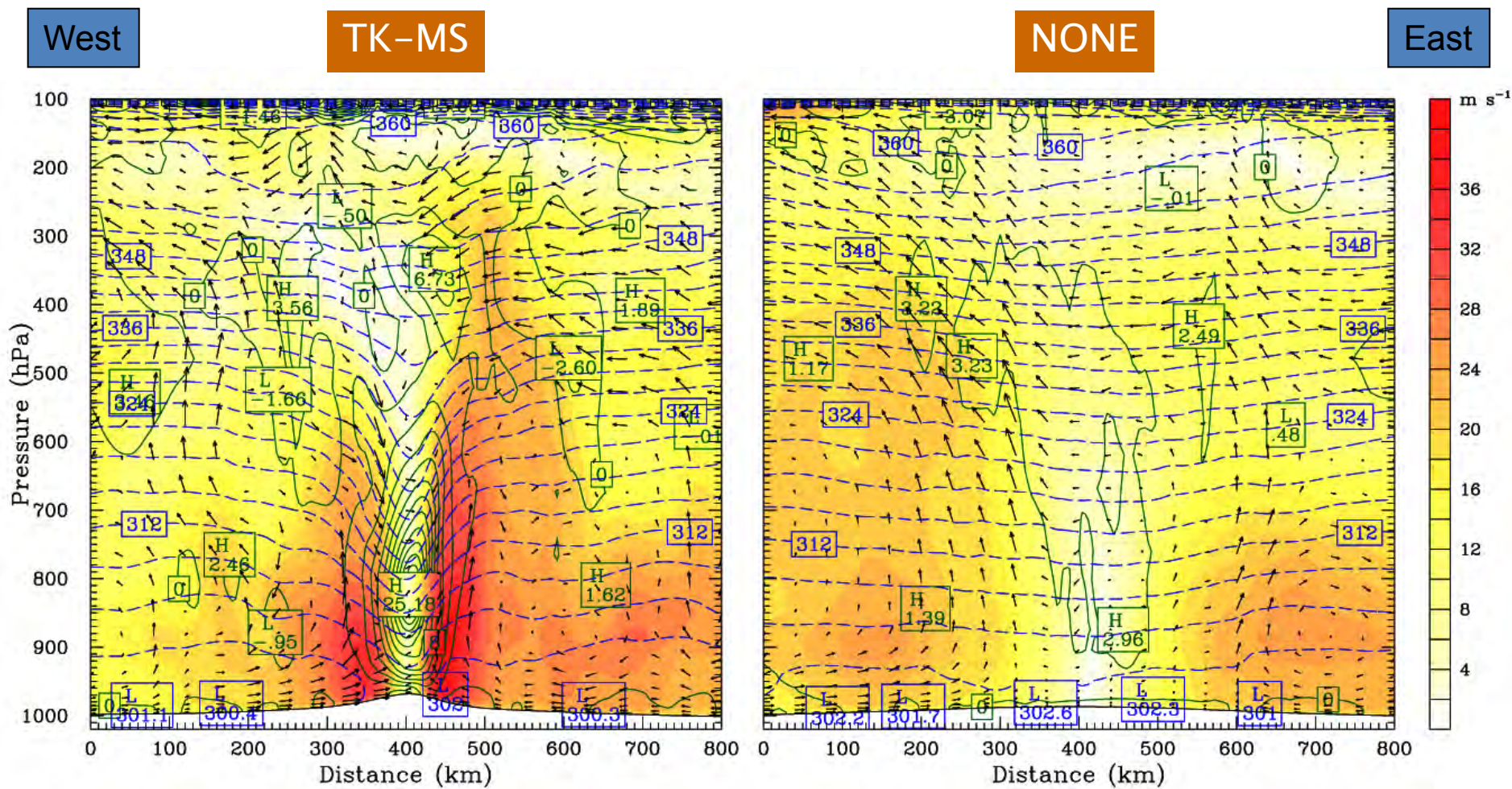
Lowest sigma level



(Wu et al. 2010, JAS)

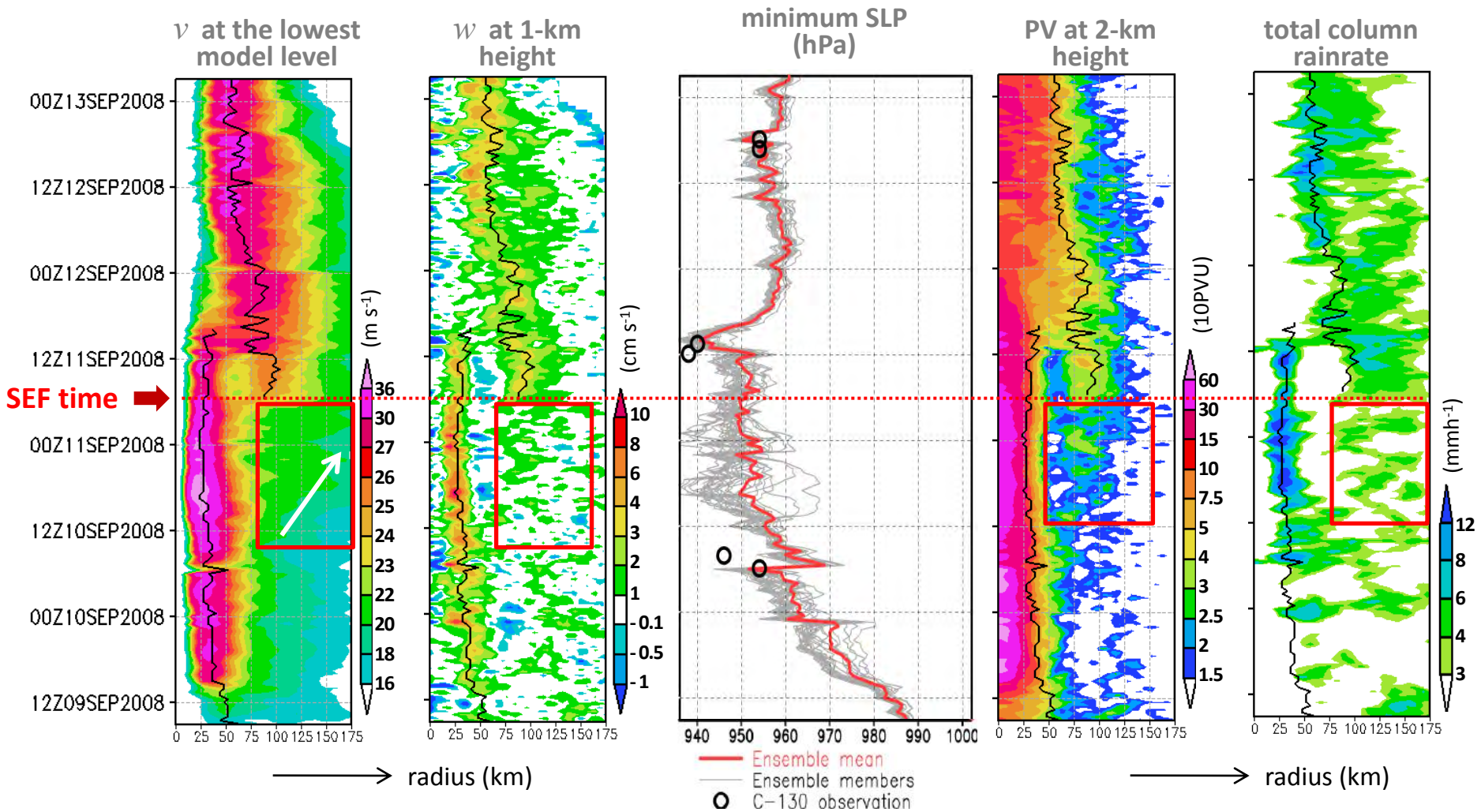
### 3. Experiments on initialization

# Vertical structure after the initialization



(Wu et al. 2010, JAS)

# Time-radius plots of the azimuthally-mean structure



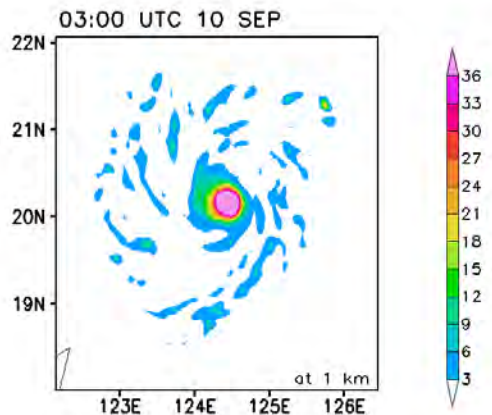
**SEF time: a persistent secondary maximum in  $V$  at the lowest model level**

Hr -1 : 1 h prior to SEF ; Hr 0 : SEF time ; Hr 1: 1 h after SEF

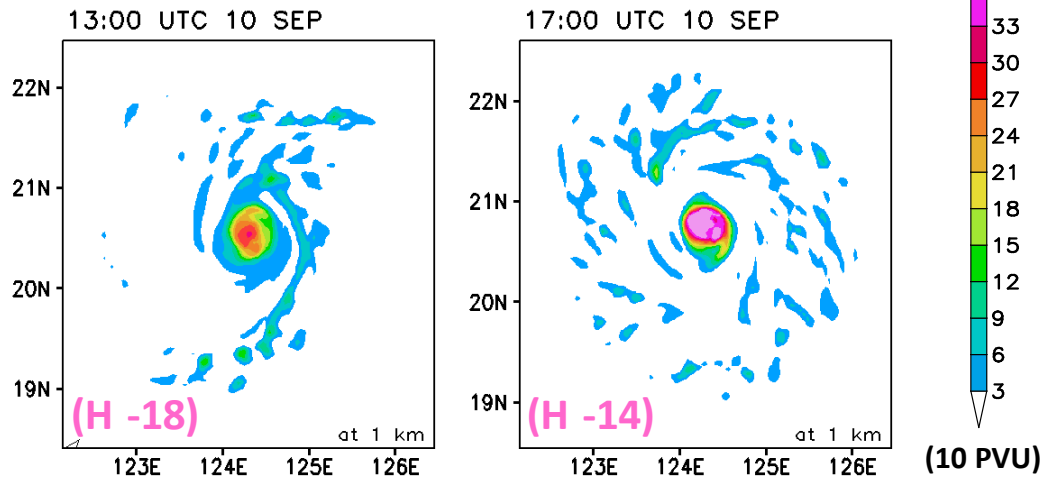
(Wu et al. 2012b, MWR)

# Plan view : potential vorticity (PV) at 1-km height

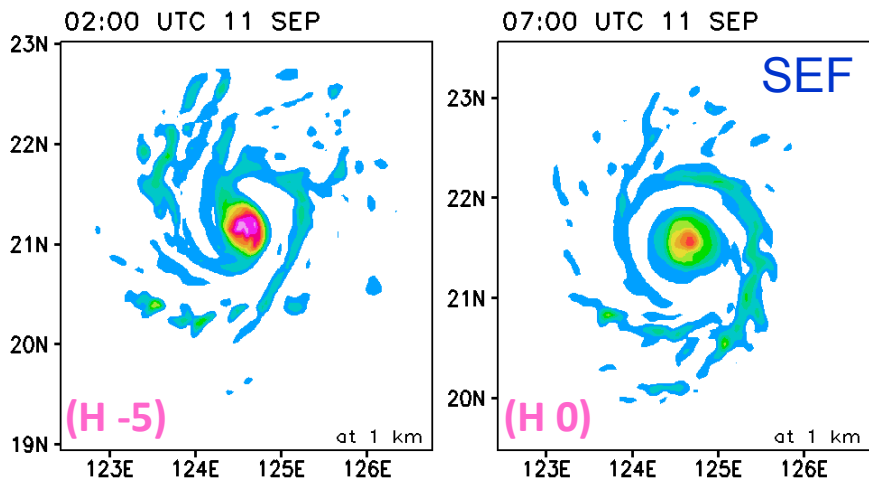
From 0300 UTC 10 SEP (H -28)  
To 0900 UTC 12 SEP (H 26)



