

Cumulus ensemble simulation using a cloud resolving model: Impact of horizontal resolution

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Application of cloud resolving models

Cloud Resolving Model (CRM)

for improvement of existing parameterization ?

for super-parameterization ?

for global simulation ?

Some questions:

- Cloud properties
- Feedback to large-scale environment

?

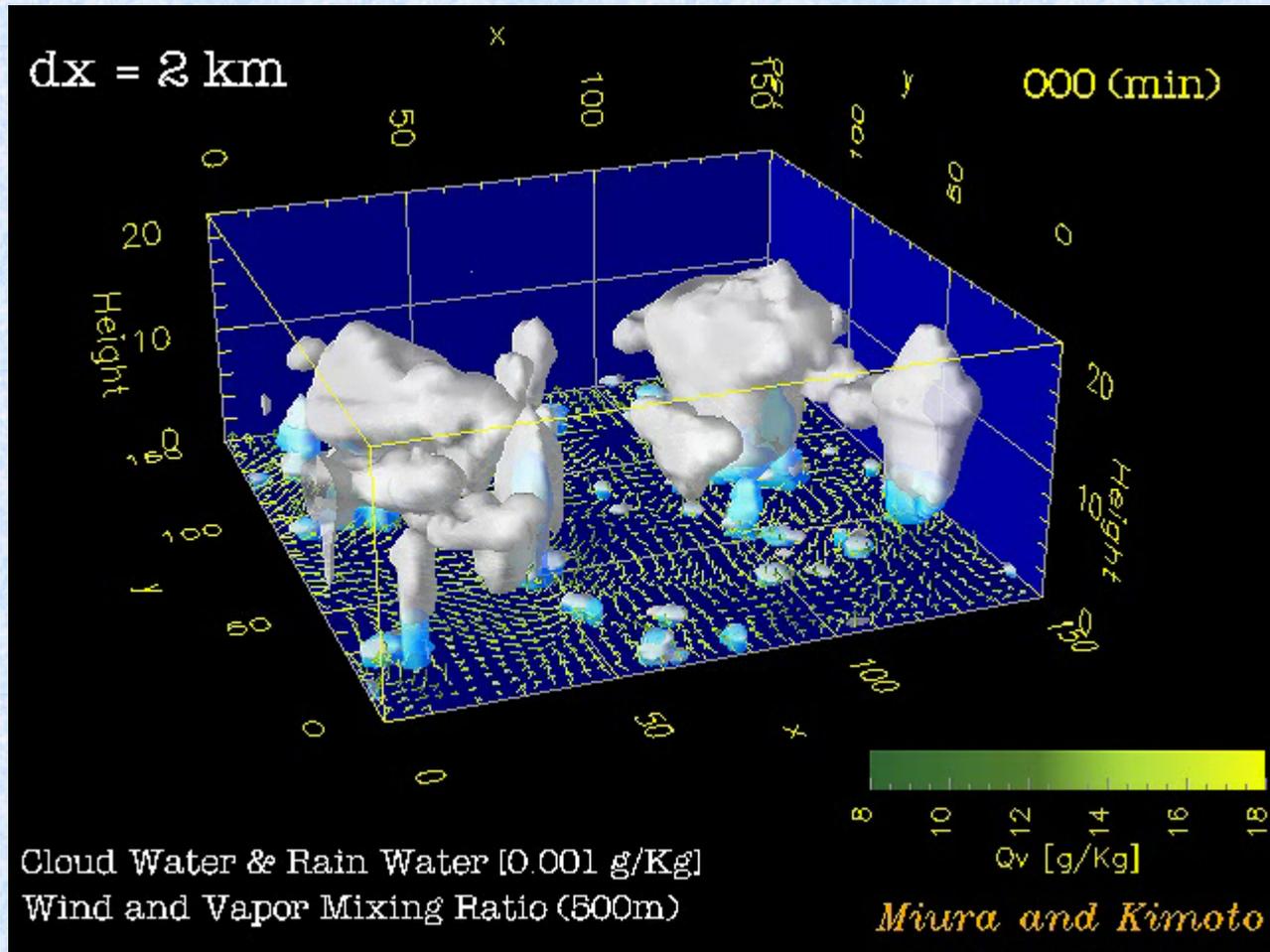


2-D or 3-D

Horizontal & vertical resolution

Parameterizations in CRM

$dx = 2 \text{ km}$ & $dy = 5 \text{ km}$



(Radiative-convective equilibrium simulation)

Motivation

$dx = 5 \text{ km}$



Systematic difference ? (in a statistical sense)

$dx = 2 \text{ km}$



Convergence ?

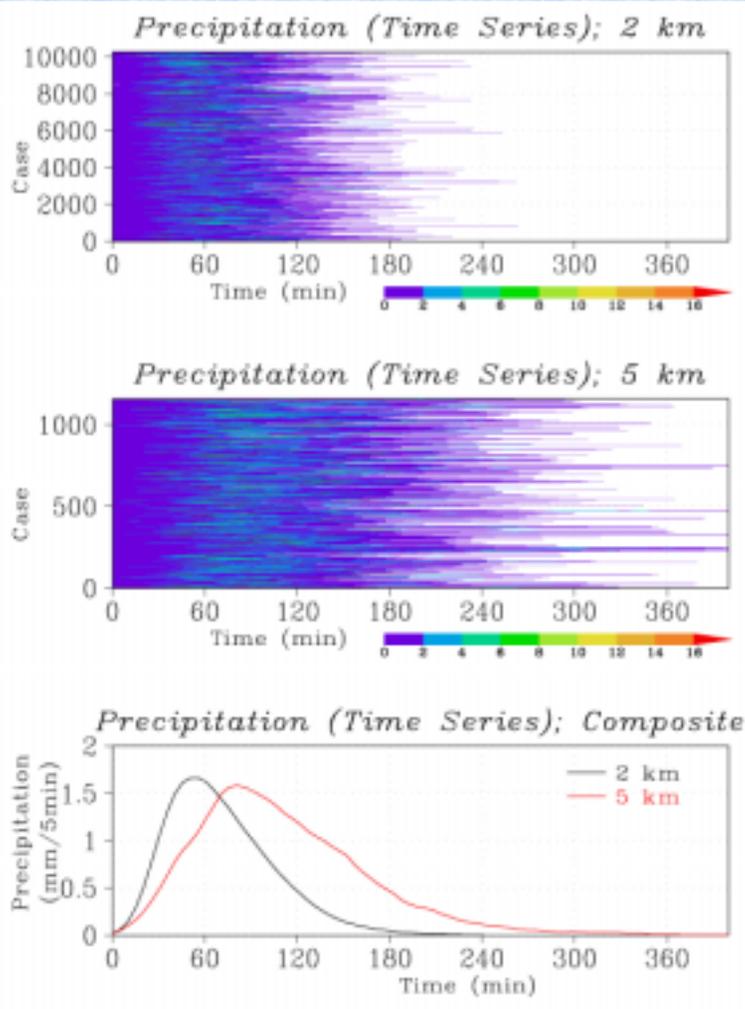
Process ?



