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Future Changes in the Asian Monsoon Rainfall under a Warmer Climate

Akio Kitoh

University of Tsukuba, Tsukuba, Japan

and

Hirokazu Endo

Meteorological Research Institute, Tsukuba, Japan

Introduction

Monsoons are responsible for the majority of summer rainfall within the tropics, where billions of people depend on the monsoon rainfall. Thus, reliable future projection for monsoon rainfall, especially on a regional-scale, has been strongly demanded.

- Provides a latest view of global and regional monsoonal rainfall changes as projected by CMIP5 multi-models.
- Investigates not only mean precipitation but also some precipitation extreme indices.
- Attributes future changes by thermodynamic effect versus dynamic effect.

Global monsoon precipitation domain



The approximate global monsoon precipitation domain is here defined where the local summer-minus-winter precipitation rate exceeds 2.5 mm/day and the local summer precipitation exceeds 55 % of the annual total (in red). Summer denotes May through September for the NH and November through March for the SH. The dry regions, where the local summer precipitation is less than 1 mm/day are hatched, and the 3000m height contour surrounding Tibetan Plateau is shaded. The merged Global Precipitation Climatology Project/Climate Prediction Center Merged Analysis of Precipitation precipitation data were used. [from WCRP Monsoon Fact Sheet prepared by CLIVAR AAMP]

Past changes of the global monsoon

Historical records

 Decreasing trend in the global land monsoon precipitation over the last half of the 20th century.

Wand and Ding (2006); Zhou et al. (2008)

 Increasing trend in the combined (oceanic and land) monsoon precipitation for recent decades (1979-2008) Wang et al. (2012)



Global monsoon domain: CMIP5 present

- Model mean generally reproduces the observed domain
- Biases over eastern Asia and the tropical Pacific



Monsoon domain: Annual range >= 2.5 mm day⁻¹ Annual range: Difference between MJJAS and NDJFM

Global monsoon domain: CMIP5 future

• Expansion over the central to eastern tropical Pacific, the southern Indian Ocean, and eastern Asia.



Monsoon domain: Annual range >= 2.5 mm day⁻¹ Annual range: Difference between MJJAS and NDJFM

Global monsoon precipitation

- Multi-model ensemble matches the observations
- Monsoon-related precipitation will remarkably increase



Global monsoon precipitation: CMIP3/5

Future projections

• Increase of global monsoon area and precipitation intensity.

CMIP3: Hsu et al. (2012)

CMIP5: Lee and Wang (2012), Hsu et al. (2013), Kitoh et al. (2013)



Time series of global land monsoon

- Decrease from 1950s to 1980s, and increase in the 21st C
- The simulated trend is consistent with the observations, although magnitude is underestimated



- Thick line : 29 model mean
- Shading: 29 model spread (10th-90th percentile)
 - > Observational data
 - CRU-TS3.1
 - GPCC-v6
 - GPCC-VASClimO
 - CMAP
 - GPCP

Attribution of the decrease in the 20th C

Neither experiments with GHG forcing nor natural forcing reproduce the decreased trend simulated by the all forcing \rightarrow aerosol effect is essential



Thick line: 14 model mean
Shading: Inter-model spread (S.D.)
HistoricalGHG: GHG forcing only
HistoricalNat: Natural forcing only
Historical: All forcing

14model = "CNRM-CM5 CSIRO-Mk3-6-0 CanESM2 GFDL-CM3 GFDL-ESM2M GISS-E2-H GISS-E2-R HadGEM2-ES IPSL-CM5A-LR MIROC-ESM-CHEM MIROC-ESM MRI-CGCM3 NorESM1-M bcc-csm1-1"

Future change of the precipitation indices

- Largest increases over the Asian monsoon domains
- Large increases in extremes over America and Africa



Future change of the precipitation indices

Change rate of indices in the 50th percentile

c) Future percentage change

	Pav		SDII		R5d		CDD	
	RCP4.5	RCP8.5	RCP4.5	RCP8.5	RCP4.5	RCP8.5	RCP4.5	RCP8.5
NAM	-1.6	-6.5	0.2	-0.7	2.9	6.2	10.9	23.1
SAM	1.5	2.4	3.4	7.1	7.9	17.8	6.9	17.7
NAF	2.4	2.4	1.9	6.6	6.6	13.8	1.9	8.8
SAF	2.1	2.7	3.5	7.5	6.2	16.8	9.2	19.7
EAS	5.3	6.8	7.3	14.1	10.1	18.9	2.5	5.4
SAS	7.3	12.9	7.0	14.7	11.2	22.1	-1.2	4.7
AUS	2.9	7.3	4.3	8.2	6.7	15.0	3.6	6.8

Large change ratios in EAS and SAS

Attributions of changes in monsoon rainfall

- Enhanced moisture flux conv. due to increased moisture
 ⇒ increased monsoon rainfall
- However, large differences among the monsoon regions



