

Benefits of a new wave scheme for trajectory modeling of stratospheric water vapor

Ji-Eun Kim

Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences,
University of Colorado-Boulder

M. Joan Alexander

NorthWest Research Associates

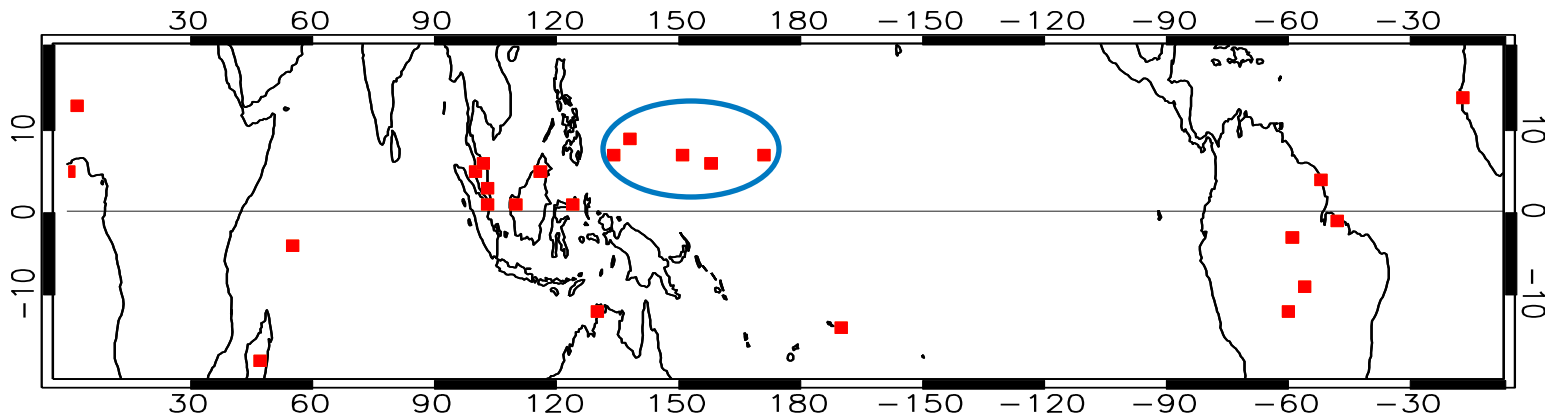
Kim and Alexander, GRL, 2013

Trajectory models simulate stratospheric water vapor

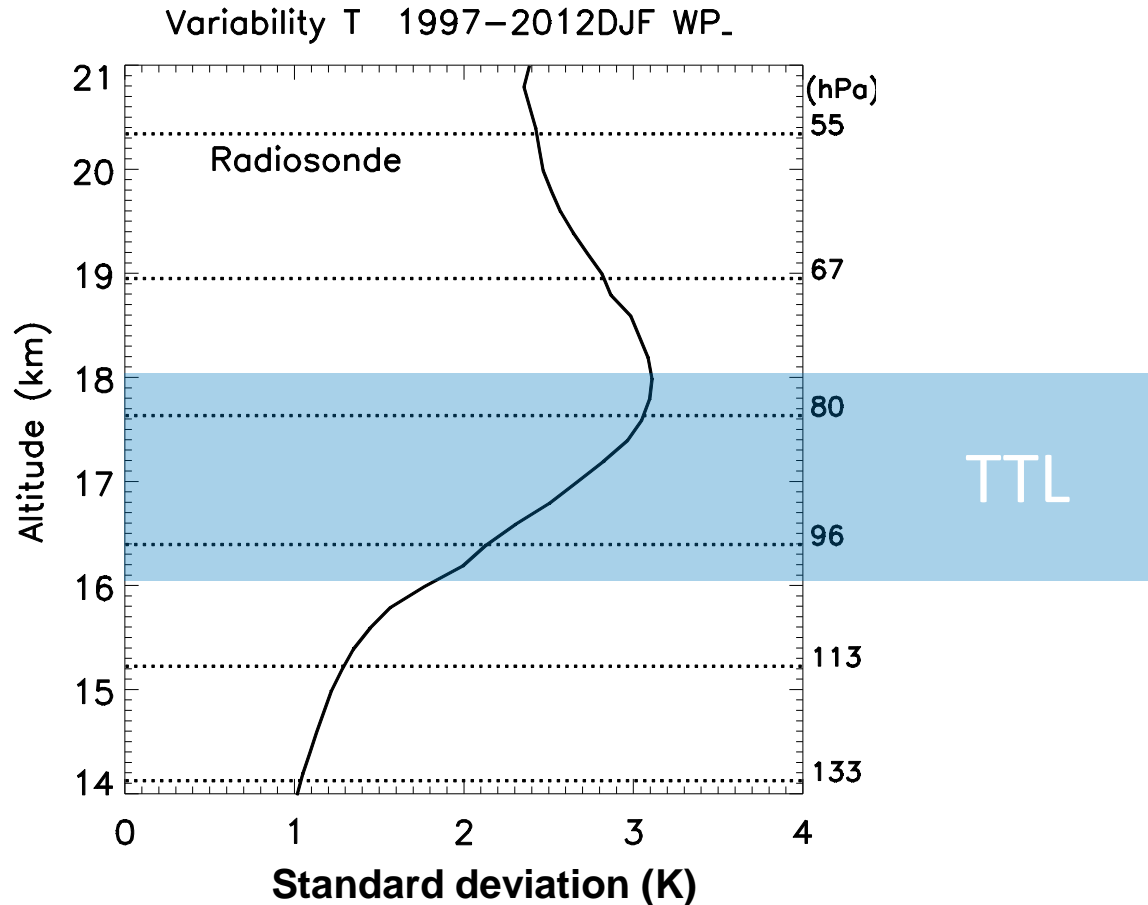
- Trajectory calculations are based on meteorological fields (T, u, v) from (re)analysis data.
- Temperature history during ascent is critical in dehydration: mean + variability
- But, reanalyses have uncertainties in representing TTL waves.