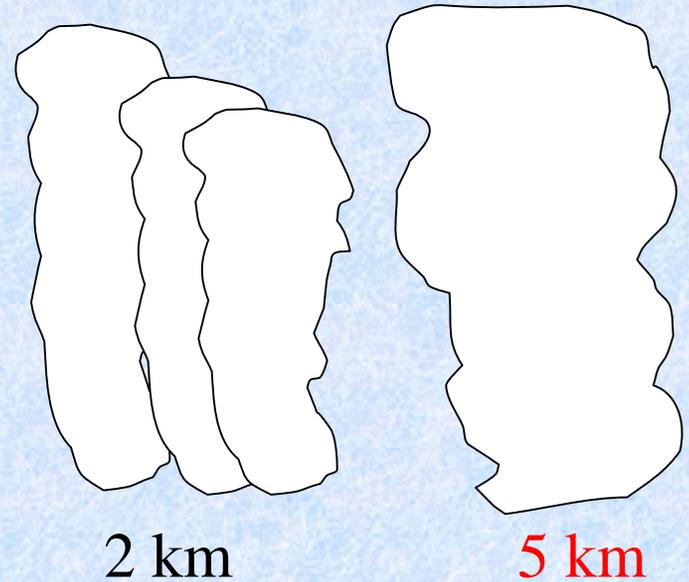
Experimental design

- Model: MRI-NPD NHM
 - Resolution: $dx = 5 \text{ km}$ ($dt = 20 \text{ s}$) & 2 km ($dt = 6 \text{ s}$)
 $dz = 40 - 1120 \text{ m}$
 - Domain Size: $150 \text{ km} \times 150 \text{ km} \times 26400 \text{ m}$ (3-D)
 - Span: 45 days (30 days to attain equilibrium & 15 days to analyze)
Reference: Tompkins and Craig, 1999
 - SST = 300 K
 - Without large scale flow
 - With radiation
 - output interval = 5 min
- LSF obscures Q1 and Q2 dependencies on resolution

Cloud lifetime



Clouds ($dx = 5$ km): Longer lifetime
Bigger in size
Smaller in number

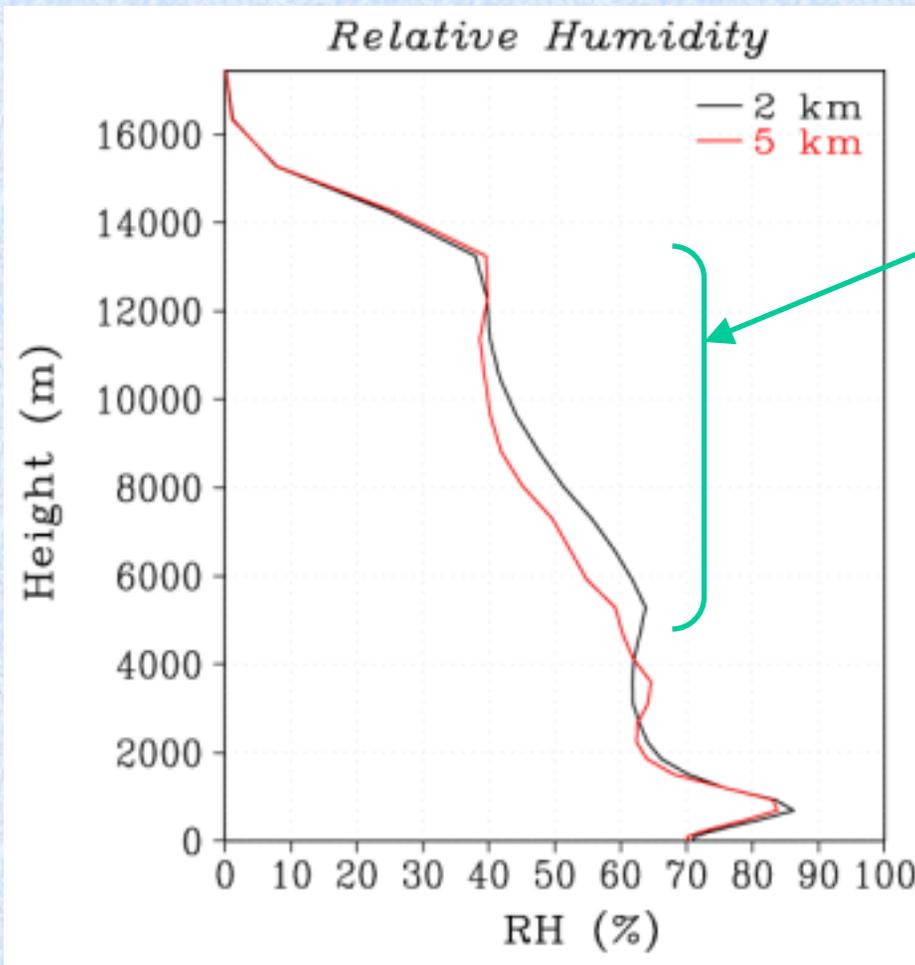


— 2km
— 5km

Precipitation lifetime (case: max > 1.0 mm/5min)