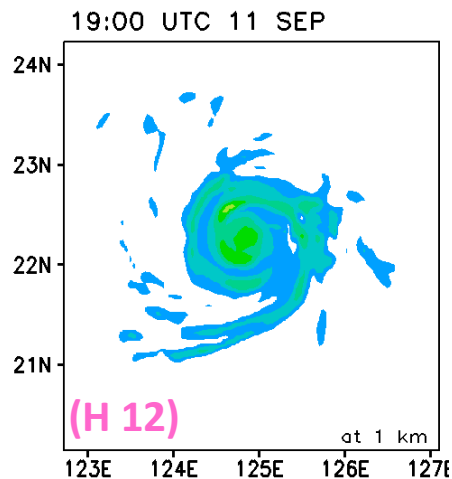
## sporadic PV bands/patches



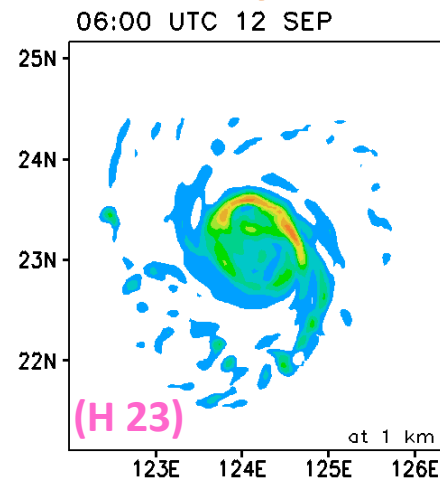
## PV bands organize into a PV ring



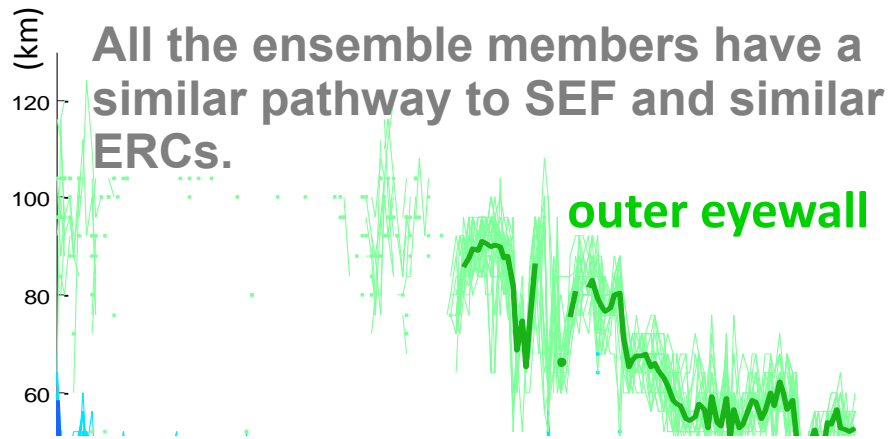
## Eyewall replacement



## new eyewall

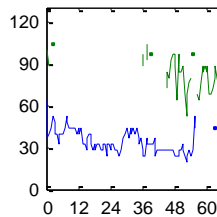
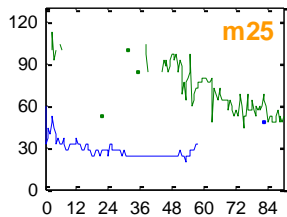


# CTL - Radii of local Vmax



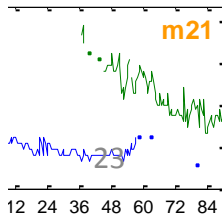
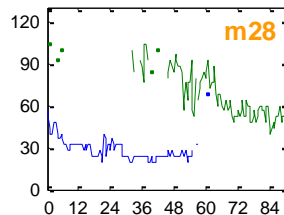
Inner eyewall

(h)



WRF/EnKF, 5-km resolution

(Wu et al. 2012b, MWR)



## ***Part II - dynamical analysis (axisymmetric process)***

- **Background review**
- **Motivations**
- **Objectives**
- **A new paradigm for the secondary eyewall formation in terms of the axisymmetric aspect**
  - **Precursors prior to SEF**
  - **Boundary layer inflow evolution**
  - **Dynamical interpretation**
- **Concluding remarks**
- **Ongoing works**
- **Issues to be further addressed**

# Review of studies on the secondary eyewall formation

Possible favorable conditions or mechanisms	References
<i>Asymmetric due to the storm's motion</i>	Willoughby 1979
<i>Updrafts induced by the downdrafts in the moat</i>	Willoughby 1982
<i>Topographic influence</i>	Hawkins 1983
<i>External eddy angular momentum fluxes and WISHE process</i>	Nong and Emanuel 2003
<i>Ice microphysics (may not be essential for SEF, but has impacts on the SEF time, location and period of ERCs.)</i>	Willoughby et al. 1984; Terwey and Montgomery 2008; Zhou and Wang 2011
<i>High environmental relative humidity</i>	Ortt and Chen 2008; Wang 2009; Hill and Lackmann 2009
<i>Vortex Rossby Waves (VRWs ; e.g., Montgomery and Kallenbach 1997; Brunet and Montgomery 2002; Montgomery and Brunet 2002)</i>	Montgomery and Enagonio 1998; Chen and Yau 2001; Chen et al. 2003; Wang 2002a, b; Corbosiero et al. 2006; Qiu et al. 2010; Abarca and Corbosiero 2011; Martinez et al. 2011
<i>Axisymmetrization process (Melander et al. 1987; McWilliams 1990; Dritschel and Waugh 1992; Fuentes 2004)</i>	Kuo et al. 2004, 2008; Moon et al. 2010 (Moon showed conflicting results)
<i><math>\beta</math>-skirt axisymmetrization formation hypothesis</i>	Terwey and Montgomery 2008; Qiu et al. 2010
<i>Unbalanced dynamics: flow response near the top of BL associated with the broadening of the swirling circulation</i>	Wu et al. 2012; Huang et al. 2012
<i>Balanced dynamics: roles of heating and inertial stability</i>	Rozoff et al. 2012

## Potential intrinsic mechanisms for SEF

outward propagation of vortex Rossby waves (VRWs) (Montgomery and Kallenbach 1997)

convection is suppressed in the rapid filamentation zone (Rozoff et al. 2011) **moat**

energy collection near the stagnation radius (e.g., Martinez et al. 2011)  
 small vorticity patches **vortices interaction-axisymmetrization** (e.g., Malender et al. 1987; Kuo et al. 2004, 2008)  
 circular vorticity ring

**BSA hypothesis** (Terwey and Montgomery 2008)

**the role of enhanced inertial stability in the balanced response to a heating source**

(Shapiro and Willoughby 1982; Rozoff et al. 2012)

## Notable new and different results

### Judt and Chen (2010)

In the moat region:

The near-zero PV gradient, subsidence and straining effect are not conducive for VRWs' activities.

### Abarca and Coborsiero (2011)

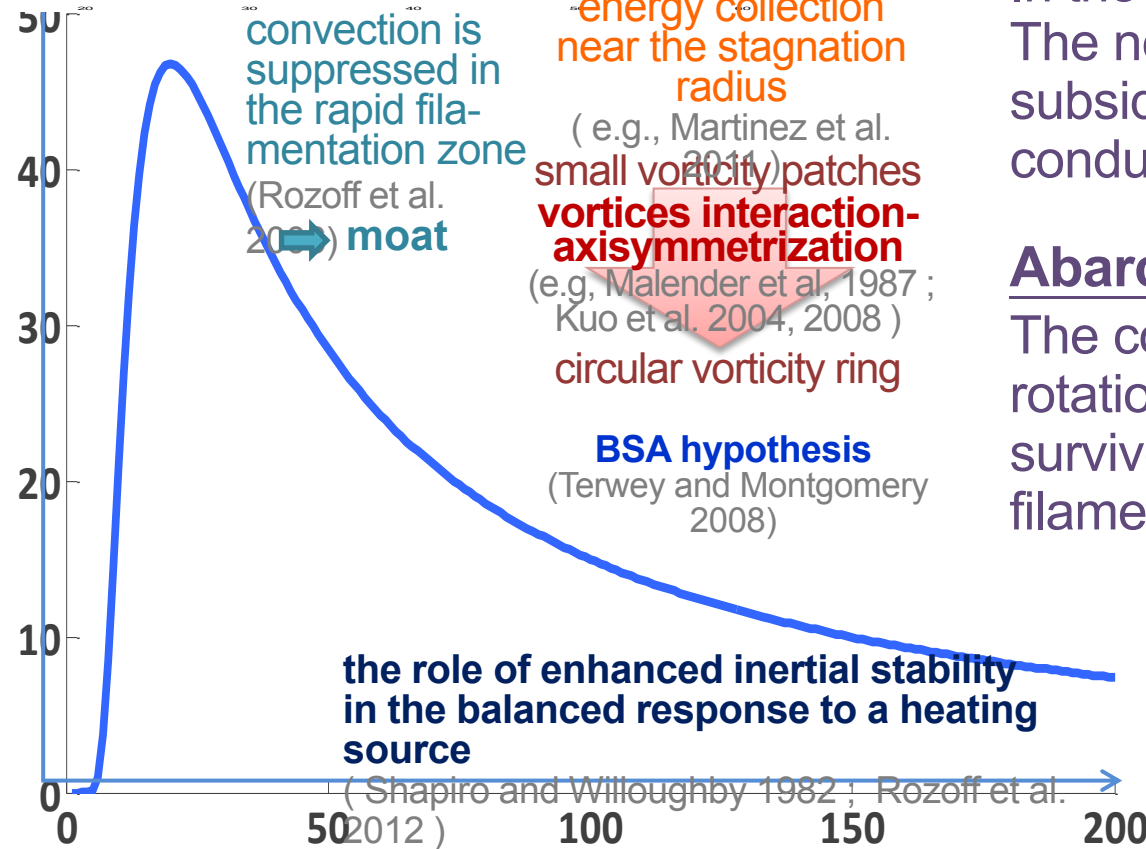
The convective-coupled VRWs are rotation dominated and thus can survive when passing over a rapid filamentation zone.

### Wang (2008)

Inner spiral rainbands occur in the RFZ due to the stabilization and axisymmetrization of high-wavenumber asymmetries by straining deformation.

### Moon et al. (2010)

Convection-induced small vorticity dipoles of considerable strength in the 2-D barotropic flow does not lead to a coherent vorticity ring.





# Background review (i)

- Secondary eyewall structure is observed relatively common for intense Western Pacific typhoons (surface maximum winds  $> 120$  kts, or Category 4 - 5 ).

*( Observational studies, e.g., Hawkins and Helveston 2008; and follow-up works )*

- It is logical to regard the secondary eyewall formation (SEF) as an intrinsic part of an intense typhoon's lifecycle provided that the environment is not or not sufficiently unfavorable for the storm's development.

# Background review (ii)

- From the standpoint of the mean-field dynamics (the azimuthally average around the vortex's circulation center), the deep convection in the eyewall is involved in **two mechanisms for spinning up the mean vortex** (*Smith et al. 2009*).

$$M = rv + \frac{1}{2}fr^2 \quad \text{M: absolute angular momentum}$$

$$v = \frac{M}{r} - \frac{1}{2}fr$$

1) Above BL : M is materially conserved

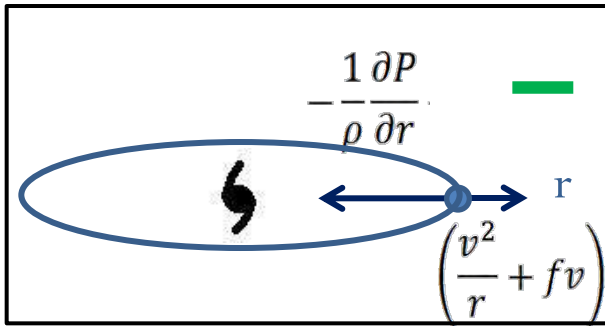
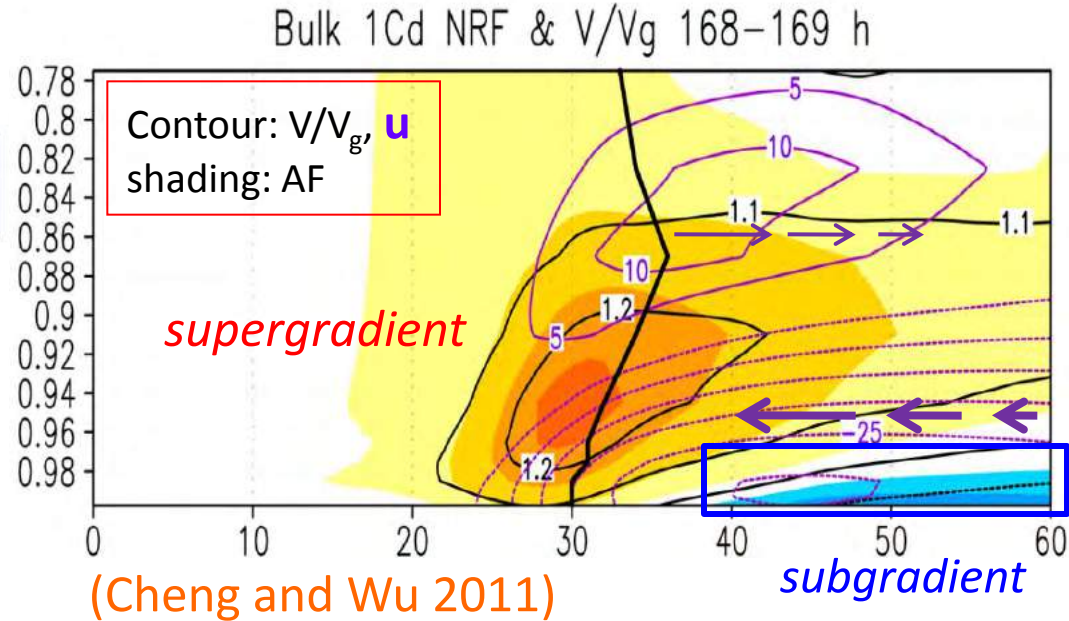
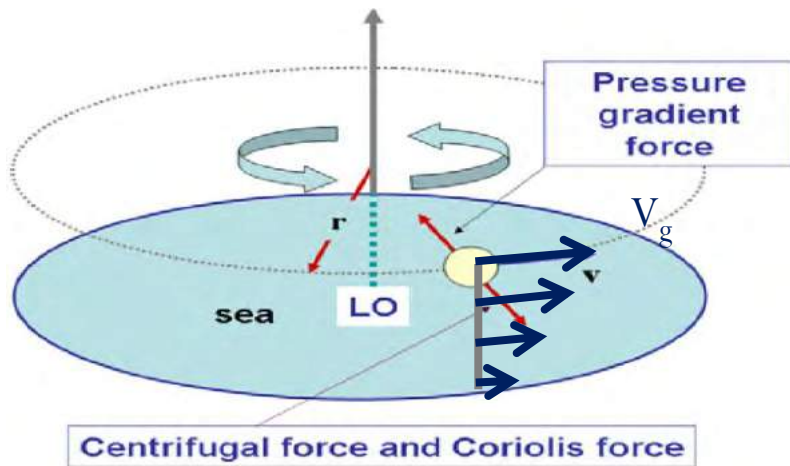
The increase of tangential circulation can be achieved by weak inflow

2) Within the BL: M is not materially conserved

Despite the loss of M in the boundary layer, if the radial inflow is sufficiently large, the increase of swirling wind can be achieved .