Temperatures from tropical radiosondes

- Evaluation: ERA-interim
- 24 sondes, 15S-15N, 1997-2013
 - profiles at 0Z & 12Z
 - High vertical resolution -> binned into 200 m

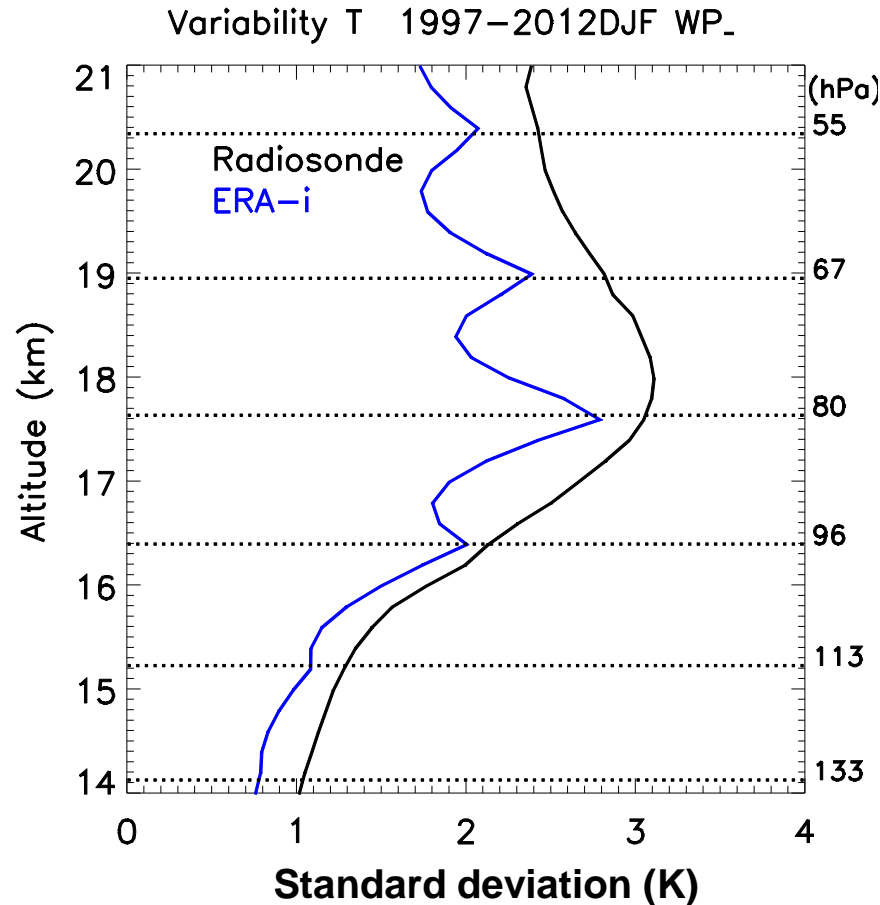


Lots of waves in the TTL



- Temperatures are highly variable near and above TTL.

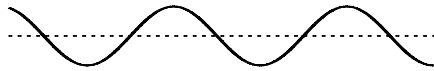
Radiosonde vs ERA linear interpolation



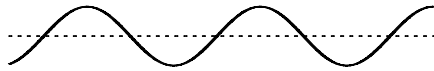
- At model levels, waves are under-represented. (lack of high-freq. variability)
- At interpolated levels, linear interpolation substantially degrades variability.

Why?

Suppose..



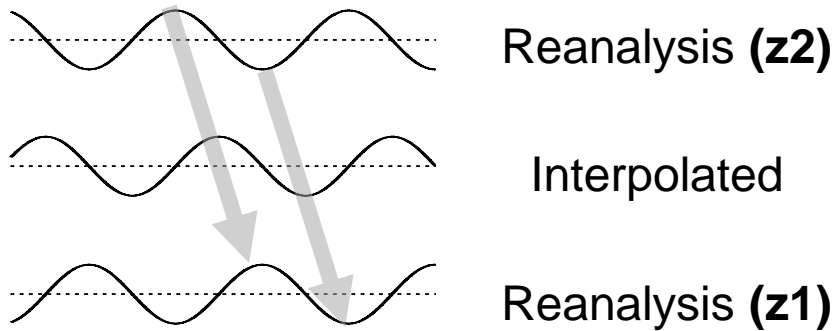
Reanalysis (**z2**)



Reanalysis (**z1**)

Wave propagates vertically

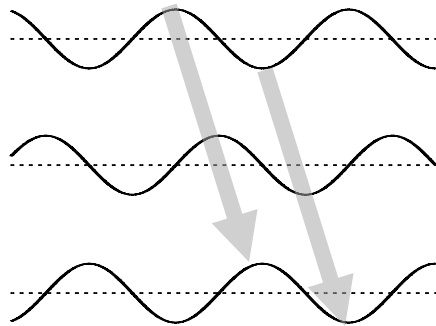
Should be like this..



Waves are **alive!**

Linear interpolation kills variability

Should be like this..