Impact on larger-scale

Time- and domain-averaged “relative humidity”



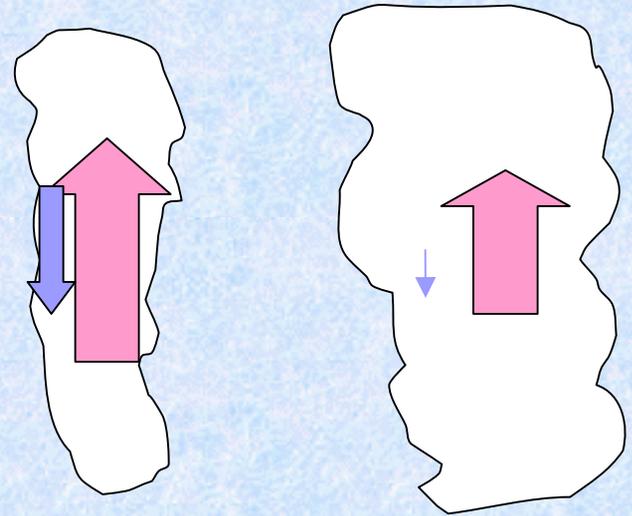
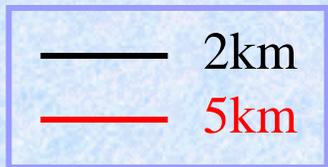
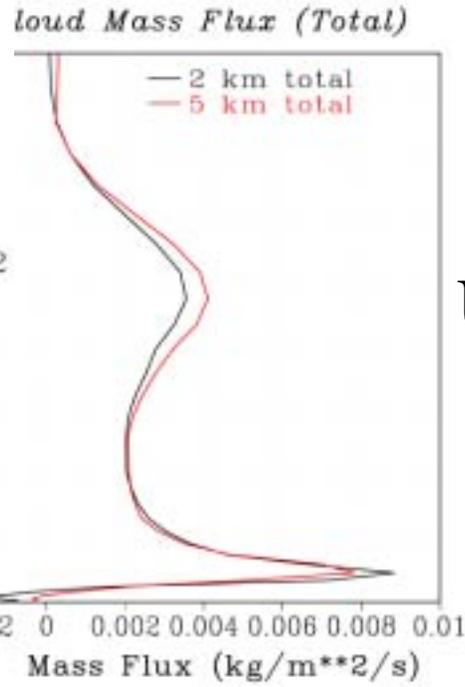
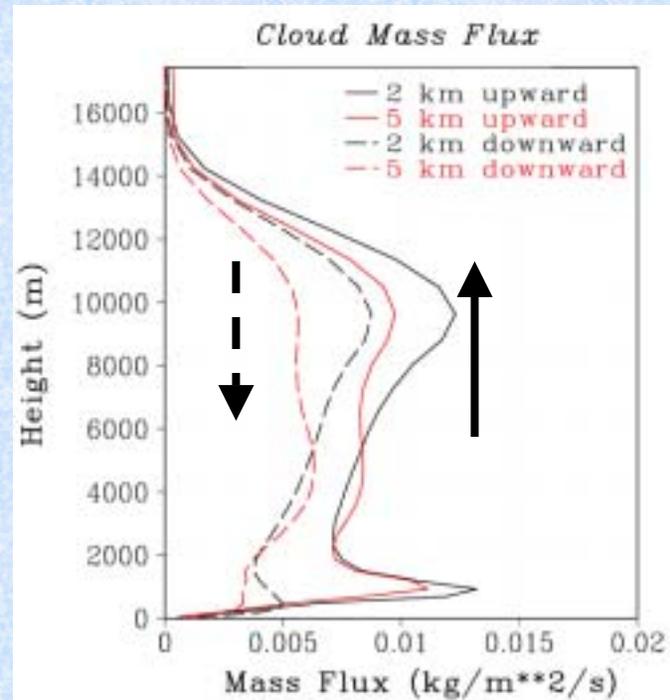
$dx = 5\text{km}$:

Drier in the middle to the upper troposphere

— 2km
— 5km

Cloud mass flux

Time-averaged “cloud mass flux” (Cloudy grid: $q_{\text{water or ice}} > 5.e-3 \text{ g/kg}$)



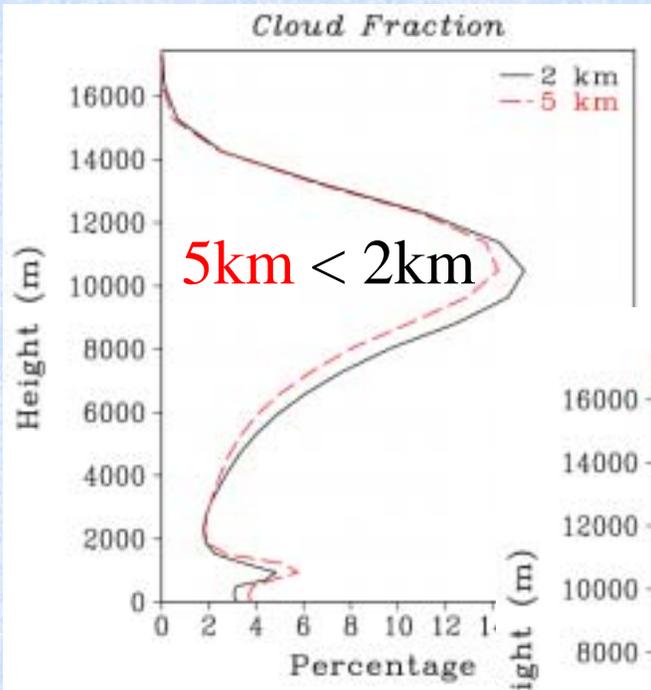
Up & down: 2km > 5 km

Total upward:

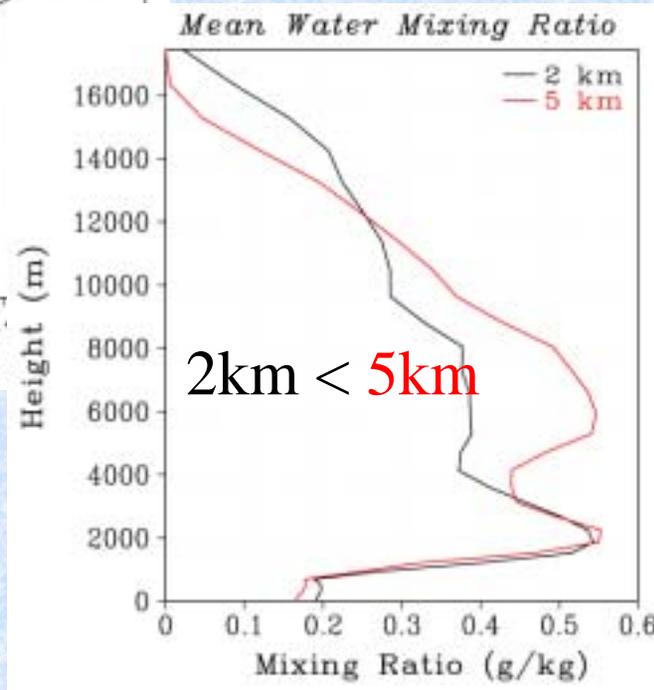
2km < 5km

Cloud dilution

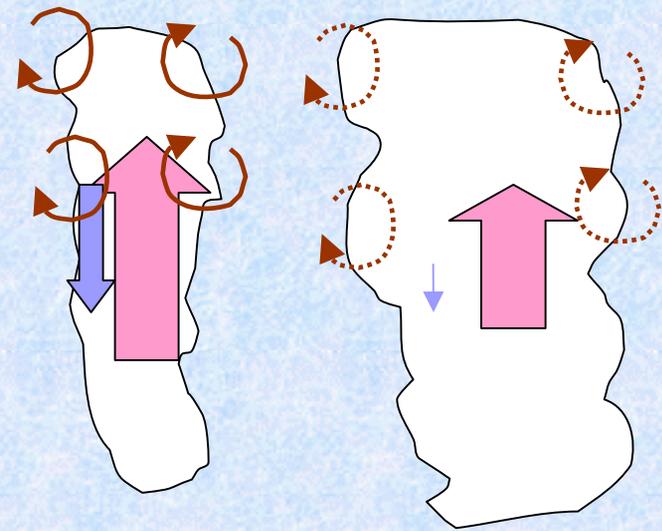
Time-averaged “cloud fraction”



Entrainment: 2km > 5km



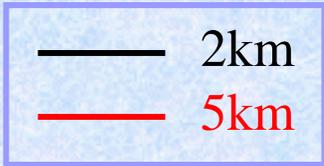
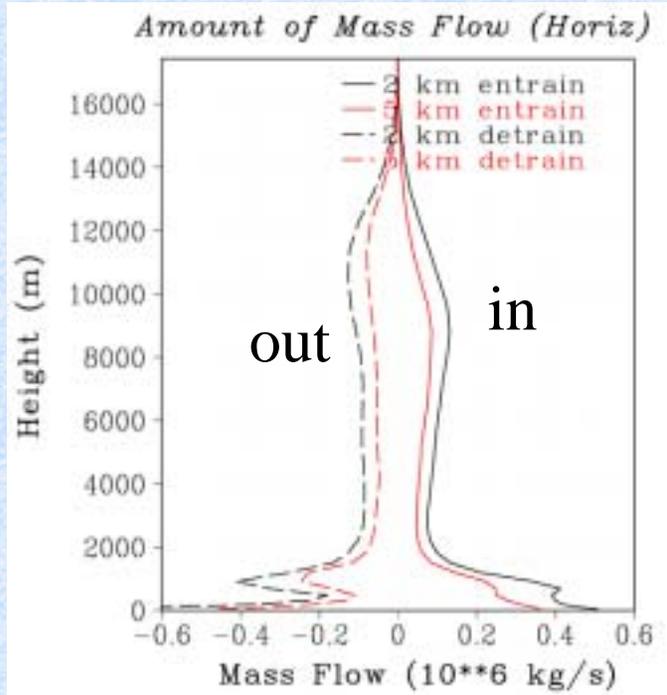
— 2km
— 5km



Horizontal or Vertical ?