→ Emphasis on **the convergence of M in the BL**

# Schematic diagram on the development of a gradient wind



If  $V$  is subgradient ( $V < V_g$ ),  
inflow accelerated

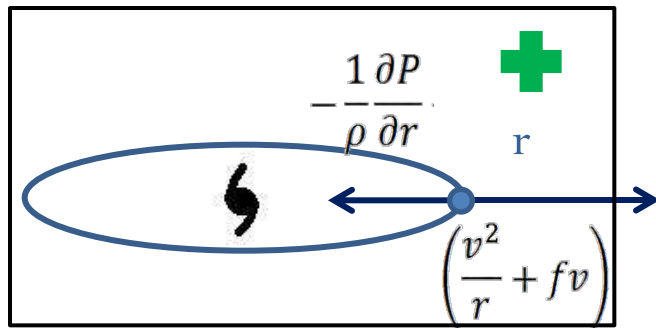
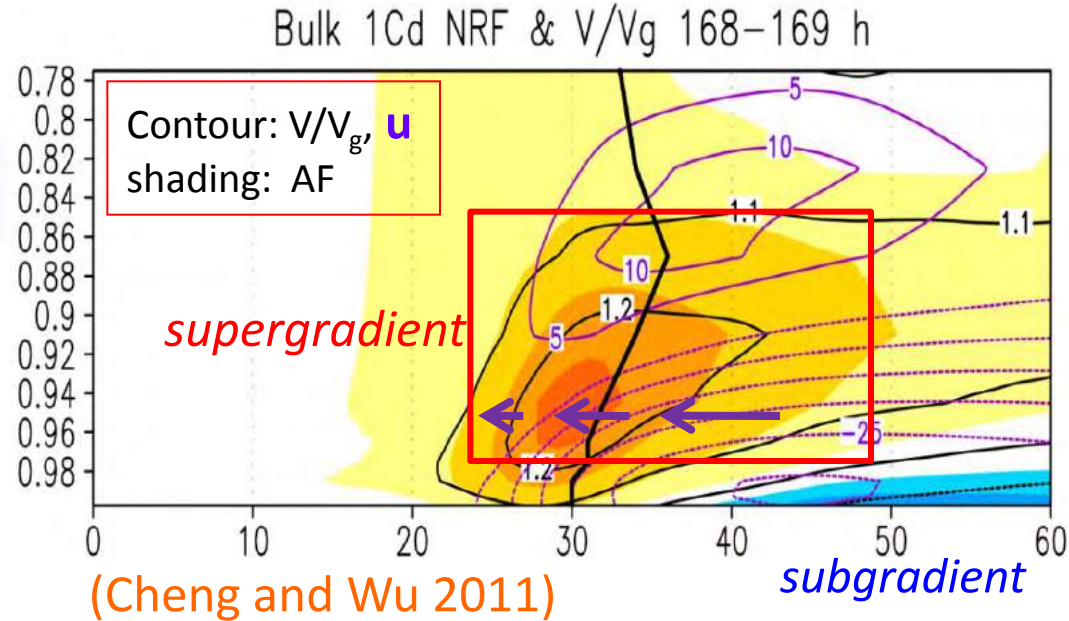
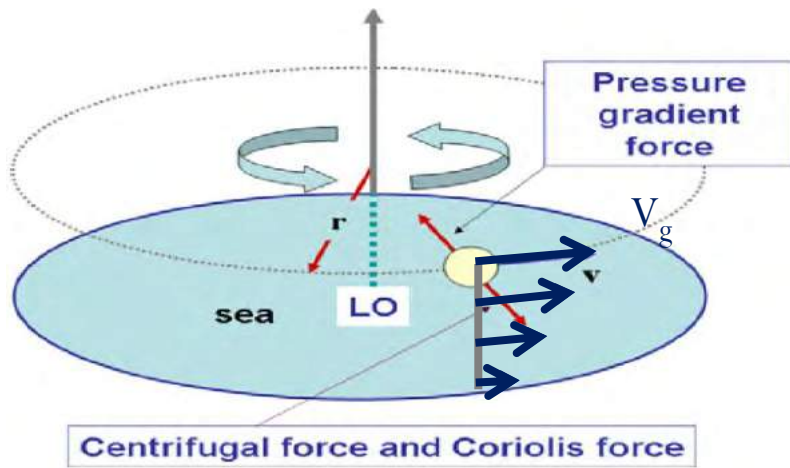
$$\frac{du}{dt} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial P}{\partial r} + \left(\frac{v^2}{r} + fv\right) - Fr$$

Agradient Force (AF)

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} = -u(\zeta + f) - w \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} - Fr$$

$\zeta = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial rv}{\partial r}$

# Schematic diagram on the development of a gradient wind



If  $V$  is supergradient ( $V > V_g$ ), inflow decelerated

$$\frac{du}{dt} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial P}{\partial r} + \left( \frac{v^2}{r} + fv \right) - Fr$$

Agradient Force (AF)

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} = -u(\zeta + f) - w \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} - Fr$$

$$\zeta = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial rv}{\partial r}$$

# Background review (iii)

## Features found during the tropical cyclone intensification corresponding to this spin-up paradigm (*Smith et al. 2009*)

- A broadening of the outer tangential wind field above and within the boundary layer.
- An amplification of radial inflow in the boundary layer in response to an increased radial pressure gradient near its top associated with the broadening tangential wind field in the outer region of the vortex.
- The generation of persistent supergradient tangential winds in the inner-core boundary layer where the radial wind becomes sufficiently strong.

# Motivations (i)

- Given the widely documented association between SEF and increases in storm size, one may anticipate that these two spin-up mechanisms might be important also during SEF.
- Precursory broadening of the outer swirling circulation suggests that an application of the spin-up paradigm to the problem of SEF may serve as a foundation stone for a new SEF pathway.

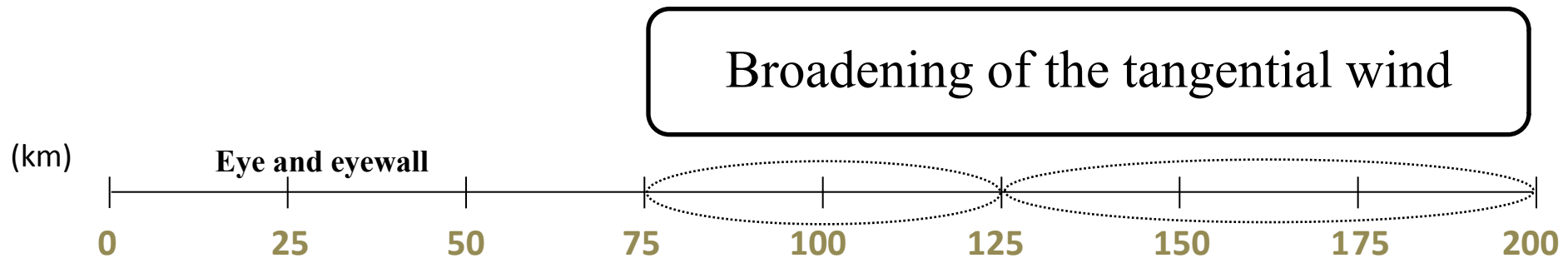
## Motivations (ii)

- Examination prior to SEF and investigation on each aforementioned spin-up sequence have been lacking due to the temporal limitation of observation data.
- A special high-spatial/temporal-resolution and model/ observation-consistent dataset for Sinlaku was constructed by using a newly developed vortex initialization scheme (WRF-based EnKF data assimilation) and unique data collected during T-PARC.

# Objectives

## Part II

- Proposing a new paradigm for SEF based on an axisymmetric view.  
*(Unbalanced response within and just above the boundary layer.)*



**Unbalanced response  
within and just above  
the boundary layer (BL)**



(Huang et al. 2012, JAS)



# **PRECURSORS PRIOR TO SEF**

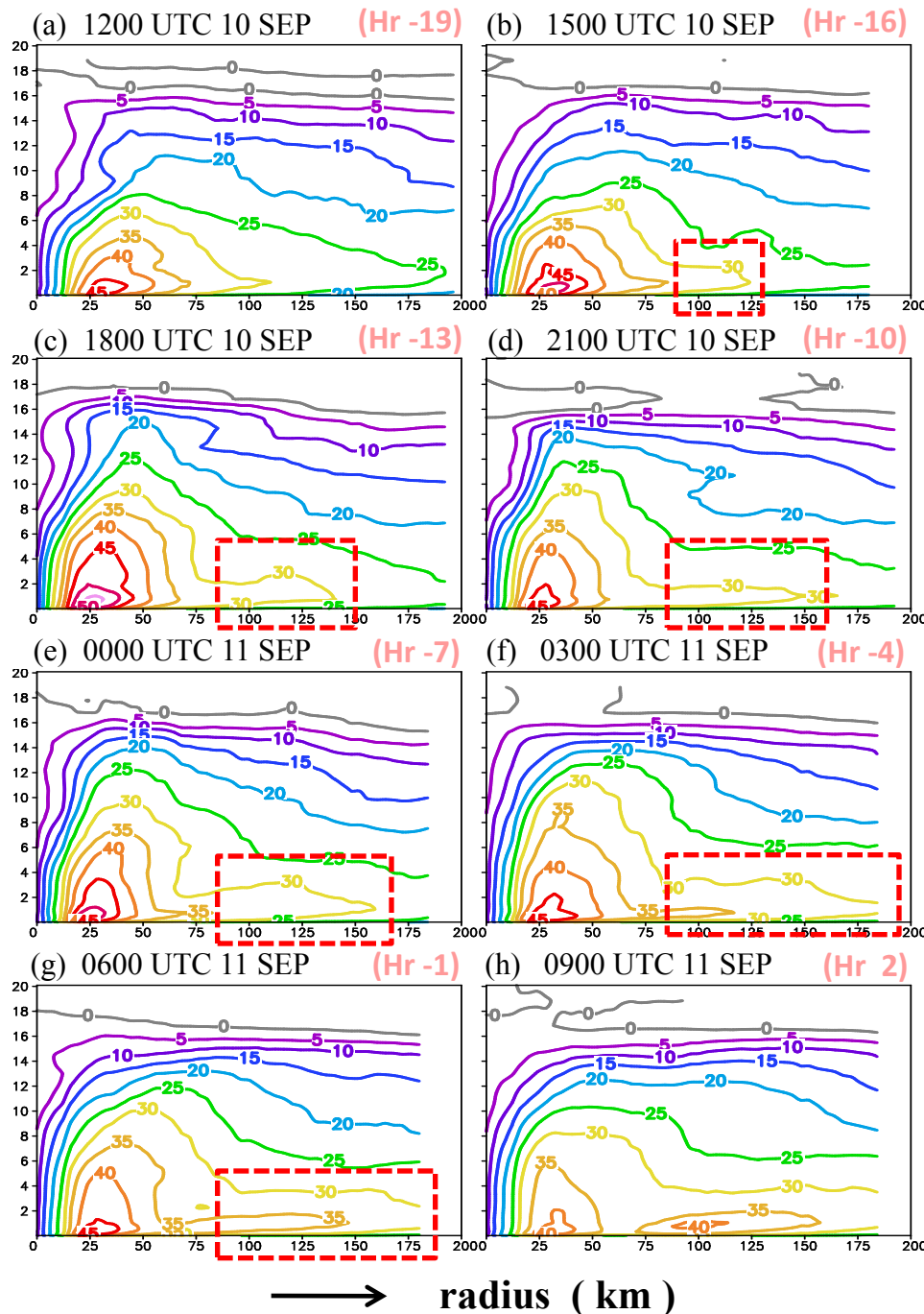
# Azimuthally-mean tangential wind

$r = 0 - 200 \text{ km}$  ;  $z = 0 - 20 \text{ km}$

*Broadening of the outer-core tangential wind above and within the BL prior to SEF*

**Fig. 1.** Radius-height cross-sections of the azimuthally-averaged tangential winds (Unit:  $\text{ms}^{-1}$ ), with a  $5\text{-ms}^{-1}$  counter interval. Analyses from 1200 UTC 10 SEP to 0900 UTC 11 SEP are displayed with a 3-h interval. As defined in Part I, the secondary eyewall forms at 0700 UTC 11 SEP.