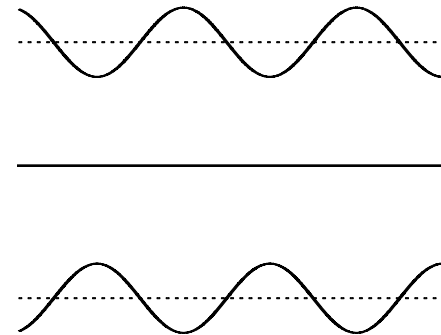
Reanalysis (**z2**)

Interpolated

Reanalysis (**z1**)

Waves are **alive!**

What's happening with interpolation

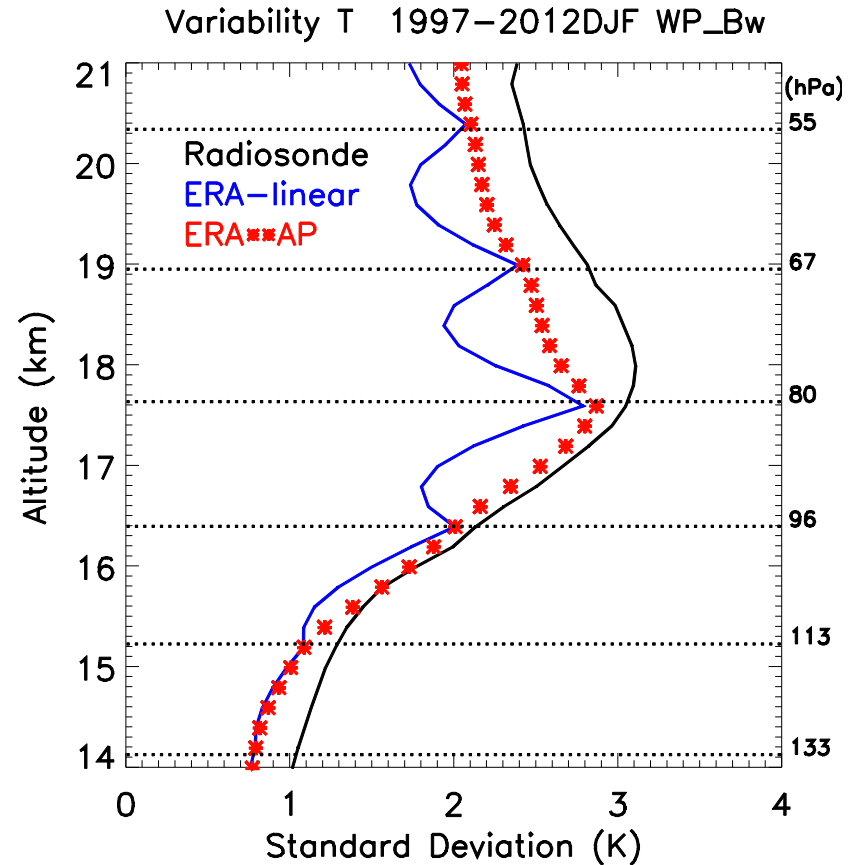
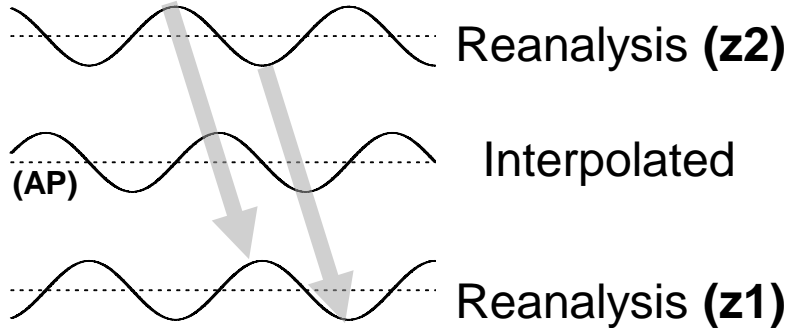


Waves are **dead!**

STEP1:

Interpolate wave amplitudes and phases

Should be like this..

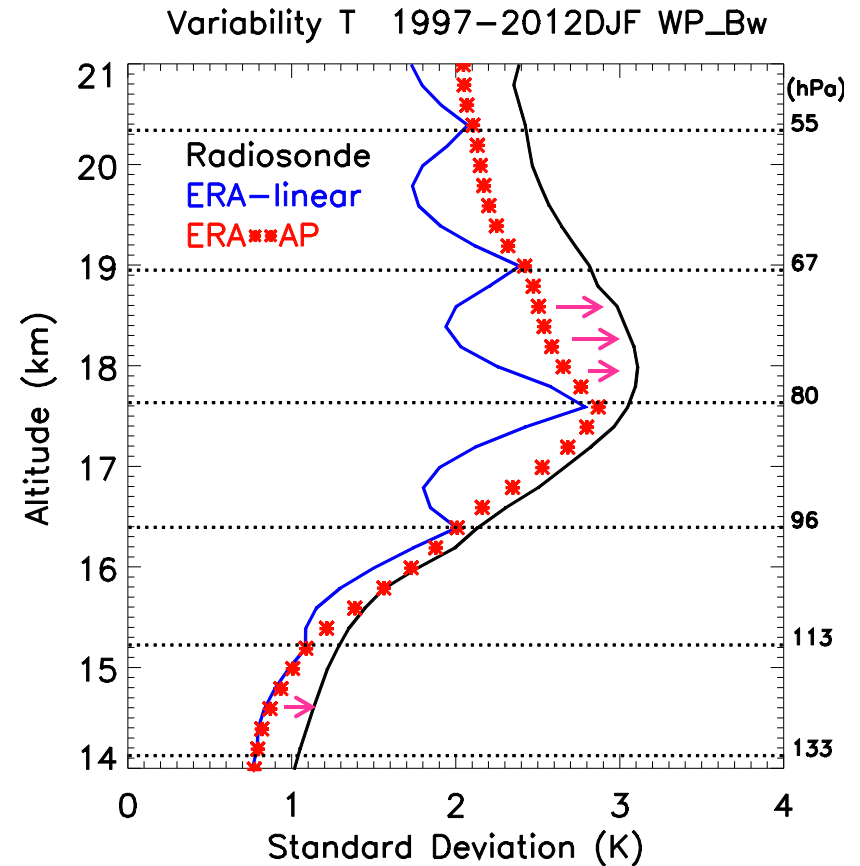
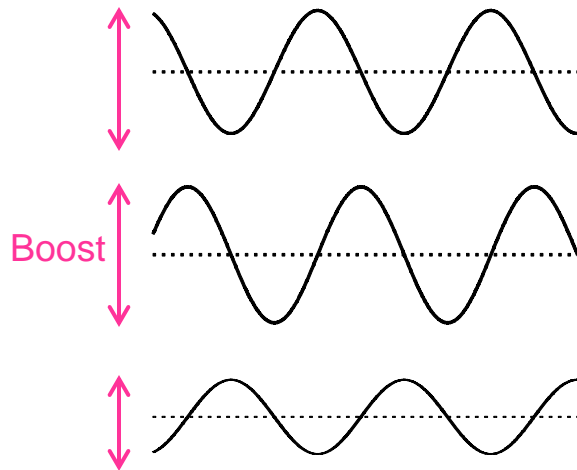


