

**SINGULAR VECTORS IN A MOIST  
LIMITED-AREA MODEL**

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# 1 Introduction and Questions

## MOIST SVs

- What are the relative effects of initial perturbations (or errors) in the **dynamical** fields versus the **moisture** field?
- Are similar structures optimal for affecting **both** perturbation energy and precipitation?
- Is **convective** or **non-convective** precipitation generally more sensitive to initial perturbations?

## ENSEMBLE PREDICTION AND SV SPECTRA

- obvious interest regarding data assimilation and predictability
- *importance of SVs for covariance and ensemble prediction*
- Hessian SVs and Spectra

## 2 Singular Vectors (SVs) and Norms

*The problem:*

Given a linearized model

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{M}\mathbf{x}$$

Find the  $\mathbf{x}$  that maximizes

$$L_2 = \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{L}_2 \mathbf{y}$$

Given

$$L_1 = \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{L}_1 \mathbf{x}$$

*The solution:*

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{L}_1^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{z}$$

where

$$\mathbf{L}_1^{-\frac{1}{2}T} \mathbf{M}^T \mathbf{L}_2 \mathbf{M} \mathbf{L}_1^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{z} = \lambda \mathbf{z}$$

Note: *Different* norms at initial and final times.

## Norms Considered

Energy Norm:

$$E = \frac{1}{N_w} \sum_{i,j,k} \Delta\sigma_k (u'_{i,j,k}{}^2 + v'_{i,j,k}{}^2) + \frac{C_p}{T_r N_t} \sum_{i,j,k} \Delta\sigma_k T'_{i,j,k}{}^2 + \frac{RT_r}{p_{sr}^2 N_t} \sum_{i,j} p'_{s\ i,j}{}^2 \quad (1)$$

Moist Energy Norm (dry fields zero):

$$E_m = \frac{L^2}{C_p T_r N_t} \sum_{i,j,k} \Delta\sigma_k q'_{i,j,k}{}^2 \quad (2)$$

Precipitation Rate Norm (used only as end-time norm; non-convective + convective precipitation):

$$P = \frac{1}{N_t} \sum_{i,j} R'_{t\ i,j}{}^2 \quad (3)$$

Dry and Moist Variance-weighted norm (penalize large  $q$  high up):

$$V_d = \frac{1}{N_w} \sum_{i,j,k} \Delta\sigma_k \left( \frac{u'_{i,j,k}{}^2}{V_{u\ k}} + \frac{v'_{i,j,k}{}^2}{V_{v\ k}} \right) + \frac{1}{N_t} \sum_{i,j,k} \Delta\sigma_k \frac{T'_{i,j,k}{}^2}{V_{T\ k}} + \frac{1}{N_t} \sum_{i,j} \frac{p'_{s\ i,j}{}^2}{V_p} \quad (4)$$

$$V_m = \frac{1}{N_t} \sum_{i,j,k} \frac{q'_{i,j,k}{}^2}{V_{q\ k}} \Delta\sigma_k \quad (5)$$

### 3 The Mesoscale Adjoint Modeling System MAMS2

#### The Mesoscale Adjoint Modeling System Version 2 (MAMS2)

- Primitive equations with water vapor
- Bulk PBL formulation (Deardorff)
- Stability-dependent vertical eddy diffusion (CCM3)
- RAS scheme (Moorthi and Suarez)
- Stable-layer precipitation
- $\Delta x = 80\text{km}$
- 20-level model ( $\Delta\sigma = 0.05$ )
- $p_{\text{top}} = 100$  or  $10$  mb
- 12-hour forecasts for 4 synoptic cases

**6 sets of SVs for each case**

- $E \rightarrow E$
- $E_m \rightarrow E$
- $V_d \rightarrow E$
- $V_m \rightarrow E$
- $V_d \rightarrow P$
- $V_m \rightarrow P$

*A larger value of  $E$  can be produced with an initial constraint*

*$V_m = 1$  compared with  $V_d = 1$ .*

## 4 Moist SVs: Results and Relevance

- Cases
- Amplifications
- Horizontal properties of SVs
- Vertical structures of SVs
- A peculiar SV
- Final-time SVs and growth mechanisms
- Nonlinear considerations and correlations