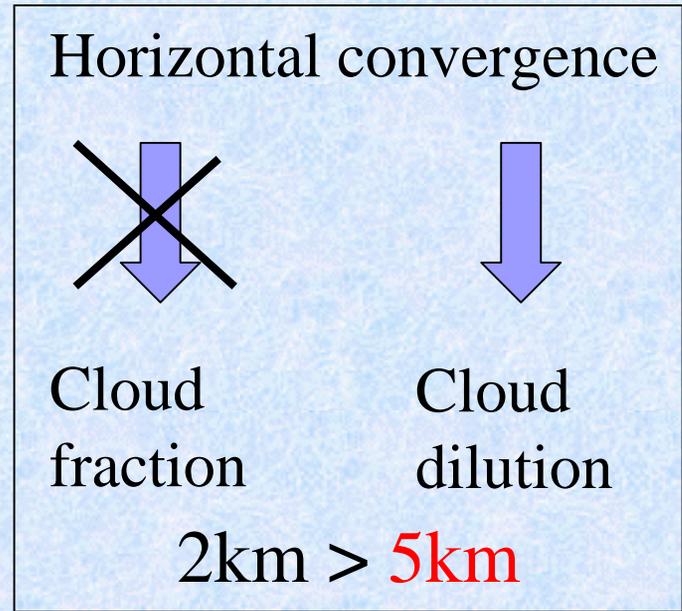
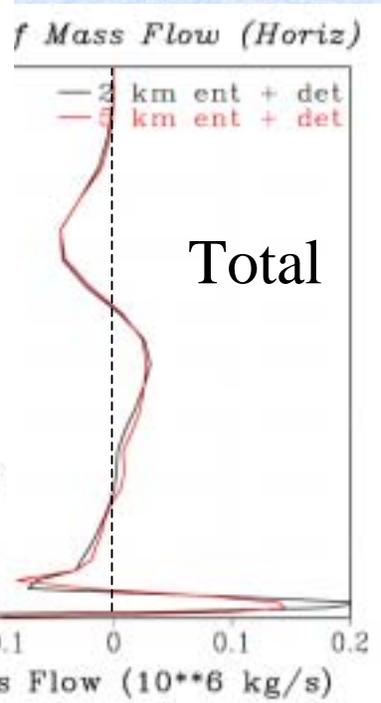
Time- and domain-averaged “water mixing ratio” (in cloudy grid)

Horizontal inflow & outflow



In & out: 2km > 5km

Total: 5km ~ 2km



Time-averaged "inflow & outflow" (in: clear grids → cloudy grids)

NB: cloud expansion effect ignored

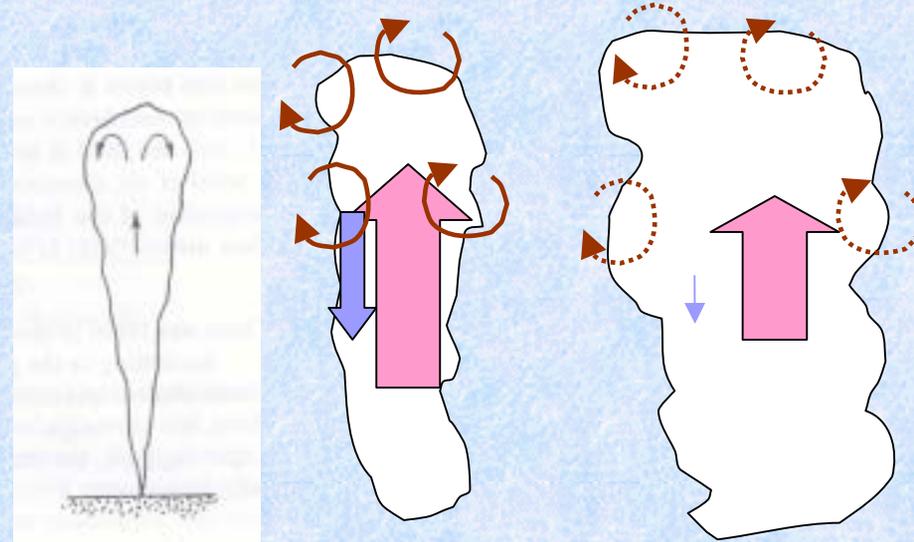
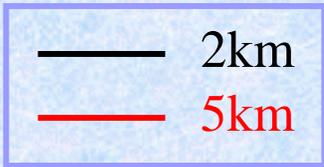
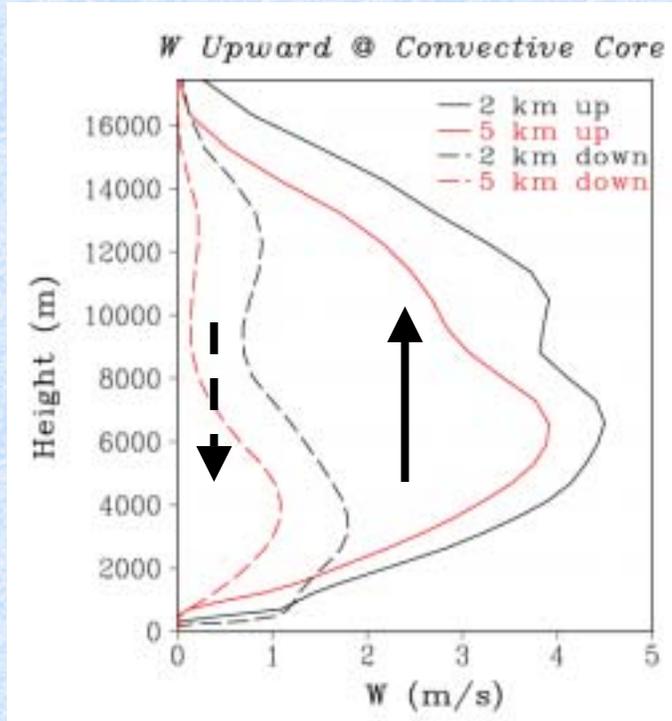
Vertical velocity

Time-averaged “w” in convective core
 ($|w| > 1\text{m/s}$)