Use the fact “waves ARE in reanalysis levels”

STEP2:

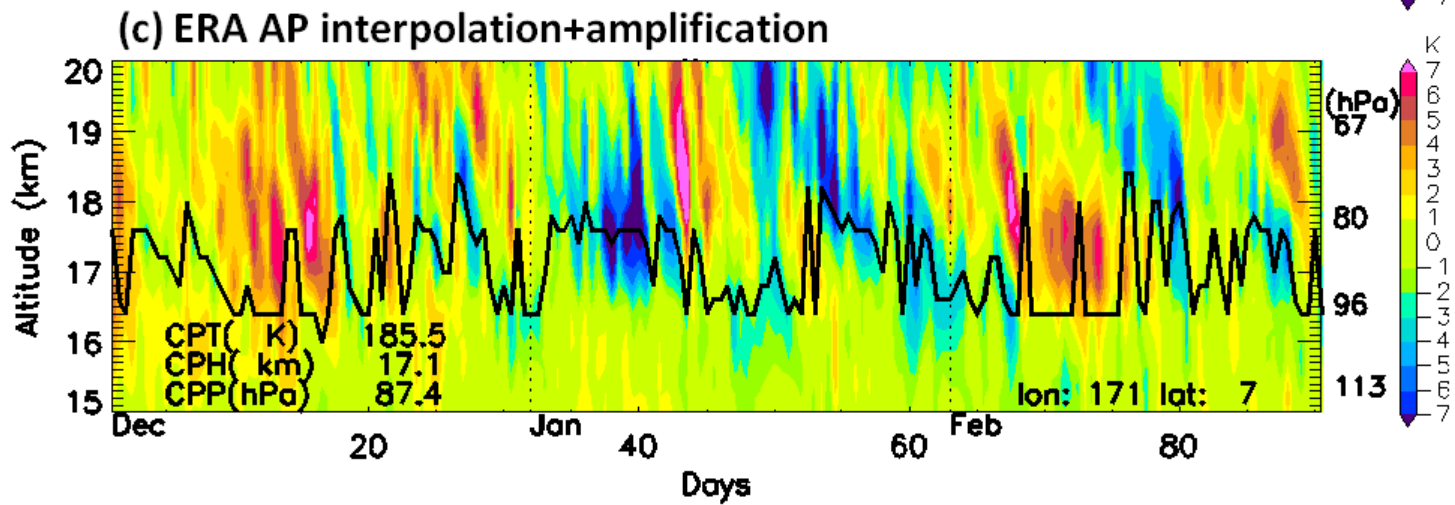
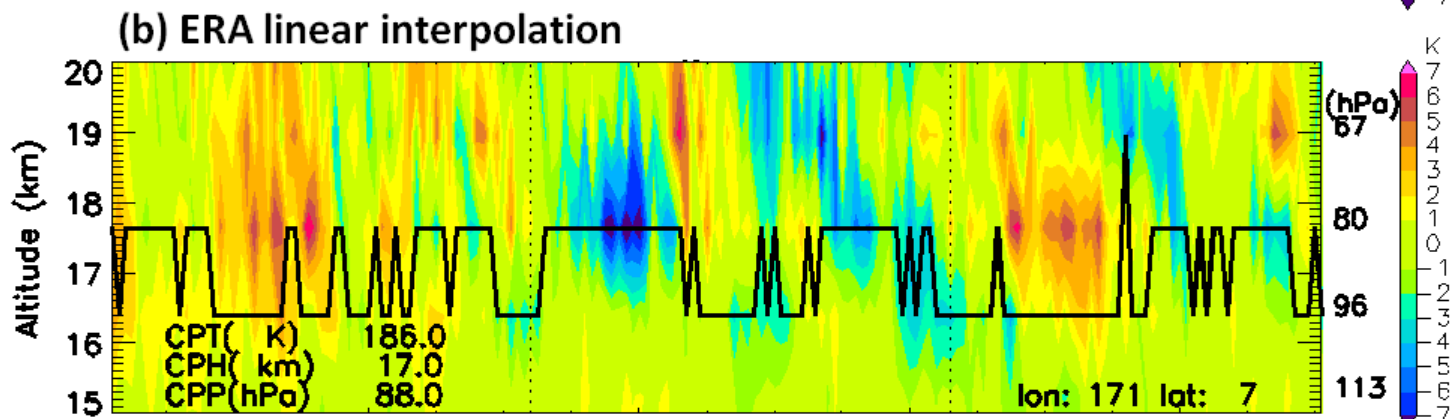
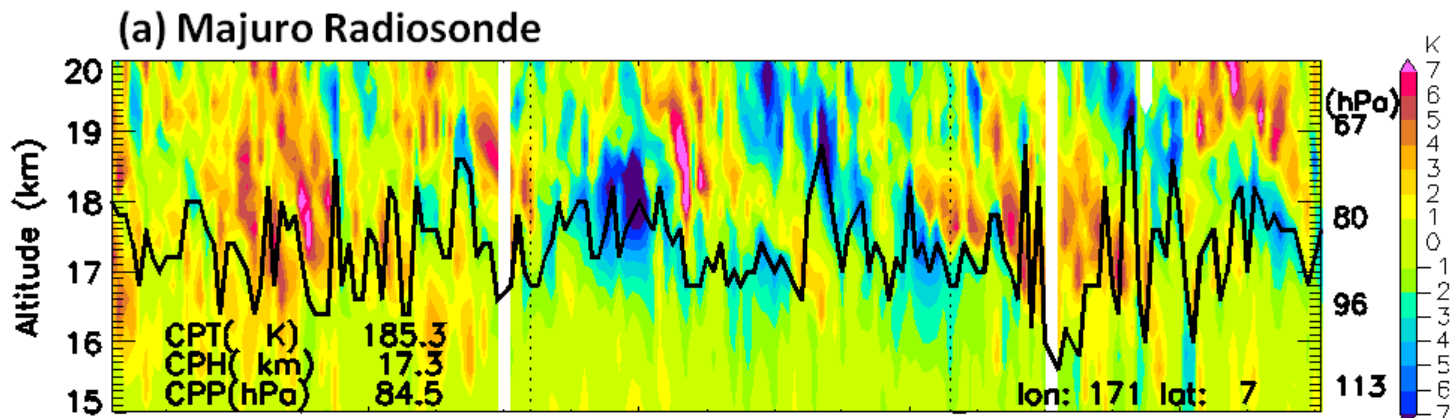
Enhance wave amplitudes to match observations