## **5 SVs: Covariance Prediction and Spectra**

### Uncertainty Prediction: Hessian SVs

The HSVs  $Z_0$  solving the eigenvector problem:

$$M^T C^T C M Z_0 = (P^a)^{-1} Z_0 \Lambda \quad \text{s.t.} \quad Z_0^T (P^a)^{-1} Z_0 = I \quad (5.0.1)$$

are, when time-evolved, eigenvectors of  $P^f$ , because:

$$\underbrace{(C M P^a)}_{\equiv P^f} M^T C^T \underbrace{C M Z_0}_{\equiv Z_t} = (C M P^a) (P^a)^{-1} Z_0 \Lambda \quad \rightarrow \quad (C P^f C^T) Z_t = Z_t \Lambda \quad (5.0.2)$$

The evolved HSVs  $Z_t$  are the eigenvectors of  $C P^f C^T$  – which is the forecast error covariance in the “final-time norm”  $C$ . Note the final-time orthogonality relationship:

$$Z_t^T Z_t = (C M Z_0)^T (C M Z_0) = Z_0^T \underbrace{M^T C^T C M}_{\equiv (P^a)^{-1}} Z_0 \Lambda = Z_0^T (P^a)^{-1} Z_0 \Lambda = \Lambda \quad \rightarrow \quad Z_t^T Z_t = \Lambda \quad (5.0.3)$$

## Uncertainty Prediction: The SV-Decomposition of $P^a$

- Because the initial-time SVs satisfy (5.0.1), it is true that  $P^a$  can be written as:

$$P^a = Z_0 Z_0^T \quad (5.0.4)$$

This is a special square-root for  $P^a$  (different from eigendecomposition and also not lower-triangular)  $\rightarrow$  the **SV-decomposition** of  $P^a$

- Under linear dynamics this SV-decomposition becomes the eigendecomposition of the forecast error covariance matrix, because (5.0.5) is the same as (5.0.2) together with (5.0.3):

$$(CM) P^a (CM)^T = (CM) Z_0 Z_0^T (CM)^T \quad \rightarrow$$

$$C P^f C^T = Z_t Z_t^T$$

(5.0.5)

- SV-decomposition implemented at ECMWF for generation of initial-time perturbations in the Ensemble-Prediction-System (only partly operational)

## Multinormal Sampling Based on SV-Decomposition of $P^a$

- Transforming random variables

$$\mathbf{q} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}_0^c + V^{1/2} \mathbf{q} \quad \rightarrow \quad \mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_0^c, V) \quad (5.0.6)$$

- Use **SV-decomposition of  $P^a$**  (possibly truncated to  $N$  SVs) in (5.0.5) – to describe square-root of  $P^a$  – in process of generating initial-time perturbed states  $\mathbf{x}$ :

$$(P^a)^{1/2} = Z_0^{(N)} \quad (5.0.7)$$

$$\mathbf{x}_i = \mathbf{x}_0^c + Z_0^{(N)} \mathbf{q}_i \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, M \quad \Rightarrow \quad \boxed{\mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_0^c, (P^a)^{(N)})} \quad (5.0.8)$$

- Generating perturbations consistent with  $P^a$  knowledge based on  $N$  SVs
- Assumes normally distributed analysis errors; • non-eigendecomp.  $\rightarrow$  eigendecomp.
- Taking SV properties into nonlinear regime
- Strong similarity to operational *rotation* at ECMWF
- free parameters:  $N$  and  $M$