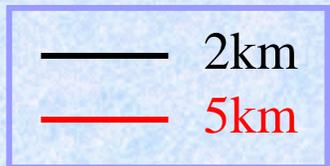
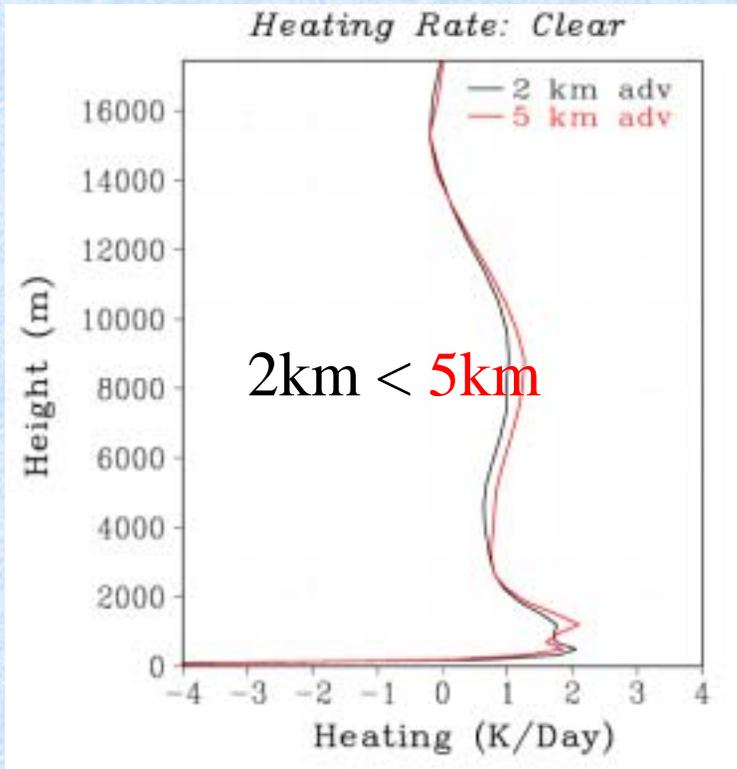
Upward, downward w: 2km > 5km

Entrainment (cloud top):
 2km > 5km

Cloud fraction:
 Cloud dilution:
 2km > 5km



Heating in clear grids

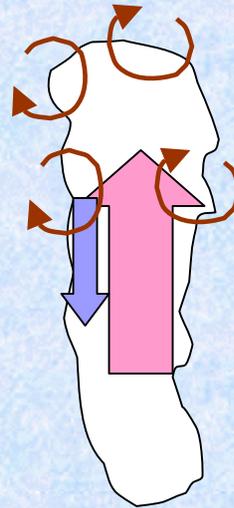


Time- and domain-averaged
“heating rate by advection”

(cloud free grids)

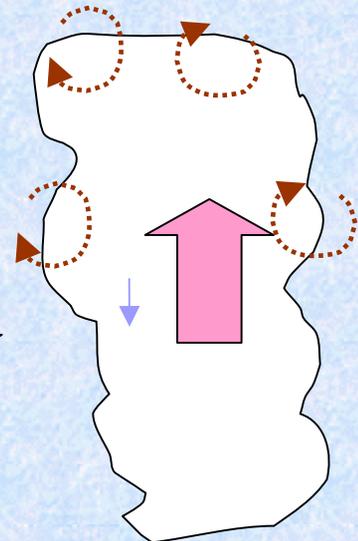
Cloud mass flux

2km < 5km



Downward
mass flux

2km < 5km



Summary

- RH (domain average): 2km > 5km (middle to upper troposphere)
- Systematic difference:

Coarser resolution \longrightarrow Weaker entrainment

Larger cloud mass flux
(Weaker downdraft in
cloudy grids) \longrightarrow Larger downward mass flux
(cloud free grids)

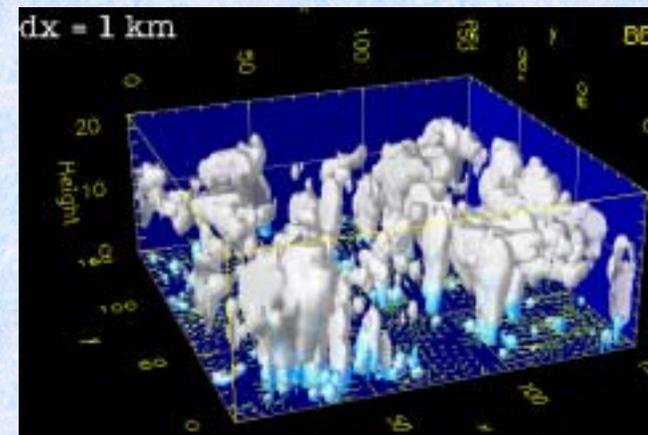
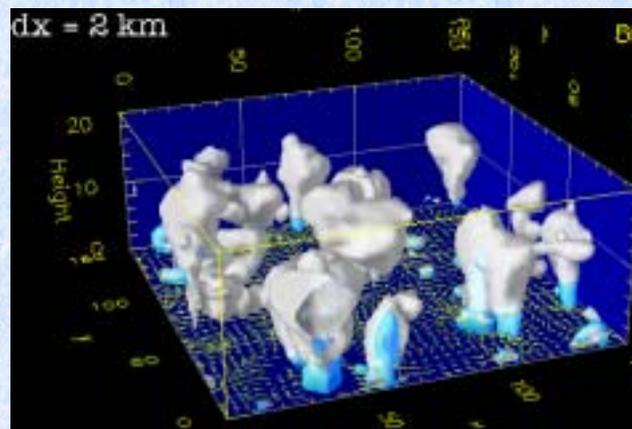
Lower RH

- Convergence ?

dx = 2km ?

dx = 1km ?