(Huang et al. 2012, JAS)

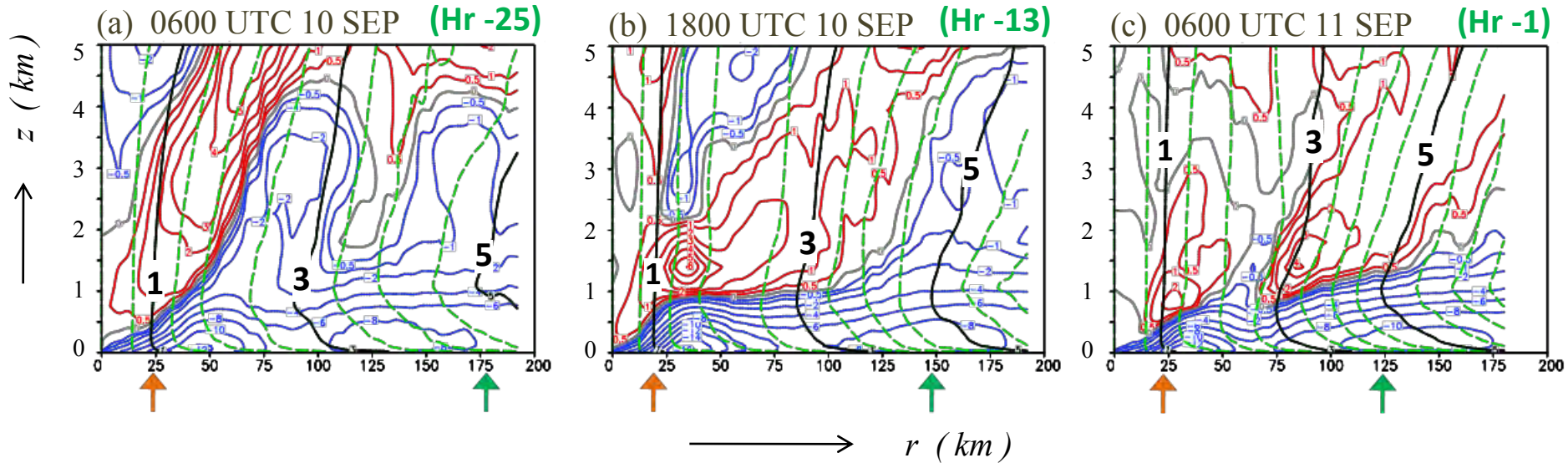


# Absolute angular momentum ( $M$ ) and radial flow ( $u$ )

$r = 0 - 200$  km ;  $z = 0 - 5$  km

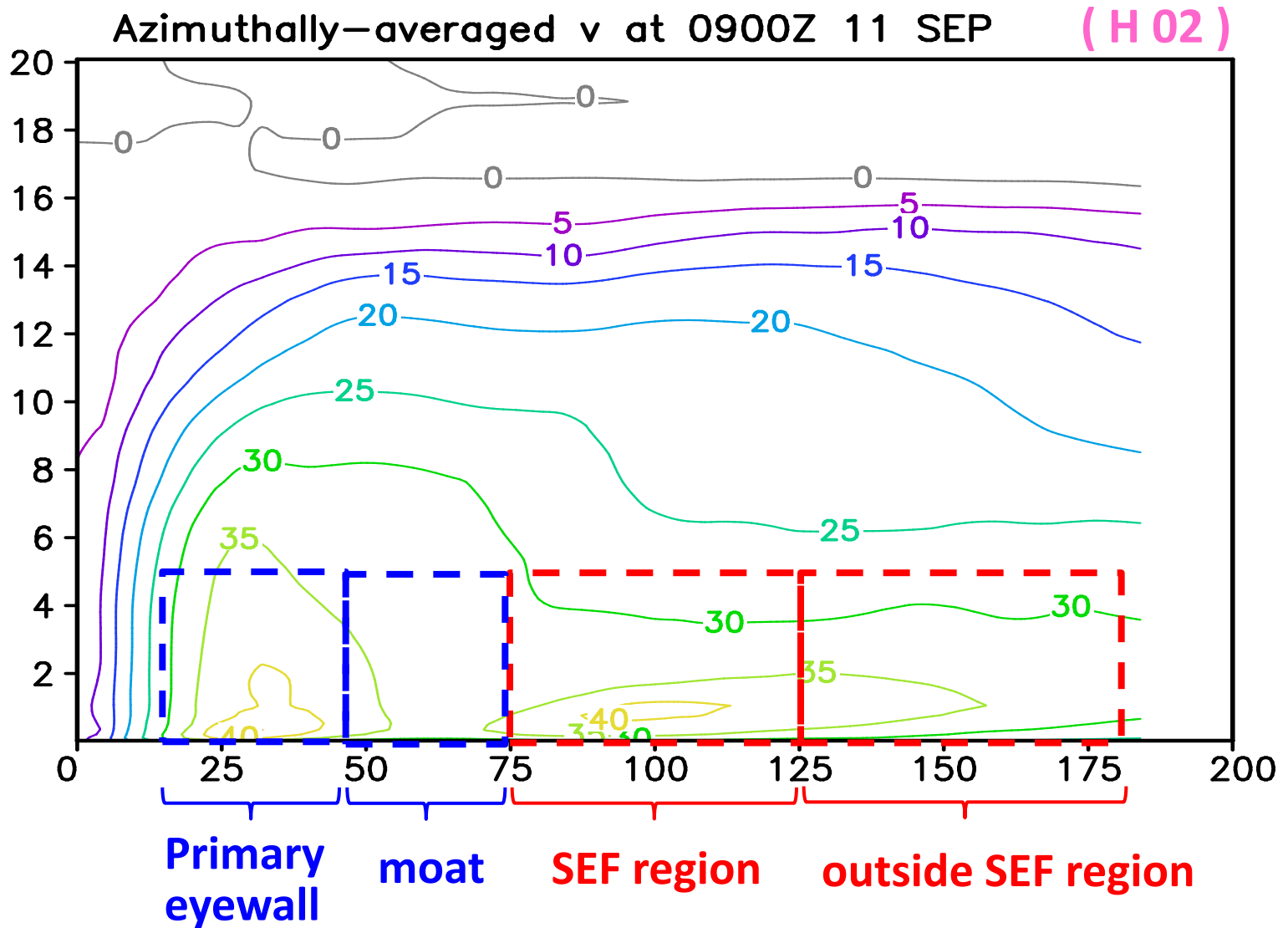
$$M = rv + \frac{1}{2}fr^2 \quad v = \frac{M}{r} - \frac{1}{2}fr$$

1 hr prior to SEF



- ❑ Persistent and sufficiently large boundary layer inflow over the outer-core region.
- ❑  $M$  advected inwards by persistent and sufficiently large boundary inflow

# DYNAMICAL INTERPRETATION



# Vertical profiles of azimuthally-, area- and temporally-averaged radial flow ( $u$ ) and agradient wind ( $V_{ag}$ )

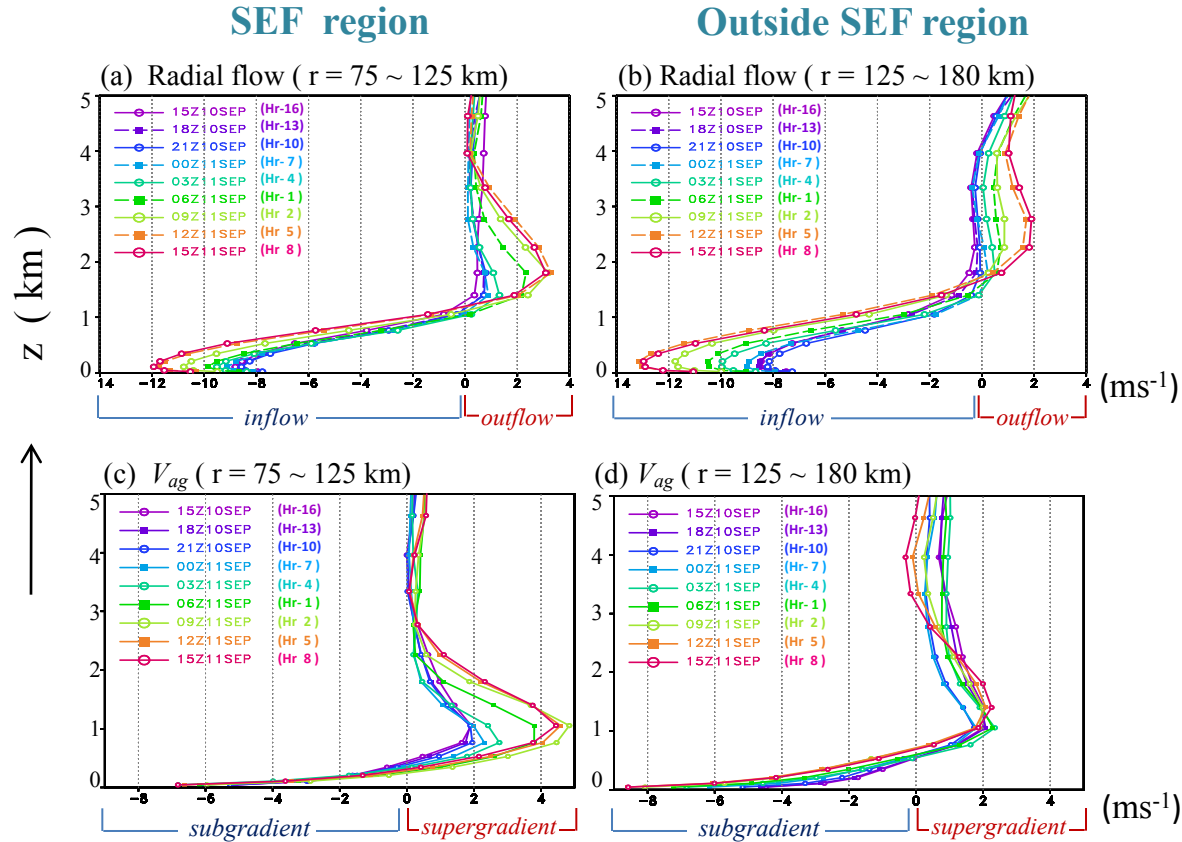
Increasing boundary-layer inflow  $\bar{u}$

Increasing supergradient wind near the top of the boundary layer

$$\bar{V}_{ag} = \bar{V} - \bar{V}_g$$

Gradient wind balance relationship

$$\frac{\bar{V}_g^2}{r} + f\bar{V}_g = \frac{1}{\bar{\rho}} \frac{\partial \bar{p}}{\partial r}$$



**Fig.5.** Azimuthally-, area- and temporally-averaged values over ( $t - 3$  h,  $t + 3$  h) based on 30-min output data. (a) and (b) are radial velocity (Unit:  $\text{ms}^{-1}$ ); (c) and (d) are agradient wind ( $V_{ag}$ ; unit:  $\text{ms}^{-1}$ ). The left panel shows the value averaged within the radial interval  $75 \text{ km} < r < 125 \text{ km}$  (the SEF region), while the right panel shows the value averaged within the radial interval  $125 \text{ km} < r < 180 \text{ km}$  (exterior to the SEF region). Analyses from 1500 UTC 10 SEP to 1500 UTC 11 SEP are displayed with a 3-h interval. The green line is 1 h prior to SEF, while the light-green line is 2 h after SEF

# Vertical profiles of azimuthally-, area- and temporally-averaged agradient force (AF) and radial pressure gradient force (PGF)

CTL

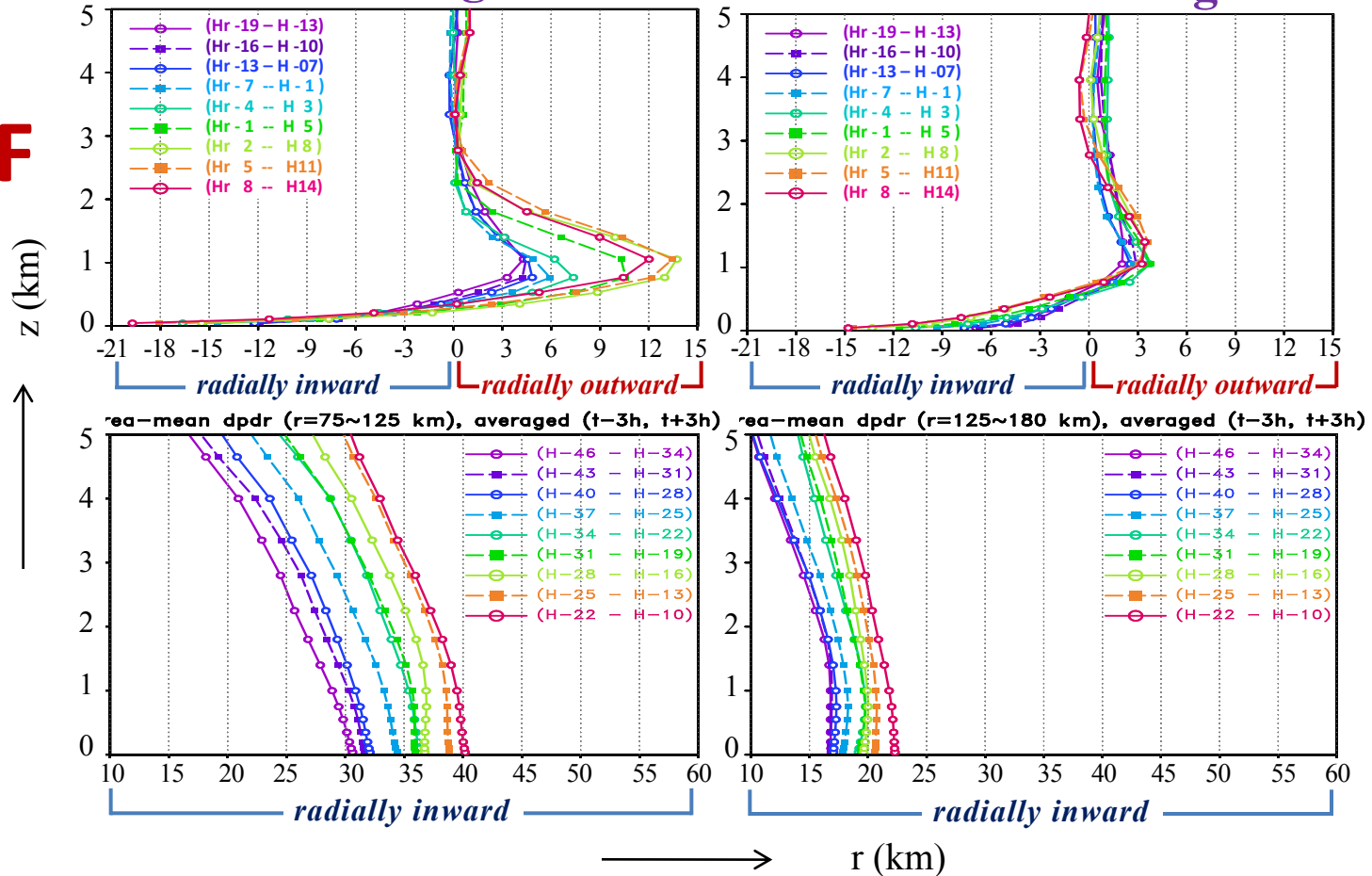
(ms<sup>-1</sup>h<sup>-1</sup>)

$$\frac{du}{dt} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial P}{\partial r} + \left( \frac{v^2}{r} + fv \right) - Fr$$