exp. H1i1 QG model

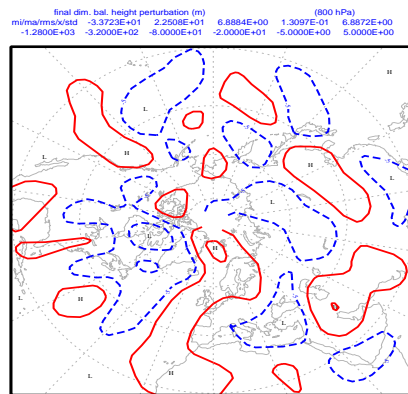
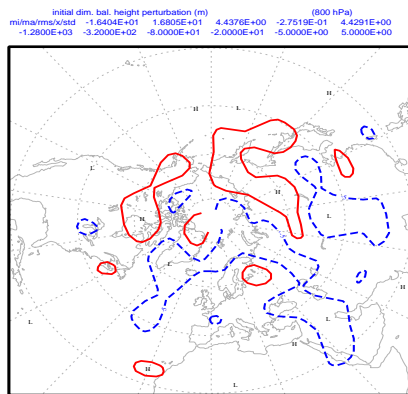
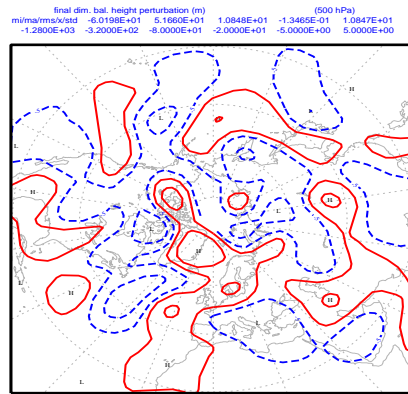
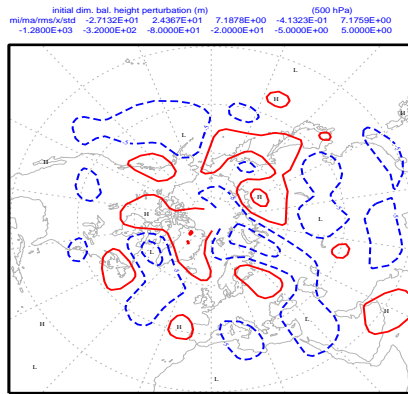
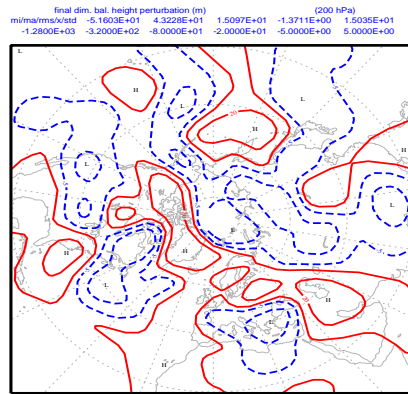
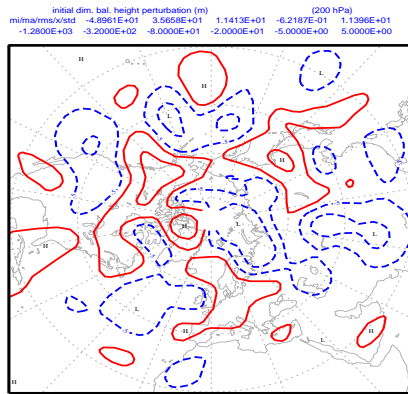
left: initial pert.1

right: final pert.1

rms left: 11.4 / 7.2 / 4.4 m

rms right: 15.1 / 10.8 / 6.9 m

final = 2 days



## Singular-Vector Spectra

- slope and shape of spectrum → relevant for truncations
- investigations with MAMS2
- dry truncated R-norm (14 Feb 1982): **169** growing SVs out of 4830 dimensions

- references:

Errico, Ehrendorfer, and Raeder 2001 ... Tellus

Ehrendorfer, Errico, and Raeder 1999 ... JAS

## 6 Conclusions

- The effect of “optimal” moisture perturbations can be as great as optimal perturbations of wind or temperature, even regarding their effects on wind and temperature.
- The geographic locations of leading SVs can be very dependent on the specific norms considered.
- The vertical structures of leading SVs can vary greatly from case to case, even when the same norms are considered.
- In some cases, leading SVs having only initial perturbations of wind and temperature produce nearly identical final-time SVs as those produced by the leading SVs having only moisture perturbations → inferred dependence on moist specific enthalpy.
- In most cases, different structures optimize the different final-time norms.
- An example of an initial-time SV dominated by wind divergence above the tropopause was obtained.

- Sensitivities to non-convective precipitation have not been shown to always dominate sensitivities to convective precipitation.
- TLM results of precipitation processes over 12 hours match NLM results quite well, even for perturbations as large as  $2 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$ .
- The effects of possible moisture errors and of appropriately linearized moist physics should not be neglected or treated as second-order.
- Hessian SVs
- Multinormal Sampling
- Spectra and number of growing SVs



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