Changes with consensus of more than 75% of models13

Attribution of changes in monsoon rainfall



Precipitation, water vapor and vertical velocity



SST change pattern



- ΔSST departure from tropical mean
- summer season
- Shadings denote model agreement > 2/3

Changes in moisture budget



Thermodynamic effect is mostly compensated by dynamic effect, except for the Asian monsoon, where dynamic effect is small \Rightarrow large increase in monsoon rainfall

Contribution of each term



Over Asia, dynamic effect is smaller and local evaporation is larger than other regions

CMIP3 vs CMIP5



Common features in CMIP3 and CMIP5 models

Summary

- Global monsoon
 - Decreased monsoon rainfall from the 1950s to 1980s both in observations and simulations
 - Remarkable increase in monsoon precipitation in the 21st century
- Regional monsoon
 - Increase rate of Asian monsoon rainfall is much larger than other monsoons
 - Dynamical weakening of the Asian monsoon is less than other monsoons
 - These features are common in CMIP3 and CMIP5 model projections

[Kitoh et al., 2013, JGR; Endo and Kitoh, 2014, submitted]



Kitoh, A., H. Endo, K. Krishna Kumar, I.F.A. Cavalcanti, P. Goswami, T. Zhou, 2013: Monsoons in a changing world: a regional perspective in a global context. J. Geophys. Res. Atmos., 118, 3053-3065, doi:10.1002/jgrd.50258.

Endo, H. and A. Kitoh: Thermodynamic and dynamic effects on regional monsoon rainfall changes in a warmer climate. submitted to Geophys. Res. Lett.

Thermodynamic or Dynamic

$$\rho_{w}g(P-E) = -\int_{0}^{p_{s}} (\overline{\mathbf{u}} \cdot \nabla \overline{q} + \overline{q} \nabla \cdot \overline{\mathbf{u}}) dp$$
$$-\int_{0}^{p_{s}} \nabla \cdot (\overline{\mathbf{u}'q'}) dp - q_{s}\mathbf{u}_{s} \cdot \nabla p_{s}. \quad (1)$$
$$\delta(\cdot) = (\cdot)_{21} - (\cdot)_{20}, \quad (2)$$

$$\rho_{w}g\delta(P-E) \approx -\int_{0}^{p_{s}} \left(\delta\overline{\mathbf{u}}\cdot\nabla\overline{q}_{20} + \overline{\mathbf{u}}_{20}\cdot\nabla\delta\overline{q} + \delta\overline{q}\nabla\cdot\overline{\mathbf{u}}_{20} + \overline{q}_{20}\nabla\cdot\delta\overline{\mathbf{u}}\right)dp - \int_{0}^{p_{s}}\nabla\cdot\delta(\overline{\mathbf{u}'q'})\,dp - \delta S.$$
(3)

$$\rho_{w}g\delta(P-E) \approx \delta TH + \delta MCD + \delta TE - \delta S, \qquad (4)$$

$$\delta \text{TH} = -\int_{0}^{p_s} \nabla \cdot \left(\overline{\mathbf{u}}_{20} [\overline{\delta q}] \right) dp, \qquad (5)$$

$$\delta \text{MCD} = -\int_{0}^{p_s} \nabla \cdot ([\delta \overline{\mathbf{u}}] \overline{q}_{20}) \, dp, \quad \text{and} \quad (6)$$

$$\delta \mathrm{TE} = -\int_{0}^{p_{s}} \nabla \cdot \delta(\overline{\mathbf{u}'q'}) \, dp. \tag{7}$$

$$\delta TH = \delta TH_A + \delta TH_D, \qquad (8)$$

$$\delta \mathrm{TH}_{A} = -\int_{0}^{p_{s}} (\overline{\mathbf{u}}_{20} \cdot \nabla \overline{\delta q}) \, dp, \text{ and } (9)$$

$$\delta \mathbf{T} \mathbf{H}_{D} = -\int_{0}^{p_{s}} (\delta \overline{q} \mathbf{\nabla} \cdot \overline{\mathbf{u}}_{20}) \, dp; \tag{10}$$

$$\delta \text{MCD} = \delta \text{MCD}_A + \delta \text{MCD}_D, \qquad (11)$$

$$\delta \text{MCD}_A = -\int_0^{p_s} (\delta \overline{\mathbf{u}} \cdot \nabla \overline{q}_{20}) \, dp, \text{ and}$$
(12)

$$\delta \text{MCD}_{D} = -\int_{0}^{p_{s}} \left(\overline{q}_{20} \nabla \cdot \overline{\delta \mathbf{u}}\right) dp.$$
(13)

A: advectionD: divergence

Seager et al. (2010, JCLI)

Future change (RCP8.5)



MJJAS