SEF region

Outside the SEF region

AF



PGF

(Huang et al. 2011, JAS)

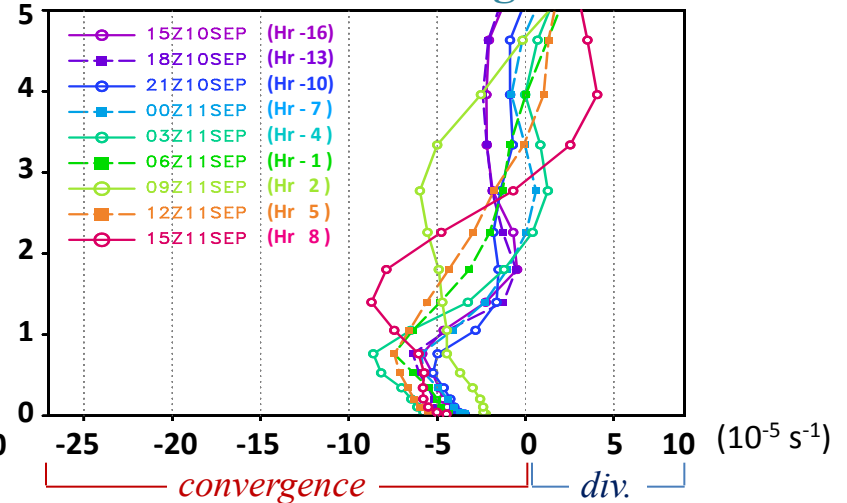
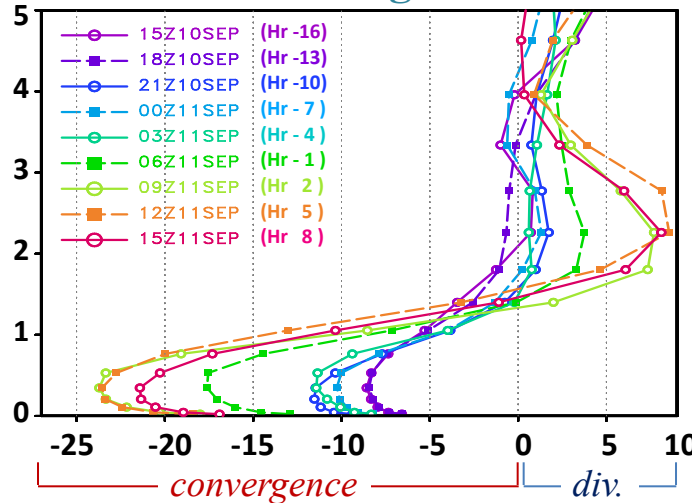
Fig. 6. Same as Fig. 5, but (a) and (b) are the agradient force (AF), while (c) and (d) are the radial pressure gradient force. Unit for these two parameters is ms<sup>-1</sup>h<sup>-1</sup>.

# Vertical profiles of azimuthally-, area- and temporally-averaged divergence and vertical velocity

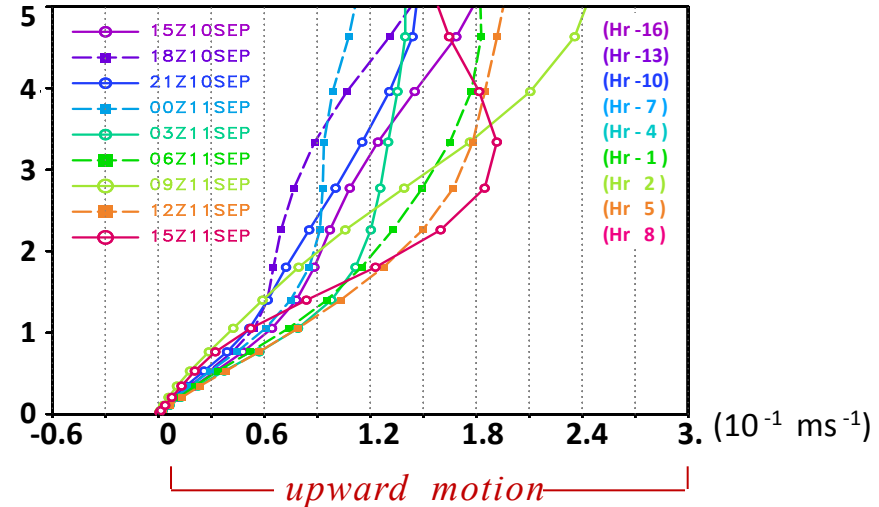
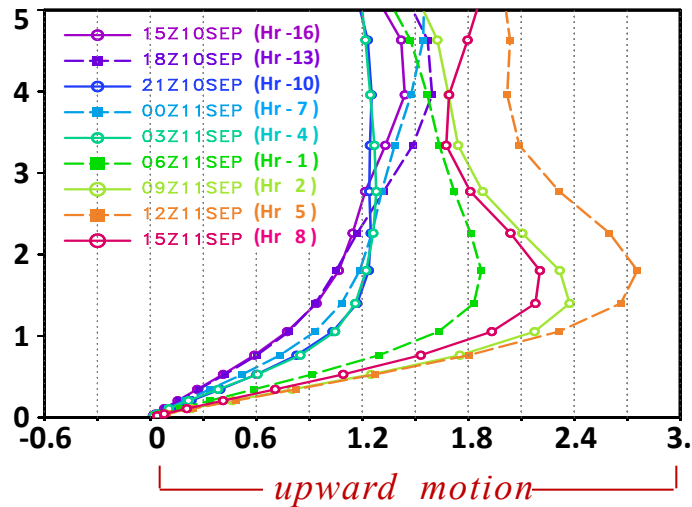
## SEF region

## Outside SEF region

Divergence



Vertical velocity

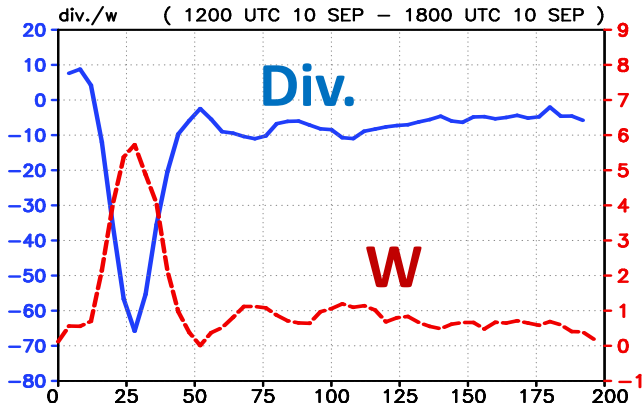


Increasing convergence within and just above the boundary layer is associated with increasing ascending motion in the lower troposphere within the SEF region.

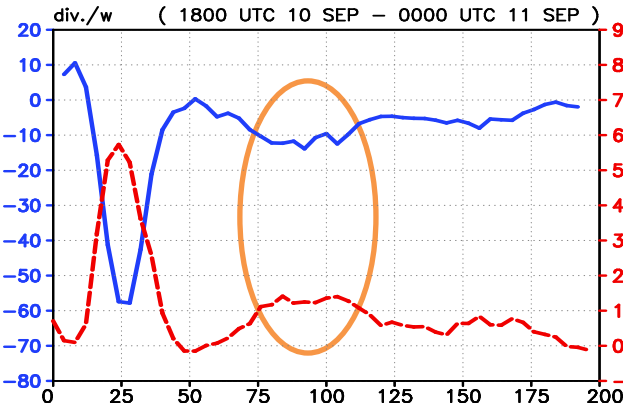
(Huang et al. 2012, JAS)

# 6-hr averaged *divergence* (at 500-m) and *vertical velocity* (at 1.5-km)

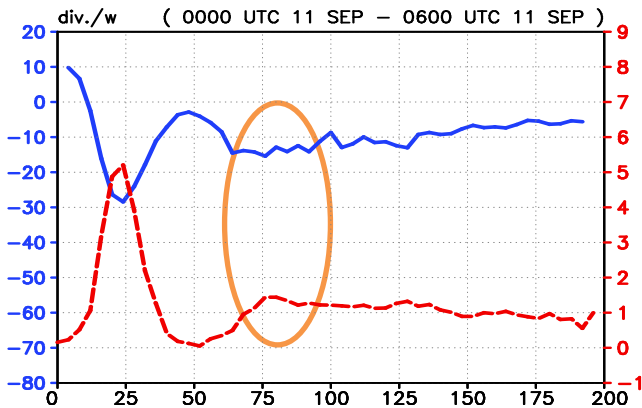
From Hr -19 to Hr -13



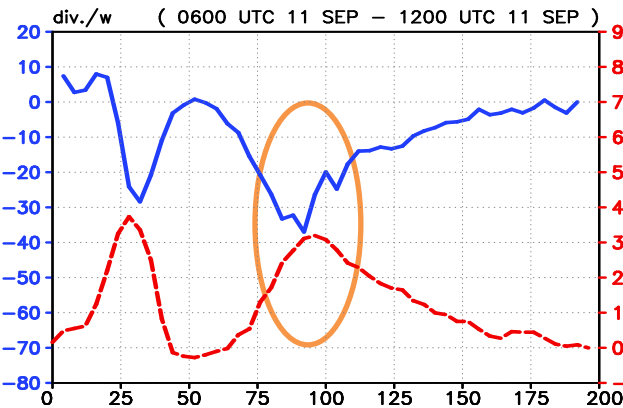
From Hr -13 to Hr -7



From Hr -7 to Hr -1



From Hr -1 to Hr 5

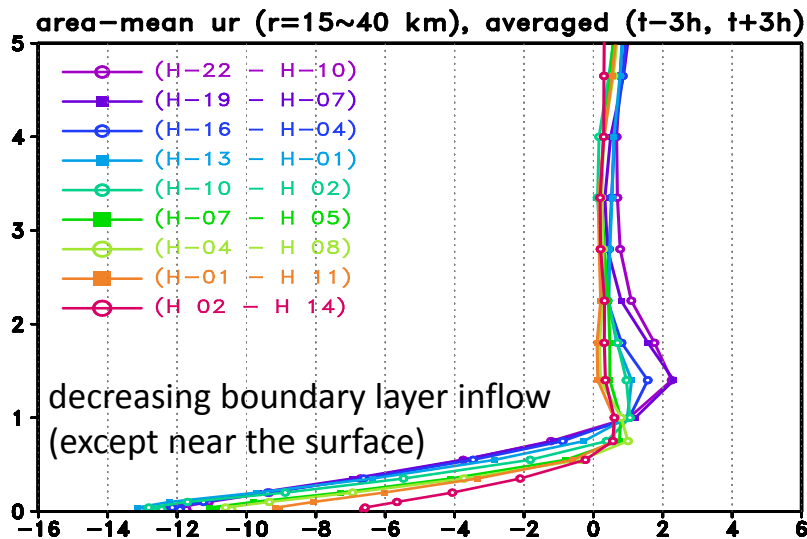


Convergence zone and upward motion are persistently stronger in SEF region over the vortex's outer core .