Should be like this..



Use the fact “waves are in reanalysis TO SOME DEGREE”

**Time-Height
section
2012-2013
DJF**

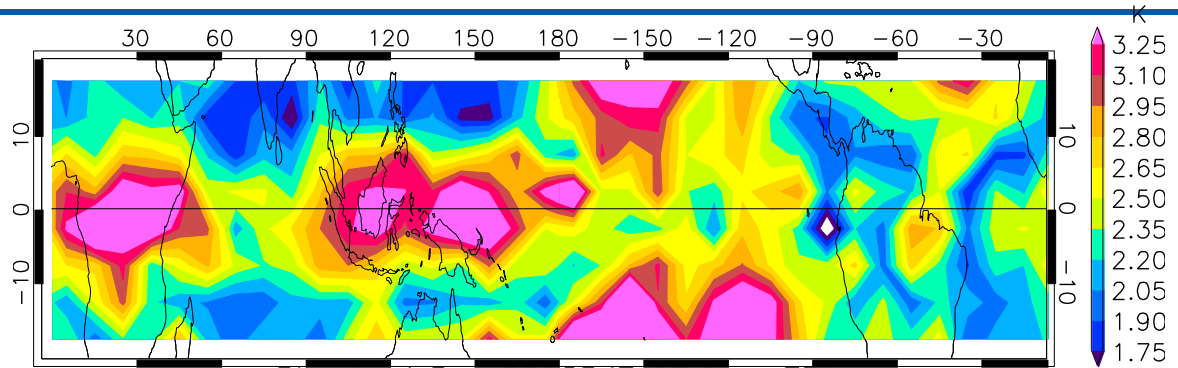


**Fine scale
features
(1-3K
stronger
amplitude)**

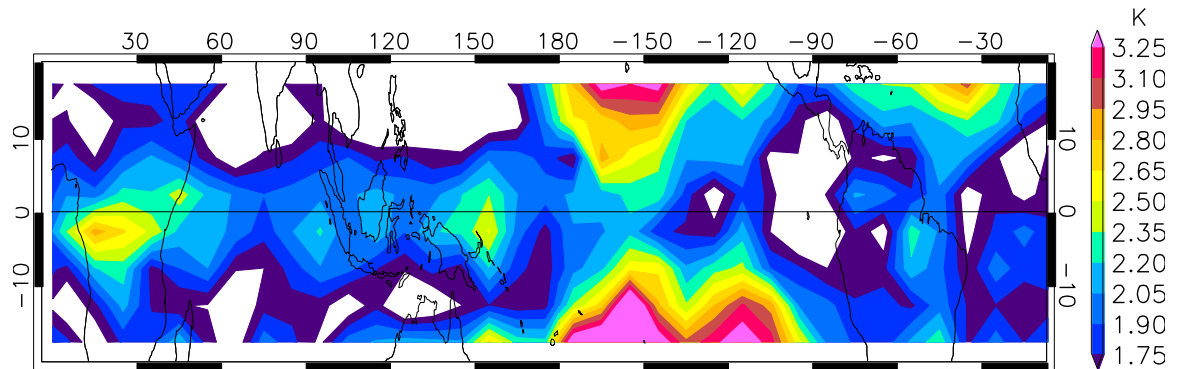
The scheme works well for the whole tropical T variability

