

The YOTC MJO Task Force: Summary of activities and accomplishments

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In recognition of the fact that improved understanding and prediction of the MJO is crucial for both the weather and climate communities, the MJO Task Force (MJO-TF) was established in early 2010 for an initial term of 3 years, within the framework of the joint WWRP/THORPEX/WCRP YOTC activity, and asked to report to the JSC-WWRP, ICSC THORPEX, and the CLIVAR SSG. The overall goal of the MJO-TF was set to facilitate improvements in the representation of the MJO in weather and climate models in order to increase the predictive skill of the MJO and related weather and climate phenomena. The initial membership of the MJO-TF of 15 international scientists was based on the desire to achieve this goal and extend the success of the former US-CLIVAR MJO Working Group (MJOWG) internationally. The work of the MJO-TF has so far been facilitated through e-mails, teleconferences, and a single face-to-face meeting at the APCC in Busan, Korea, in June 2010. The accomplishments to date of the MJO-TF include: a. Development of a web site (<http://www.ucar.edu/yotc/mjo.html>) that includes teleconference minutes and all related papers and presentations of the MJO-TF. b. Co-organization of a well-attended and lively workshop on "Modeling Monsoon Intraseasonal Variability" held at the APCC in Busan, Korea, in June 2010, with a meeting summary published in BAMS. c. Development and continuing refinement of a set of process-oriented diagnostics for the evaluation of the MJO and related processes in global weather and climate models. d. The development a MJO Diabatic Heating Model Intercomparison Project in conjunction with the GEWEX Cloud System Study (GCSS) Working Group. e. Coordination of the analysis of the MJO in the CMIP5 simulations. f. Guidance on the development and application of a forecast metric focussing on the boreal summer intraseasonal oscillation that strongly affects the onsets and breaks of the Indian/Asian summer monsoon. g. Continuing discussions, interpretation and guidance on real-time model MJO forecast verification of the major Operational Centre numerical models, an activity that was initiated by the TF predecessor, the MJOWG. This poster will summarize these activities and provide a mechanism that will allow those interested in the MJO-TF to find out more.