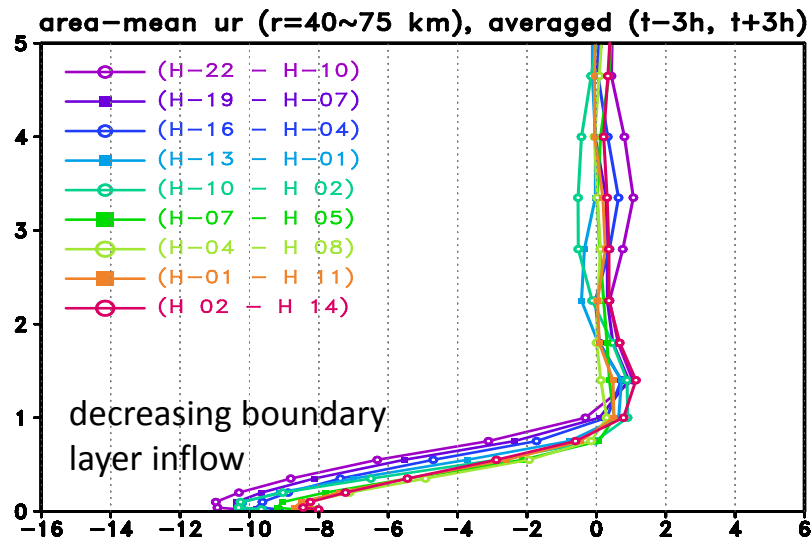
Regions of convergence within the boundary layer agree well with the radial distribution of the ascending motion at the lower troposphere.



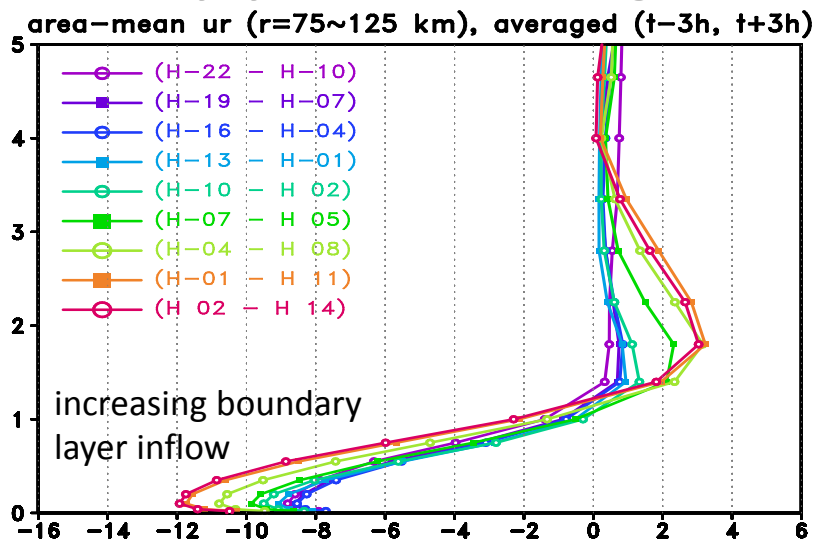
## Primary Eyewall



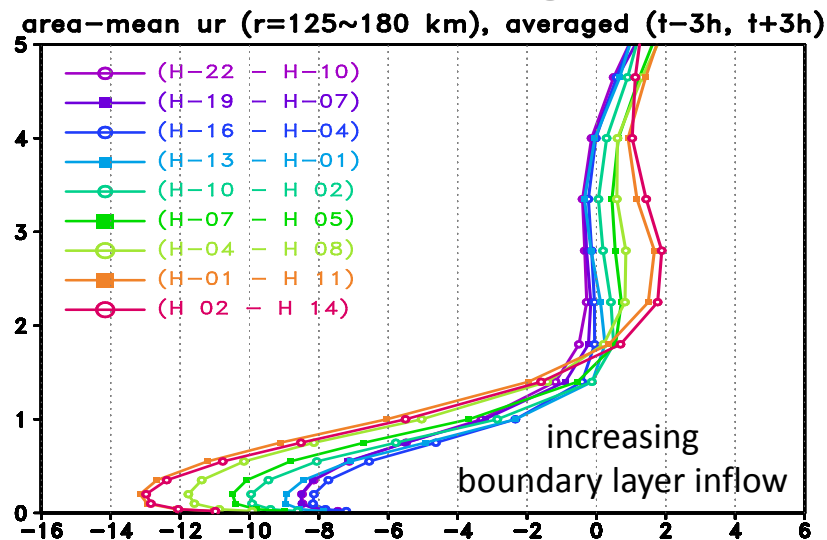
## Moat Region (no or weak precipitation)



## Secondary Eyewall Formation Region (SEF)



## Outside SEF Region

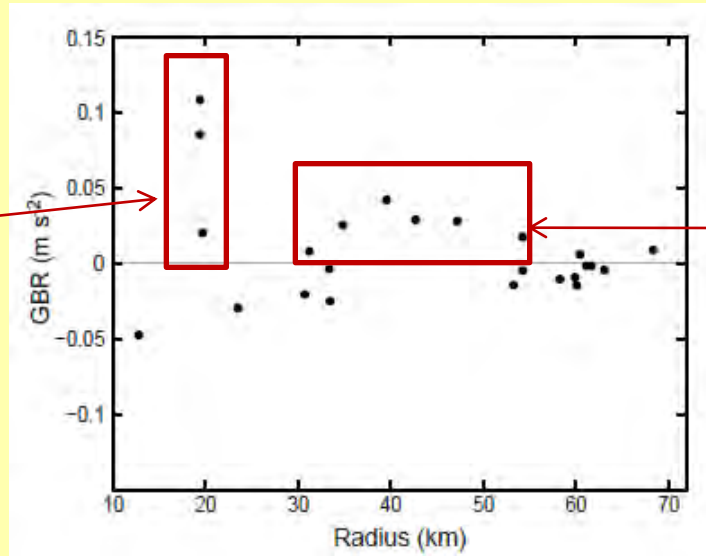


# Complementary results from other independent studies

- Using data collected during RAINEX (Hurricane Rainband and Intensity Experiment), recent observational studies on Hurricane Rita (2005) have shown some supporting evidences within the secondary eyewall.
  - Didlake and Houze (2011): Apparent supergradient tangential winds found at 500-m altitude within Rita's secondary eyewall.
  - Bell et al. (2011): 1) The maximum tangential wind within the boundary layer; 2) the alternating regions of convergence (i.e., eyewalls) and divergence (i.e., the eye and moat) 150-m height agree well with the radial distribution of vertical motion.

# Didlake and Houze (2011)

Supergradient winds within the primary eyewall

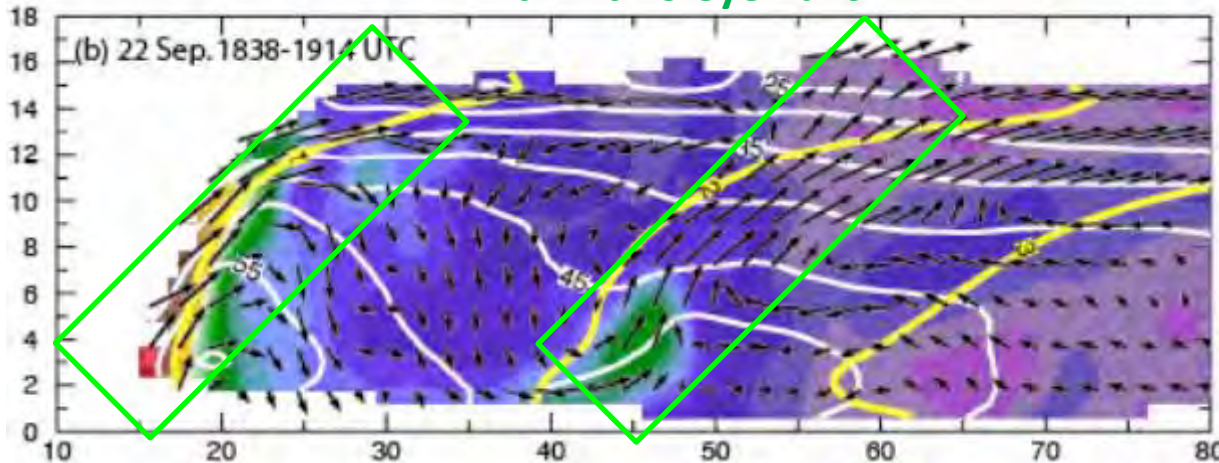


(dropsonde data)

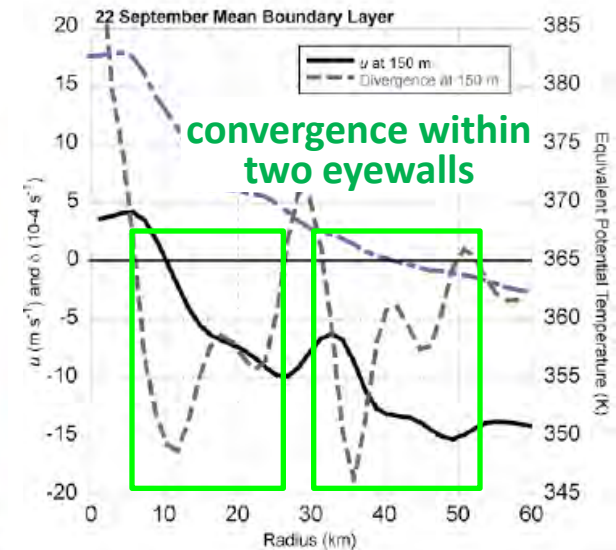
Supergradient winds within the secondary eyewall

# Bell et al. (2011)

upward motion within two eyewalls



(Derived from the ELDORA Doppler Radar)



(dropsonde data)

# Summary (i)

## Part II (Huang et al. 2012, JAS)

- Analyses of one representative simulation from the 28 members are conducted.
- A deeper understanding of the underlying dynamics of SEF has been obtained based on some recently developed insights on the axisymmetric dynamics of tropical cyclone intensification.
- The findings point to a sequence of structural changes in the outer-core region of a mature tropical cyclone, which culminates in the formation of a secondary eyewall.

The deepening of the storm and/or convective activities in rainbands contribute to the radial gradient of the diabatic heating rate.

(Smith et al. 2009, QJRMS)

Persistent and sufficiently large inflow

$M$  is converged inward with minimal loss to surface friction  $\rightarrow$  Broadening of the tangential wind

Eye and eyewall

(km) 0 25 50 75 100 125 150 175 200

supergradient wind monotonically increase

$u$  rapidly decelerated inward

From “sporadic and/or weak” convergence to “well-defined and concentrated” convergence zone

eruption of air out of the BL to initiate and sustain deep convection

No significant changes

$$M = rv + \frac{1}{2}fr^2$$

$$v = \frac{M}{r} - \frac{1}{2}fr$$

Unbalanced response within and just above the boundary layer (BL)

(Wu et al. 2012b, MWR; Huang et al. 2012, JAS)

$\rightarrow$  SEF

In a favorable thermodynamic and kinematic environment

# Sawyer Eliassen equation

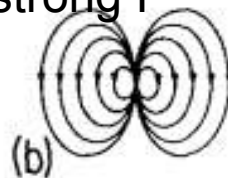
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial r^*} \left( \frac{\text{Ri} N^{*2}}{r^* \rho^*} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r^*} - \frac{S^* \xi^*}{r^* \rho^*} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial z^*} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z^*} \left( \frac{\zeta^* \xi^*}{r^* \rho^*} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial z^*} - \frac{S^* \xi^*}{r^* \rho^*} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r^*} \right) = \underbrace{-\frac{\partial}{\partial z^*} (\xi^* \mathbf{V}^*)}_{\text{momentum}} + \underbrace{\frac{\partial}{\partial r^*} \mathbf{B}^*}_{\text{heat}},$$

barotropic  
vortex  
weak  $I^2$



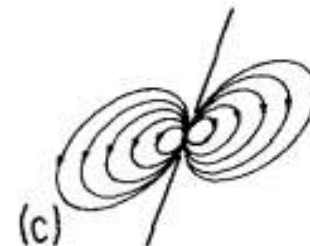
(a)

Barotropic  
vortex  
strong  $I^2$



(b)

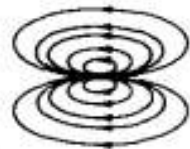
baroclinic vortex



(c)

heat

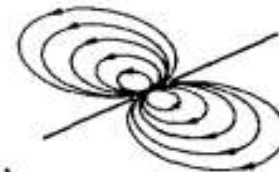
momentum



(d)