Standard Dev 2012DJF 17.0km GPS

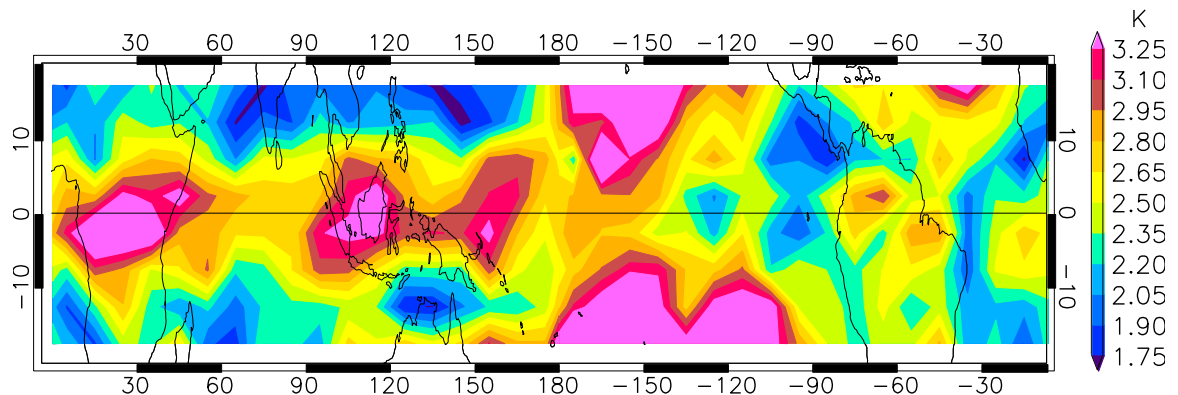
(a) COSMIC GPS obs.



(b) ERA linear interpolated at 17km



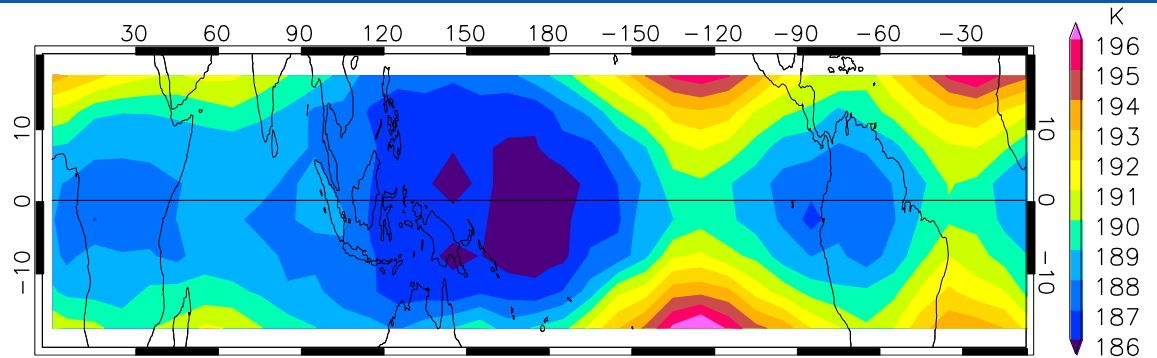
(c) ERA + New scheme



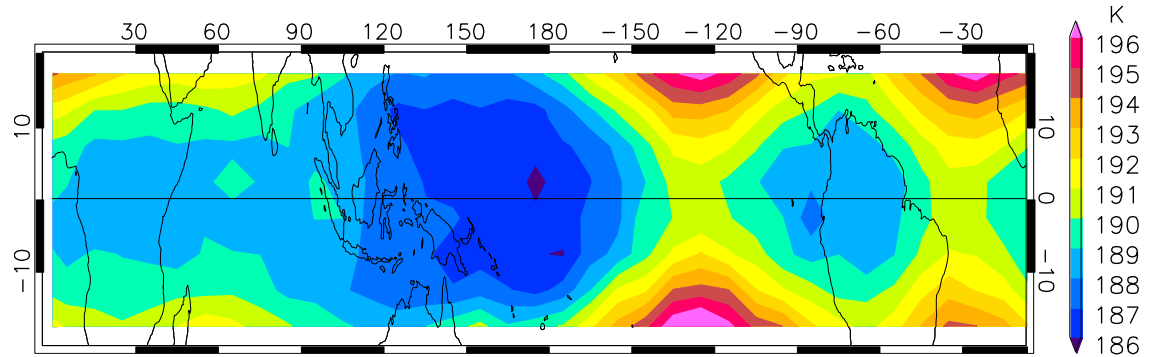
New scheme decreases cold-point T !

Mean CPT 2012DJF GPS

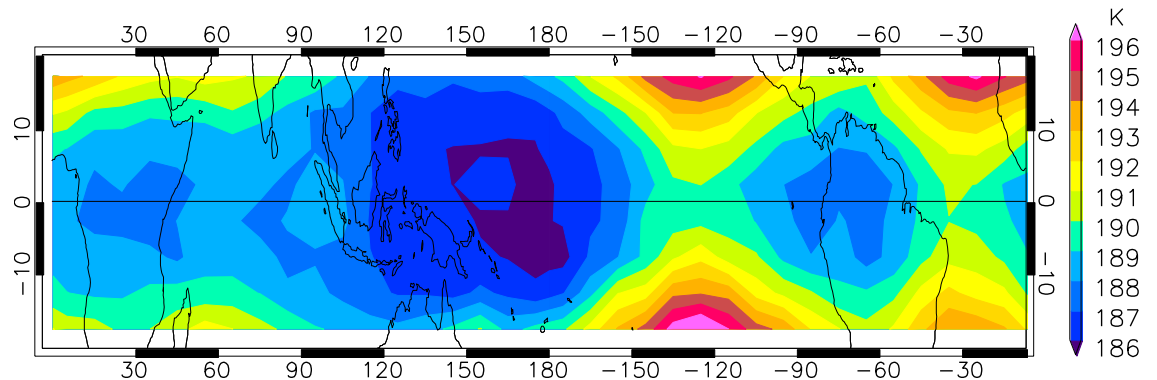
(a) COSMIC GPS obs.



