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A Recently Revived Production of Global Air-Sea Surface Turbulent Fluxes the Newly Produced GSSTF2b Dataset Validations & Findings

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NASA/GSFC

In Memory of My Mentor

Dr. Shu-Hsien Chou (aka Sue, 周張淑纖博士)

Without her genuine intelligence, intuition, great vision and perseverance, the productions of GSSTF1 (Chou et al. 1997, 2000), GSSTF2 (Chou et al. 2001, 2003), & GSSTF2b (Shie et al. 2009, 2010) would have not been possible.

Background

Two-thirds of global precipitation mainly contributed by air-sea surface fluxes falls in the tropics, providing three-fourths of the energy driving global atmospheric circulation (via Hadley Cell) through latent heating.



Global Ocean Circulation

TOPEX/POSEIDON

The Global Conveyor Belt for Heat



Winds drive oceanic surface circulation that carries the warm upper waters poleward from the tropics. Heat is disbursed along the way from the waters to the atmosphere. The cooling and sinking of waters in the polar regions drive deep oceanic circulation.

Air-Sea Turbulent Fluxes

Include:

- Latent Heat Flux (LHF)
- Sensible Heat Flux (SHF)
- Momentum Flux (Wind Stress WST)
- Exchange of heat, moisture (fresh water), and momentum between atmosphere and ocean
- Important in air-sea interaction, climate variations and oceanic circulations of multiple temporal / spatial scales

Observations of Oceanic Fluxes

Direct 'measurements' over ocean

In-situ observations of u', v', w', T', q'... at very high frequency using specific instruments (Supersonic et al)

Estimation from mean oceanic and atmospheric state variables (temperature, wind speed, humidity) through

BULK FLUX ALGORITHMS

- In-situ observation (ship, buoys..)
- Satellite observation
- Model simulations



Bulk Aerodynamic Algorithm LHF (潛熱通量) = $\rho_a L_v C_E (U-U_s)(q_s - q_a)$ SHF (可感熱通量) = $\rho_a c_p C_H (U-U_s)(\theta_s - \theta_a)$ WST (風應力) = $\rho_a C_D (U-U_s)^2$

* Physical constants [L_v, c_p]
* State Variable [ρ_a, U, q_s, q_a, θ_s, θ_a]
* Bulk Transfer/Turbulent Exchange Coefficients [C_E, C_H, C_D]

An Improved GSSTF2b

SSM/I V4(GSSTF2); V6(GSSTF2b):

- 1. Surface Air (~10-m) Specific Humidity
- 2. Lowest 500-m Precipitable Water
- 3. 10-m Wind Speed
- 4. Sea-Air Humidity Difference
- 5. Total Precipitable Water

NCEP-NCAR R1 (GSSTF2); NCEP/DOE R2 (GSSTF2b):

- 6. Sea Surface Temperature
- 7. Sea Level Pressure
- 8. 2-m Air Temperature
- 9. Sea Surface Saturation Specific Humidity

- **1. Latent Heat Flux**
- 2. Zonal Wind Stress*
- 3. Meridional Wind Stress*
- 4. Sensible Heat Flux *partitioned by surface wind vectors: variational analysis method (VAM) by Atlas et al. 1996); an upgraded version of CCMP/VAM L3 was applied for GSSTF2b

EOF method for Qa Retrieval

(Chou et al., 1995 & 1997)

$$q(t, r, \sigma) = \overline{q}(\sigma) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} C_{i}(t, r) F_{i}(\sigma) \quad (1)$$

 $Q(t, r) = Q + C_{1}(t, r) Q_{1} + C_{2}(t, r) Q_{2}$ (2) $W(t, r) = \overline{W} + C_{1}(t, r) W_{1} + C_{2}(t, r) W_{2}$ (3) $W_{B}(t, r) = \overline{W}_{B} + C_{1}(t, r) W_{B1} + C_{2}(t, r) W_{B2}$ (4)

Solve C_1 and C_2 based on (3) & (4) Obtain Q (t, r) using (2)

 \overline{Q} , Q_1 , and Q_2 are the values of \overline{q} , F_1 , and F_2 at $\mathcal{O}=1$; \overline{W} , W_1 , W_2 and , \overline{W}_B , W_{B1} , W_{B2} are the total and bottom-layer precipitable water corresponding to the profiles of \overline{q} , F_1 , and F_2 , C_1 and C_2 are the principal components for the **first** and **second** EOFs.

SSM/I V6/V4 surface wind speed vs. the observed of KWAJEX (left: 32 samples) & JKMNP (right: 82 samples)



(Labels of x/y axis need to be swapped)















GrADS: COLA/IGES

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Improved estimated LHF at the Kuroshio region with higher spatial resolution



0.25°×0.25°



(Lin & Wang, 2006)