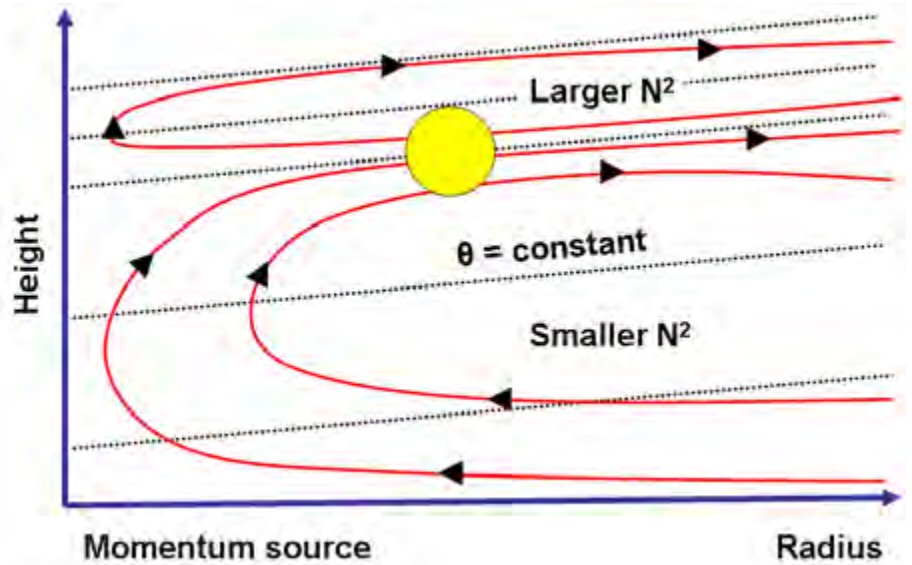
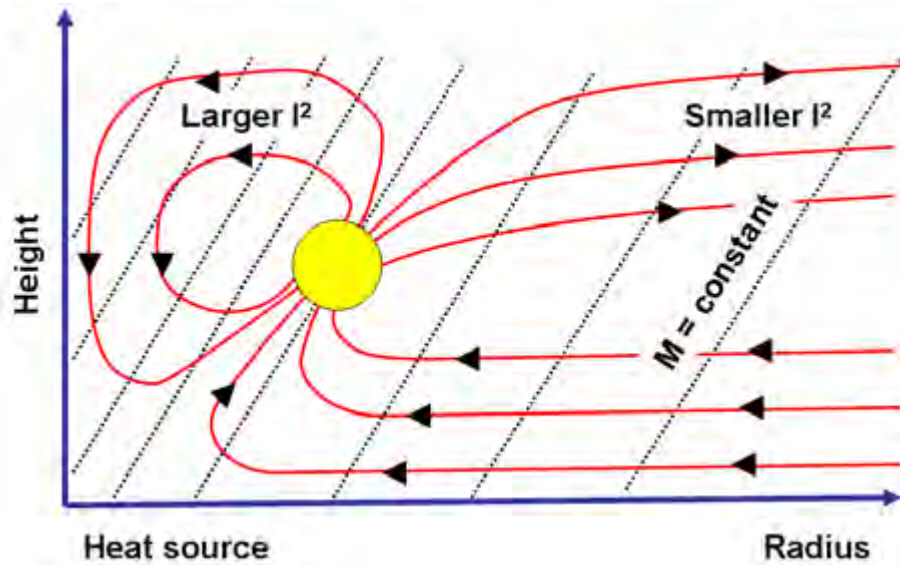
(e)



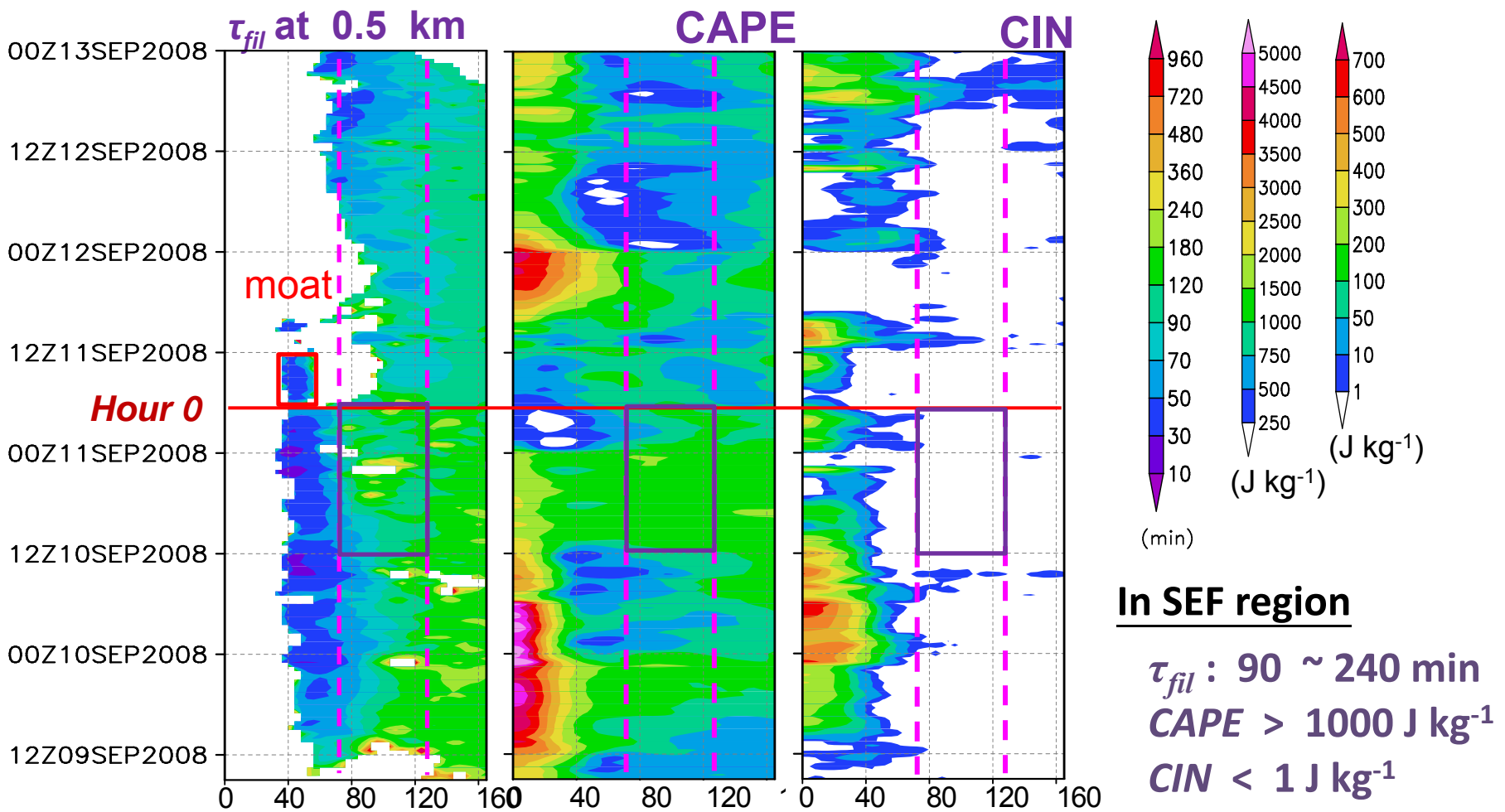
(f)

(Shapiro and Willoughby 1982)

# Balanced response of Sawyer Eliassen equation in typhoon



# Are the kinetic/thermodynamic conditions in the SEF region conducive for the development of convections?



## In the SEF region

- ✓ Straining effect and CIN are not adverse for the development of convection.
- ✓ CAPE is in favor of the development of convection. → **A convectively favorable region**

## In SEF region

$\tau_{fil}$  : 90 ~ 240 min  
 CAPE > 1000  $\text{J kg}^{-1}$   
 CIN < 1  $\text{J kg}^{-1}$



# Summary (ii)

- An attractive paradigm on physical grounds because of its simplicity and consistency with the 3-D numerical simulations presented.
- Application of the two spin-up mechanisms set the scene for a progressive boundary layer control pathway to SEF.
- *The unbalanced boundary layer response to an expanding swirling wind field is an important mechanism for concentrating and sustaining deep convection in a narrow supergradient-wind zone in the outer-core region of a mature tropical cyclone.*
- The boundary layer and its coupling to the interior flow is a key process that needs to be adequately represented in numerical models to improve the understanding of SEF, as well as the accuracy of SEF forecasts, including its timing and preferred region.

# Issues to be investigated

- **Is the result representative? Would the result be the artifact of data assimilation?**  
→ **Analyses of data-denial forecast experiments**
- **How important is the mean-field dynamics?**  
→ **Budget calculations of the tangential wind**
- Impact of model resolution (horizontal and vertical): in data-denial experiments
- Impact of physical process (convection vs. PBL process)
- Conducting Sawyer-Eliassen diagnostics to investigate the balanced and unbalanced responses of the secondary circulation to the radial gradient of diabatic heating.
- Insights into the design of more idealized experiments

# Objectives

## Part I

- Constructing a dataset for Typhoon Sinlaku by using T-PARC data and a new vortex initialization method via the WRF model.
- **Showing the evolution of the concentric eyewall cycle in terms of different parameters..**

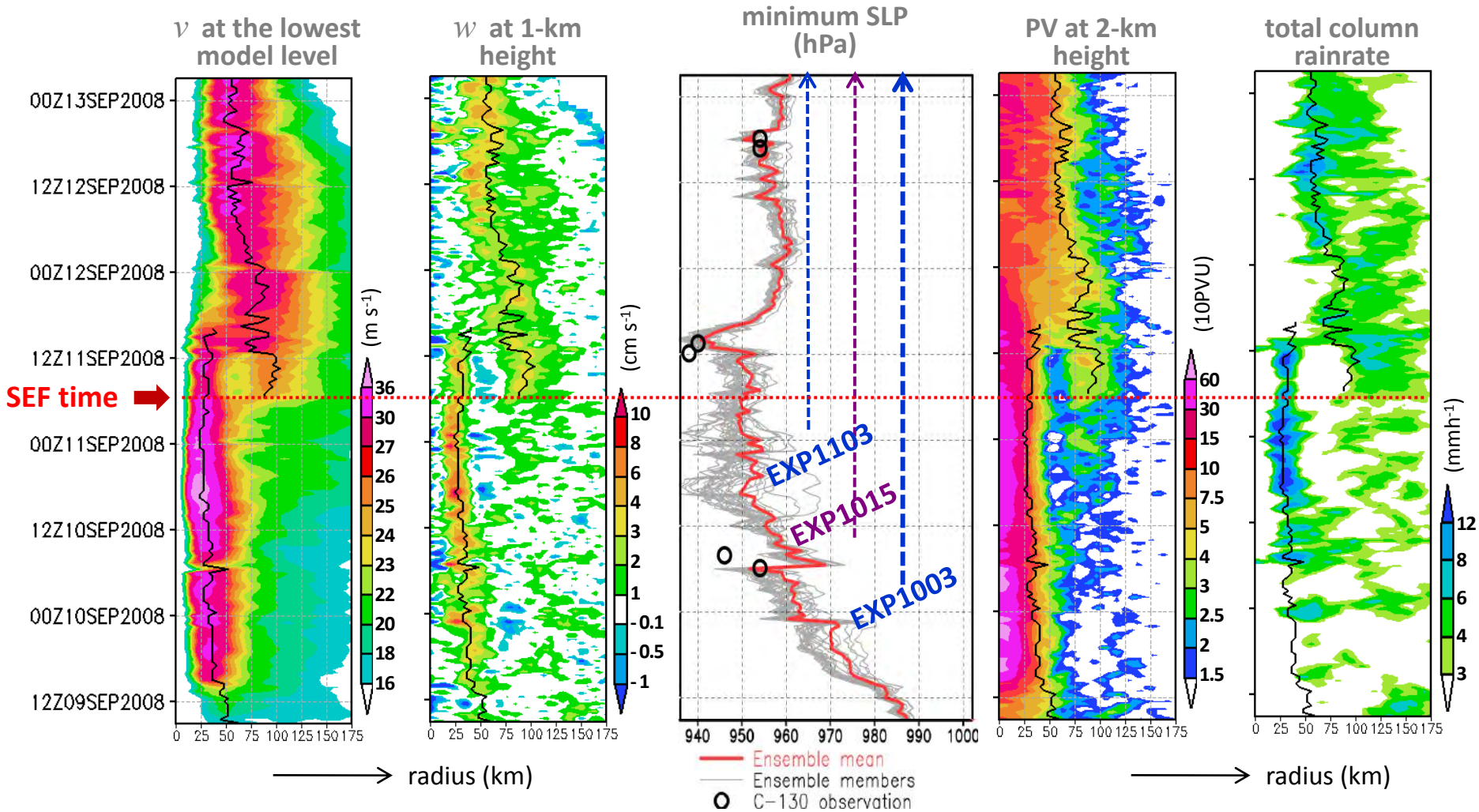
## Part II

- **Investigating potential precursors to SEF and providing a corresponding dynamical interpretation.**
- **Proposing a new pathway to SEF based on an axisymmetric view.**  
*(Unbalanced response within and just above the boundary layer.)*

## Part III

- **Validating the presenting pathway in the data-denial experiments.**

# Data-denial forecast experiments



**SEF time: a persistent secondary maximum in  $V$  at the lowest model level**

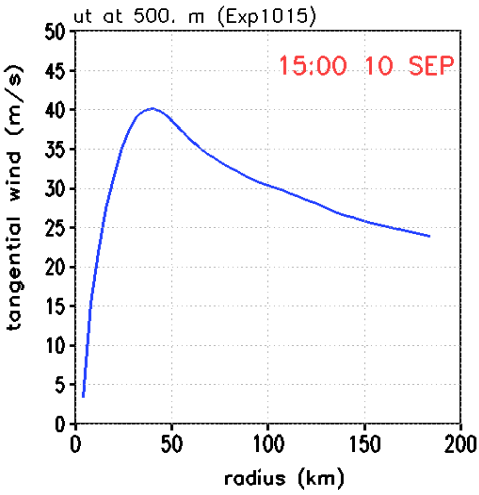
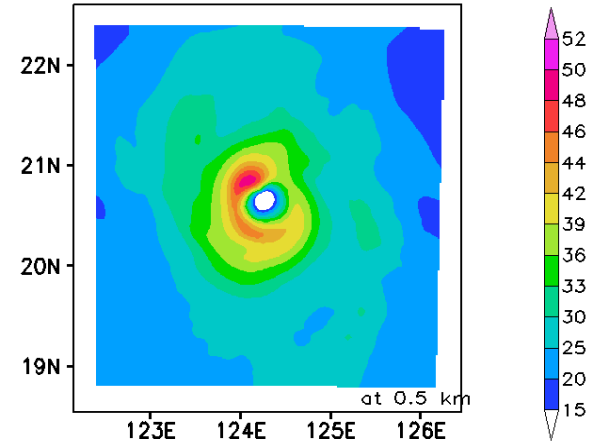
**Hr -1 : 1 h prior to SEF ; Hr 0 : SEF time ; Hr 1: 1 h after SEF**