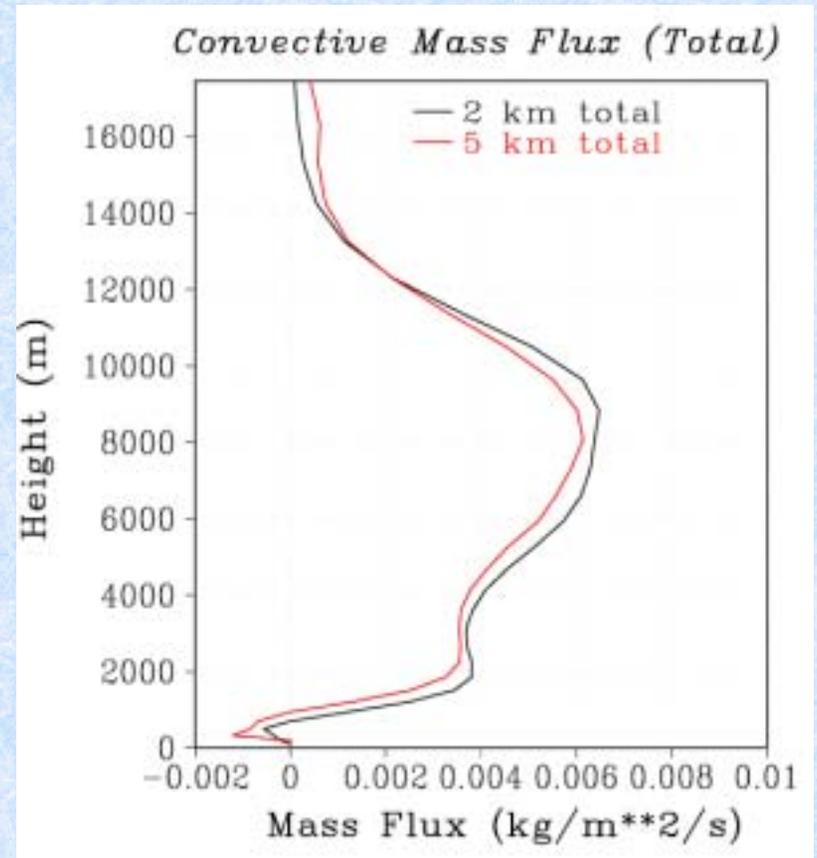
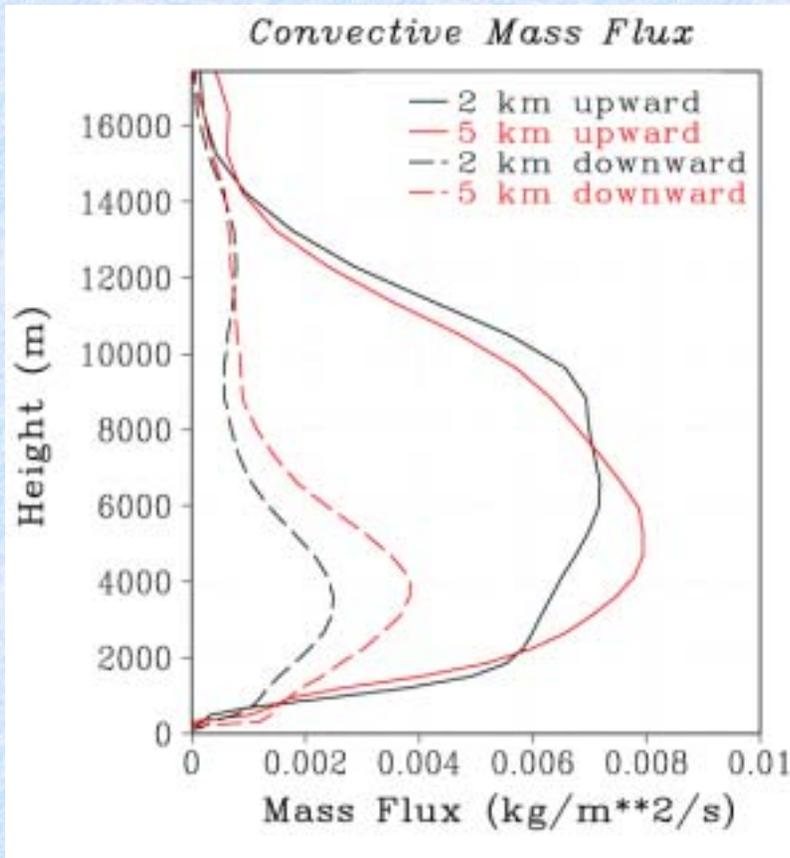
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Appendix

