# Incorporation of the topography effects in Vector Vorticity Model (VVM)

Chien-Ming Wu and Akio Arakawa University of California, Los Angeles

#### The block mountain

• Rectangular blocks with mountain surface fixed at coordinate surface.

• W is zero at the horizontal boundaries and U is zero at the vertical boundaries.



#### The block mountain in Vector Vorticity Model

**Problem**: The predicted vorticity field recognizes W=0 at the horizontal boundaries through the lower boundary condition for the w-equation. But, if the voricity at the boundary is arbitrarily specified (e.g., as zero), the diagnosed U field generally does not satisfy U=0 at the vertical boundary.

• Enforcing the velocity boundary condition requires an appropriate computational boundary condition for vorticity.



The block mountain in Vector Vorticity Model

**Solution**: Incorporate the barrier influence into the flow with the addition of point vortices at the corners.

•The effect of the vorticity added to boundary points is superposed to satisfy the boundary condition without perturbing the interior dynamics. --Roache(1972), Kim and Arakawa(1995).



#### Determination of the strength of the point vortices

•The strength of the point vorticity is determined through vorticity definition.

$$\eta_b = \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \quad u_b = w_b = 0$$



Update velocity fields with:

$$\left(\frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial x^{2}} + \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial y^{2}}\right)w + \frac{\partial}{\partial z}\left[\frac{1}{\rho_{0}}\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial z}\rho_{0}w\right)\right] = -\frac{\partial(\eta + \delta\eta_{b})}{\partial x} \qquad \begin{cases} \delta = 1 \text{ at the boundary corners} \\ \delta = 0 \text{ at all other points} \end{cases}$$
$$u = \int_{z_{t}}^{z}\left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial x} + \rho_{0}(\eta + \delta\eta_{b})dz + u_{t}(x, y, t)\right) \qquad \begin{cases} \delta = 1 \text{ at the boundary corners} \\ \delta = 0 \text{ at all other points} \end{cases}$$

## VVM 2D experiment

- Topography is introduced with the block mountain approach.
- The velocity fields satisfy the desired boundary conditions.



# VVM 2D experiment

- A block representation of bell-shaped mountain (Na/U=1) is introduced.
- The mountain wave associated with the topography is reasonable.



## VVM 3D experiment

• Block mountain 4km x 1km with mountain height h=0.2km and h=0.4km.



## VVM 3D experiment

• Block mountain 4km x 1km with mountain height h=0.2km and h=0.4km.



Vertical velocity X-Z cross section

### Future direction

- Test various setup of topography in 3D VVM.
- Incorporate realistic complex topography.