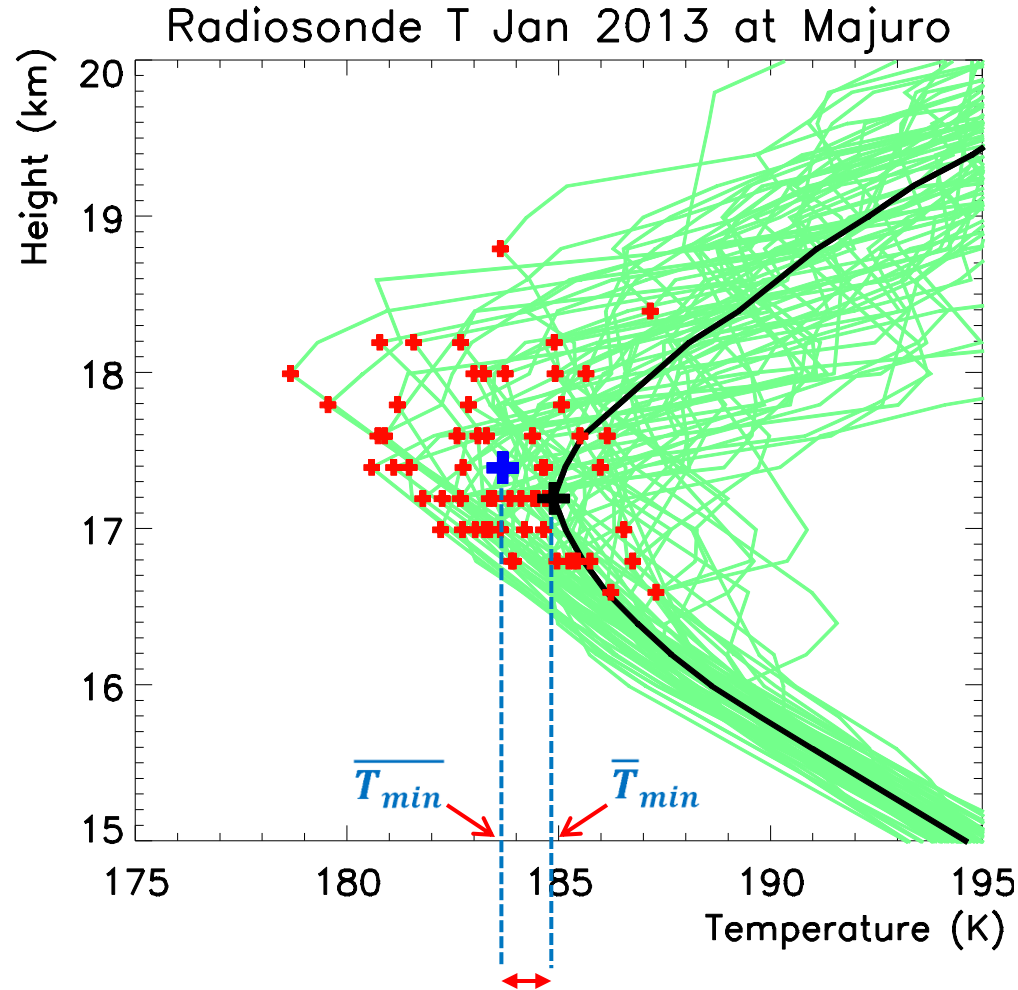
(b) ERA



(c) ERA + New scheme

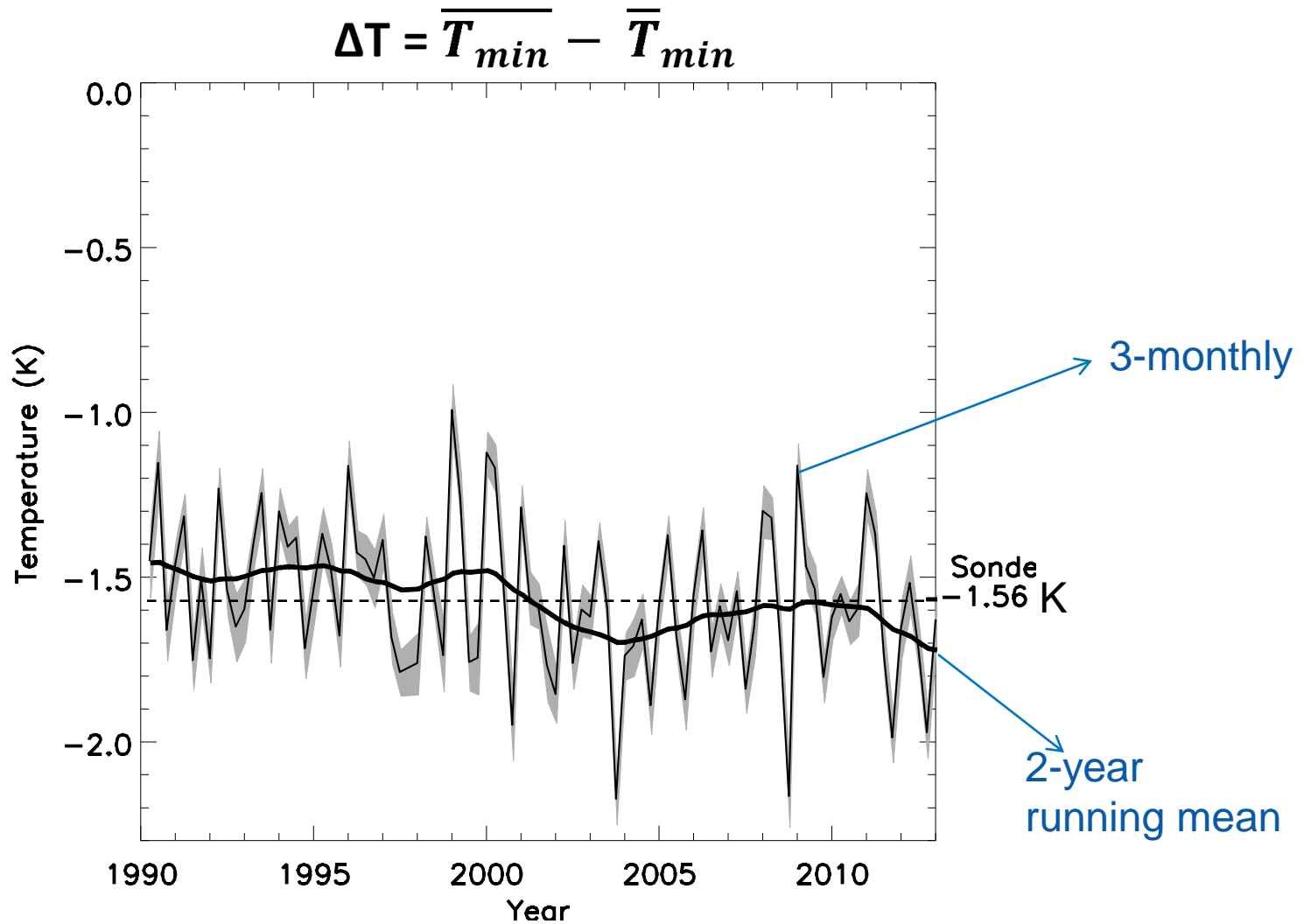


Waves lower cold-point T → Direct wave impact

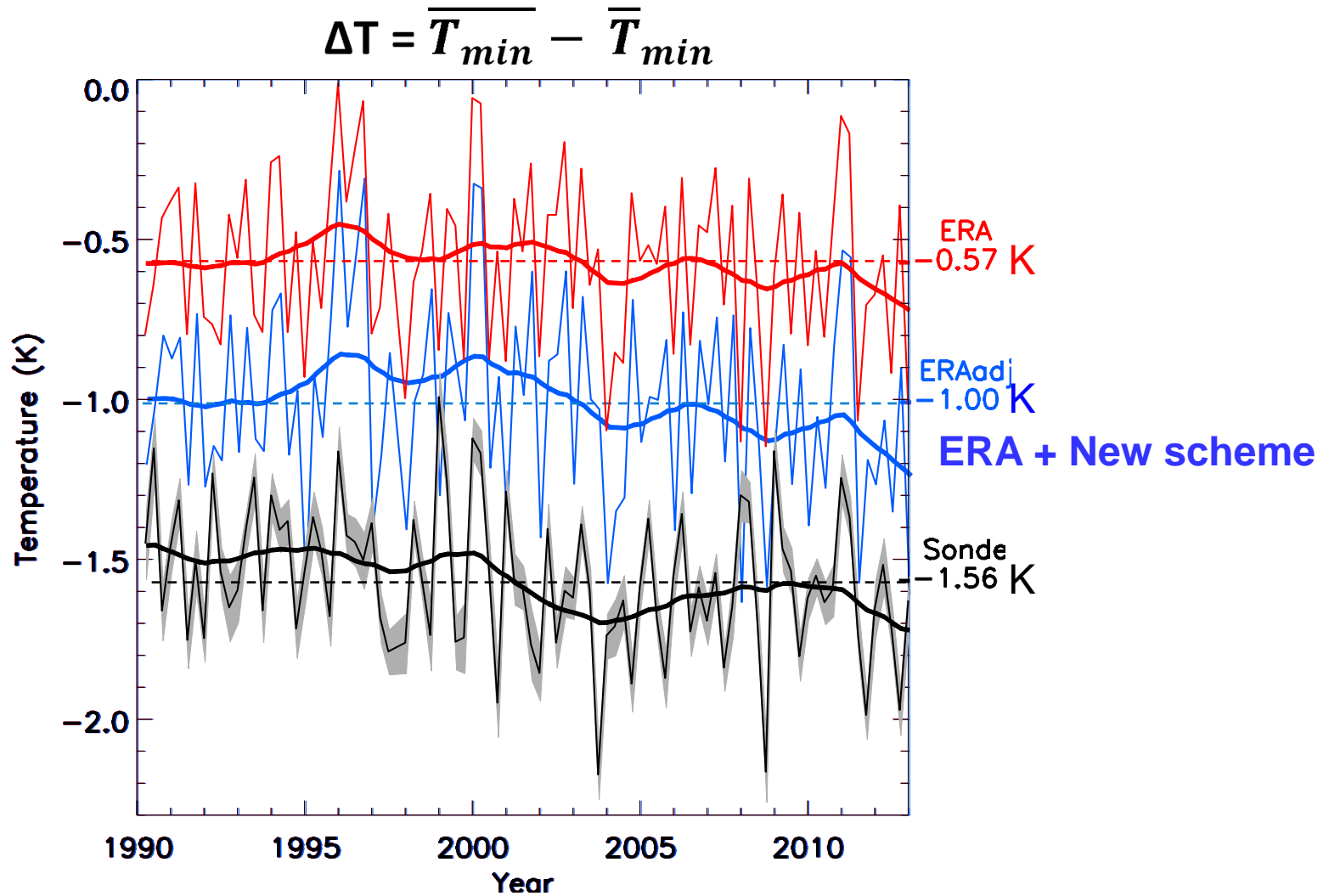


CPT drop by waves (direct impacts): $\Delta T = \overline{T}_{min} - \overline{T}_{min}$

Waves lower cold-point T by 1.6K



Parameterized waves improve cold-point T representation



Summary

- We found problems in temperature variability in reanalysis data.
 - Waves are under-represented at model levels.
 - Linear interpolation substantially degrades variability.
- How to improve variability?
 - Step 1: Interpolation of amplitude and phase in Fourier space
 - Step 2: Amplification of wave amplitude
- ➔ We can make
 - 1) realistic waves
 - 2) improved representation of tropopause temperature
- ➔ Having realistic variability will reduce uncertainties in trajectory simulations. (could be also used for winds)