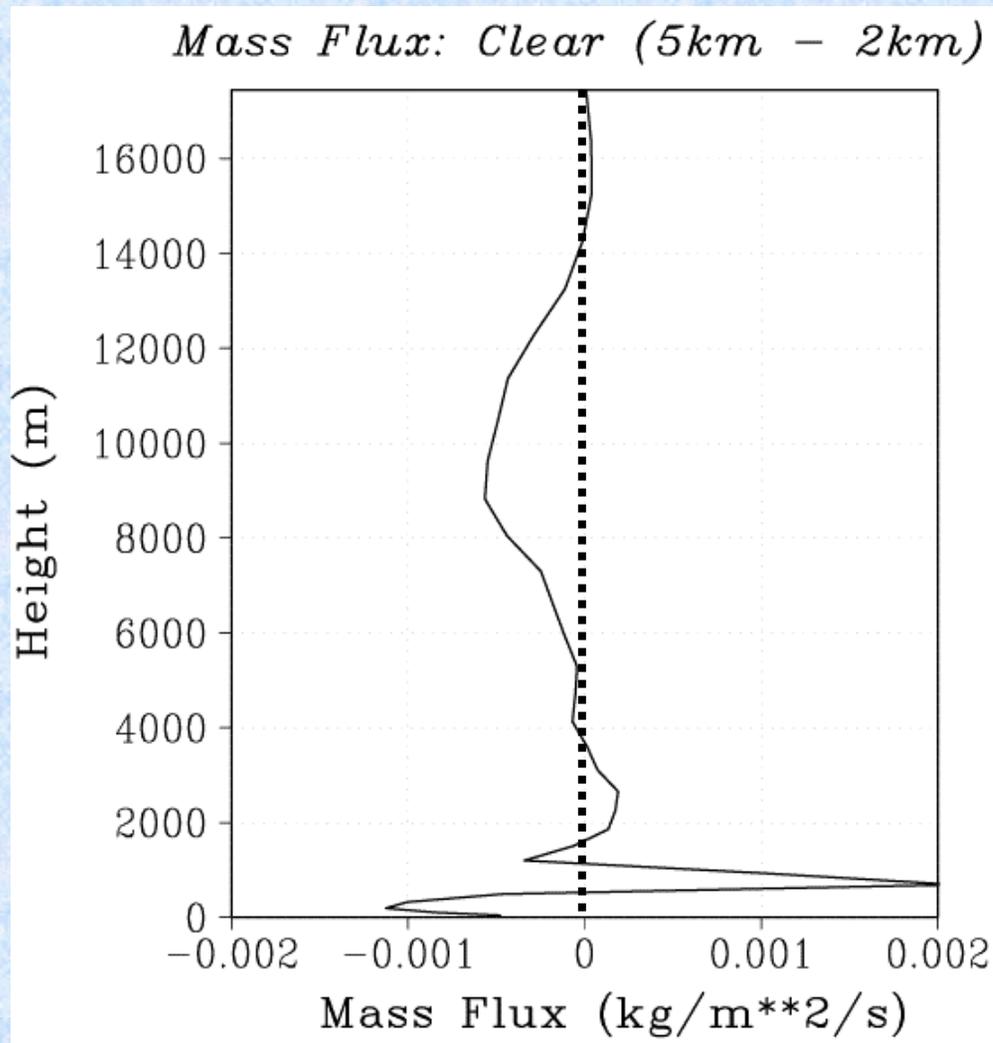
Convective mass flux

Convective: $q > 1.e-5 \text{ g/kg}$ & $|w| > 1 \text{ m/s}$

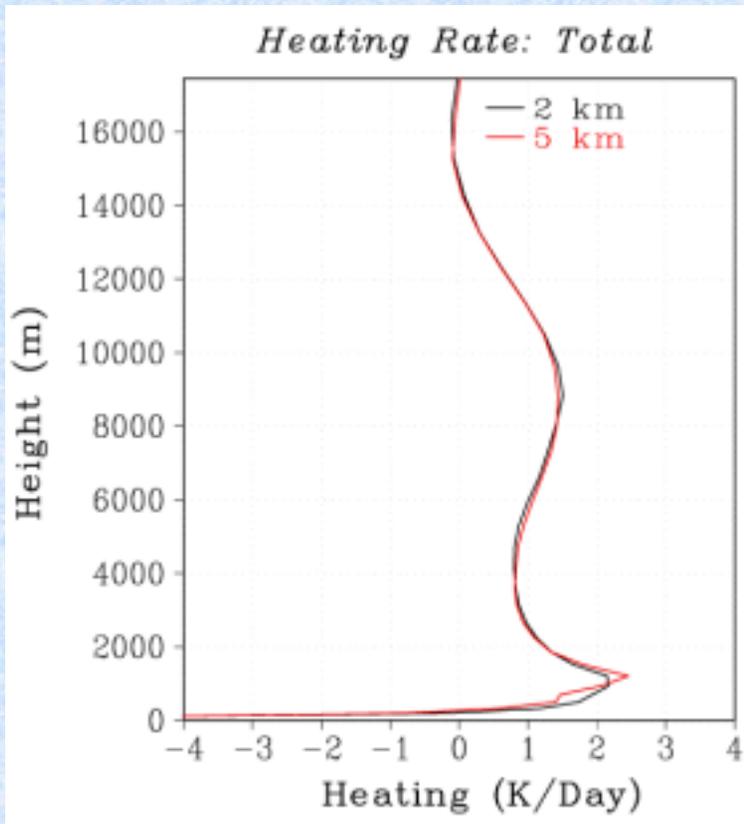


Core area: 2 km < 5 km ?

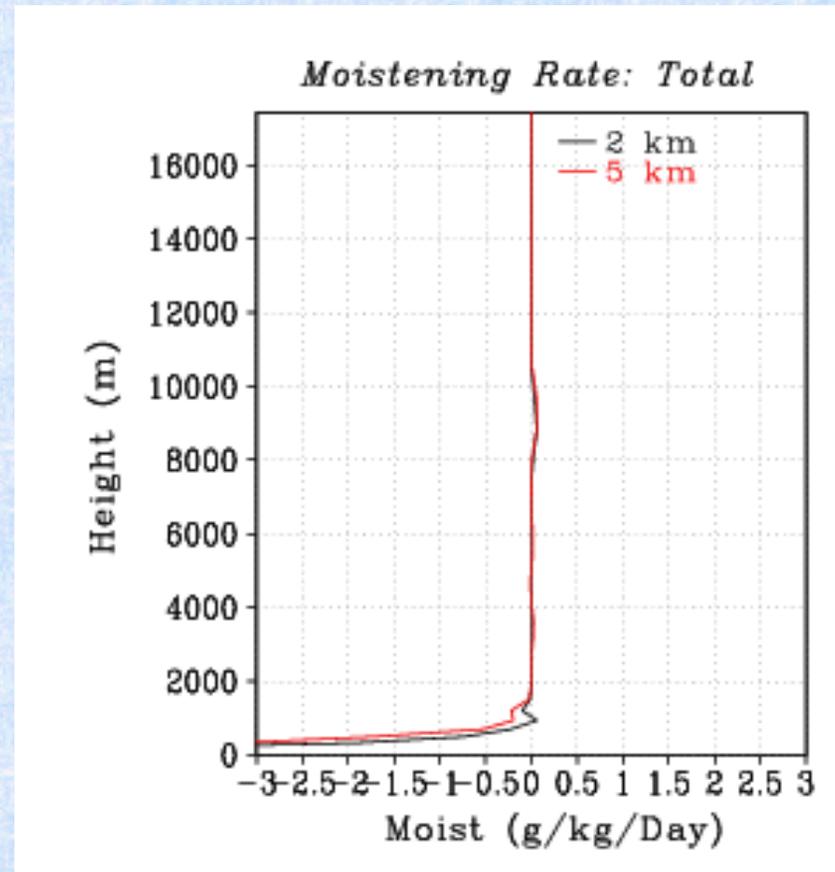
Difference of mass flux



Equilibrium ?



Heating rate
(adv + microphysics)



moistening rate
(adv + microphysics)