# EXP1015

data ingest suppressed after  
1500 UTC 10 SEP

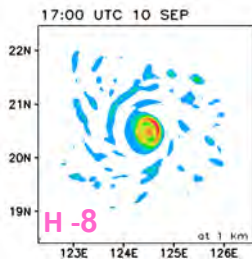
*azimuthal-mean v profile  
plane view of v and PV  
time-radius plots*

15:00 UTC 10 SEP

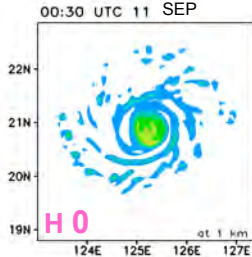


**CE structure (less distinct); SEF time: 0100 UTC 11 SEP**

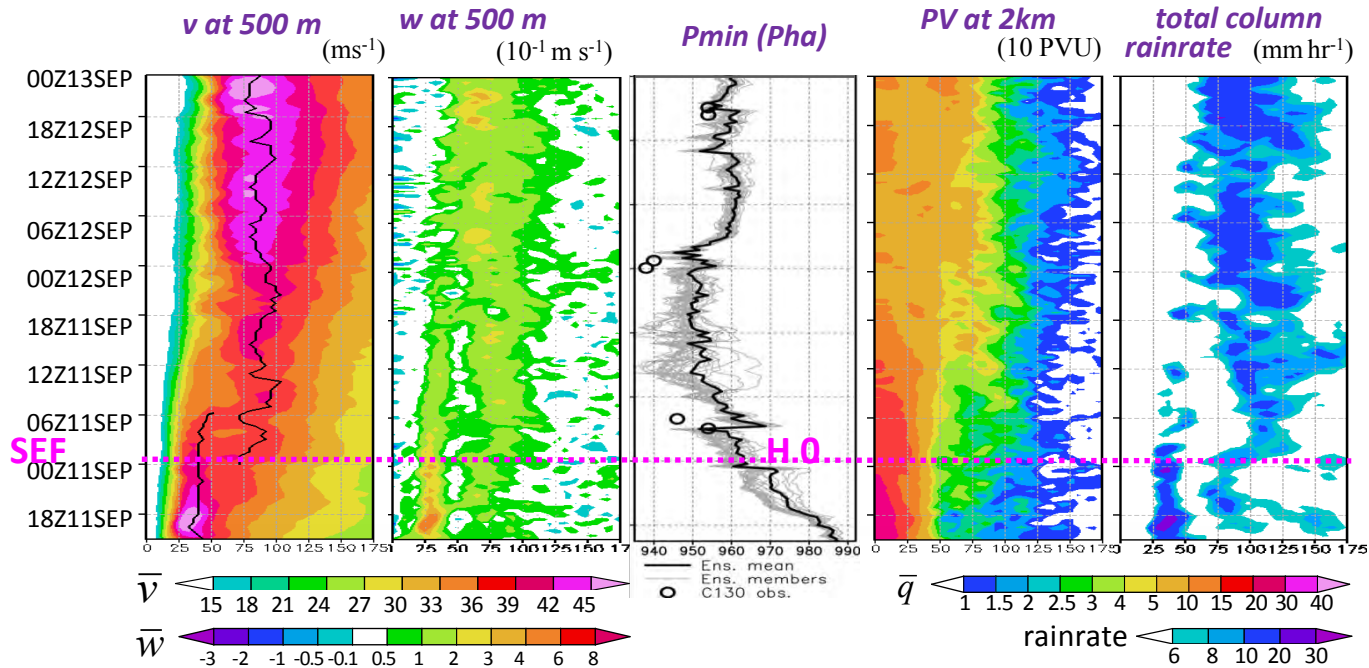
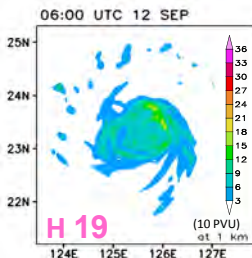
sporadic  
convective  
cells



concentric  
eyewalls



New  
eyewall



(Wu et al. 2012a, MWR)

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# Issues to be investigated

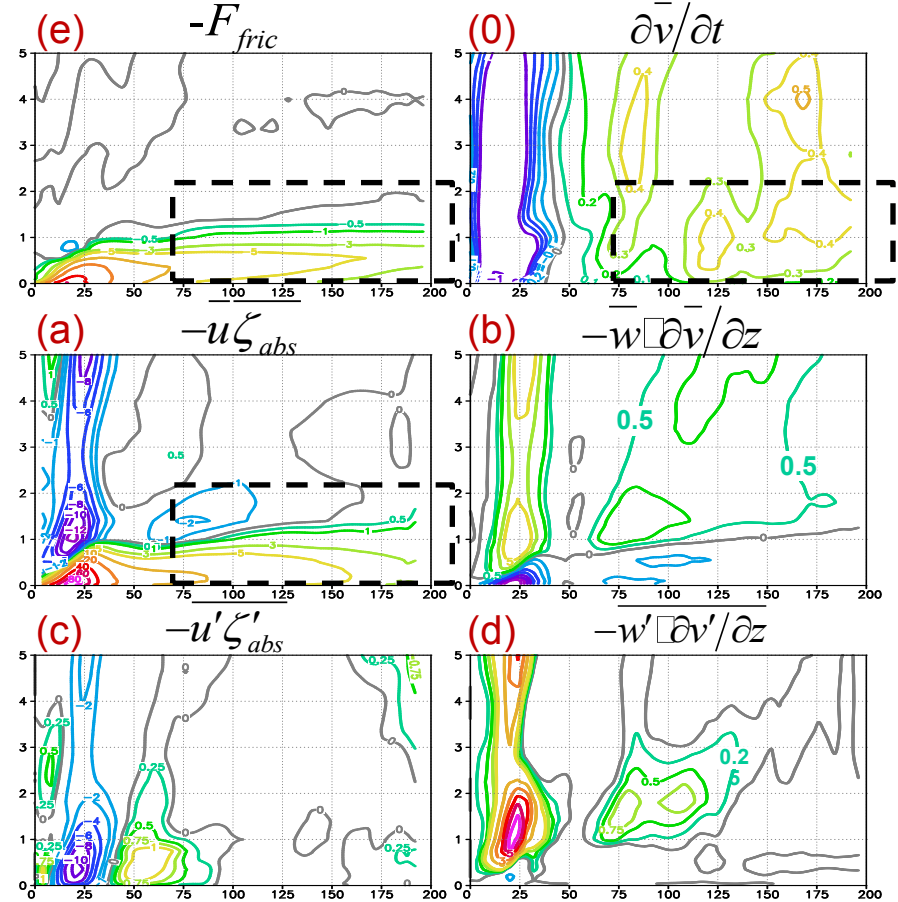
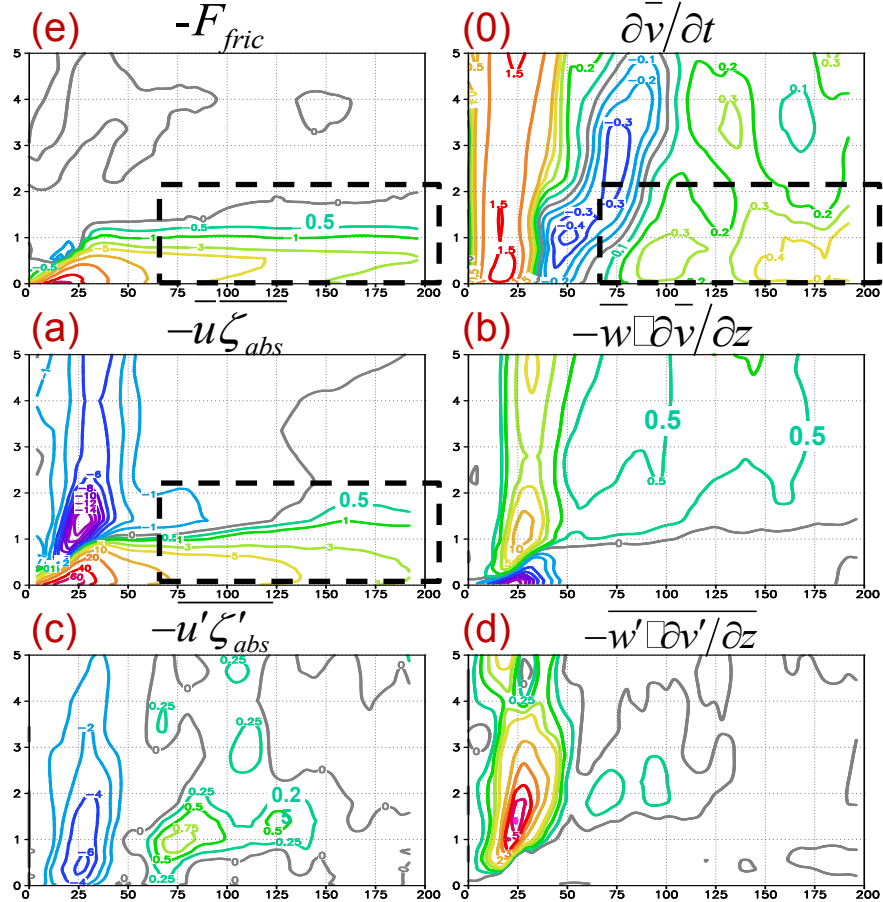
- **Is the result representative? Would the result be the artifact of data assimilation?**  
→ **Analyses of data-denial forecast experiments**
- **How important is the mean-field dynamics?**  
→ **Budget calculations of the tangential wind**
- Impact of model resolution (horizontal and vertical): in data-denial experiments
- Impact of physical process (convection vs. PBL process)
- Conducting Sawyer-Eliassen diagnostics to investigate the balanced and unbalanced responses of the secondary circulation to the radial gradient of diabatic heating.
- Insights into the design of more idealized experiments

$\bar{v}$  budget analysis : 
$$\frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial t} = \overline{-u \zeta_{abs}} - \overline{w \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial z}} - \overline{u' \zeta'_{abs}} - \overline{w' \frac{\partial \bar{v}'}{\partial z}} + F_{fric}$$

based on 2-min output data  
(Unit:  $\text{ms}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1}$ )

H -19 - H -10

H -10 - H -01



In the SEF region (75 – 125 km)

- Within the inflow layer, the mean component of the radial advection outweighs the frictional loss.
- Above the inflow layer, the mean and asymmetric components enhance the tangential winds.

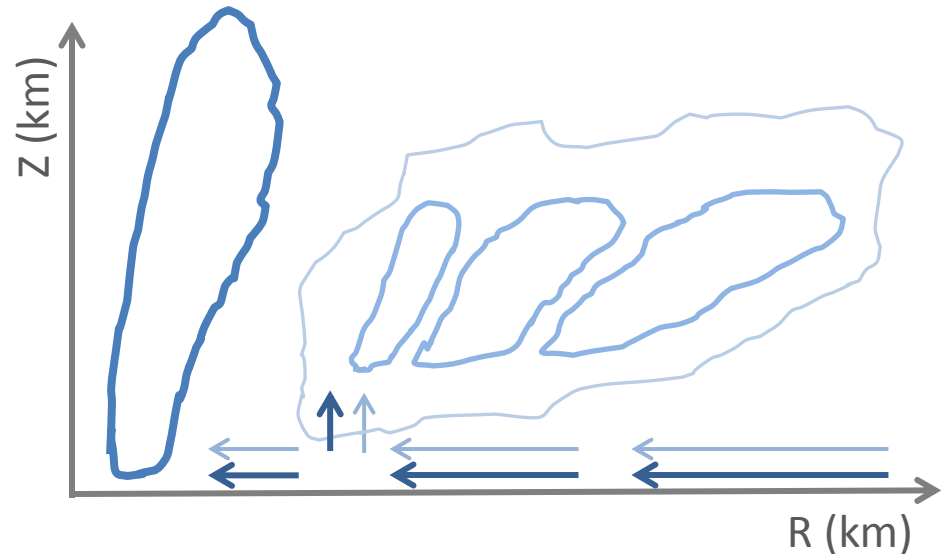
The mean radial advection in absolute vorticity plays the dominant role in enhancing the tangential wind near the top of the boundary layer.



# Ongoing works

- Sawyer-Eliassen diagnostics to evaluate the balanced and unbalanced responses of the secondary circulation to the radial distribution of the diabatic heating.

- ✓ Diabatic heating in the primary eyewall
- ✓ Diabatic heating projection from the rainbands or small-scale convective features in the vortex's outer-core region.



- Validation by more observation data and simulations in TCs, whether or not they have undergone SEF.
- Impact of model resolution (horizontal and vertical): in data-denial experiments
- Impact of physical process (convection vs. PBL process)
- Insights into the design of more idealized experiments

**THANKS FOR LISTENING**