### Workshop on the Science of Climate Change: a focus on Central America and the Caribbean Islands 14 - 16 March 2017





# **Regional Climate Models**



Regional atmospheric modelling: nesting into a global state



# **Regional Climate Models**

The main goal of regional climate models (RCMs) is to reproduce the main climatic features in complex terrain, where mesoscale forcing becomes important and coarse-resolution global climate models (GCMs) are not sufficient for assessing local climate variability. Very high resolution GCMs are an extremely costly alternative solution.

The Caribbean islands and adjacent territories are an example of the usefulness of RCM.

# **Regional climate modeling technique**

The nested regional climate modeling technique consists of defining a limited region (e.g., Europe, South America, the Caribbean Region) and run a high resolution model only for that region, using the output of a GCM as boundary conditions.

This technique has been mostly used only in one-way mode, i.e. with no feedback from the RCM simulation to the driving GCM. The basic strategy is thus to use the global model to simulate the response of the global circulation to large scale forcings (synoptic scale systems) and the RCM to account for sub-GCM grid scale forcings (e.g. local circulations, complex topographical features and land cover inhomogeneity).

# RCMs simulate current climate more realistically



Patterns of present-day winter precipitation over Great Britain

## Predict climate change with more detail



Projected changes in winter precipitation between now and 2080s.

# **Represent Tropical cyclones**



Regional climate modeling in the Caribbean ICTP-RegCM

UK-MetOffice Hadley Centre PRECIS May, 2003: RegCM3. ICTP Workshop on the Theory and Use of Regional Climate Models. RegCM3. Trieste, Italy.

Trainers: ICTP Earth Physics Section. Participants: scientists from Third World nations. Different groups worked on different domains

March, 2004: PRECIS Installation and Training Workshop in Havana Financing: GEF MACC Project (Mainstream Adaptation to Climate Change) and Japanese Trust Fund Organizers: MACC and INSMET, Cuba Participants. Scientists from Caribbean and Central American countries

# THE PRECIS CARIBBEAN STORY

### Lessons and Legacies

by Michael A. Taylor, Abel Centella, John Charlery, Arnoldo Bezanilla, Jayaka Campbell, Israel Borrajero, Tannecia Stephenson, and Riad Nurmohamed

UWI Mona and Cave Hill, INSMET, Univ. of Surinam

### BAMS July, 2013

PRECIS: Providing Regional Climates for Impacts Studies Atmospheric and land surface high resolution LAM locatable in any region Horizontal resolution: 0.44°C (50 km) or 0.22°C (25 km)

Forced by GCM: HadAM3H; ECHAM4 or other versions Built by Hadley Centre but run locally on linux

Available on line at www.metoffice.gov.uk

The PRECIS Caribbean Agenda: Multicountry collaboration initiative to run the model in different domains following a coordinated strategy to share effort and resources. UWI (Jamaica, Barbados), INSMET (Cuba), CCCCC ( Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre, Belize) Three domains :CAM-Caribbean Region (50-km), Eastern Caribbean (Lesser Antilles 25 km) and Western Caribbean (Greater Antilles 25 km). and) GCM: HadAM3H; later HadAM3P and ECHAM4. Time-slice approach. Present (1960–90) and end-of-century (2071–99) . A2 and B2 SRES scenarios

TABLE I. Initial division of runs.						
Cuba (INSMET)	Caribbean basin, 50 × 50 km <sup>2</sup>	BI (30 yr) and A2 (30 yr), baseline (30 yr), reanalysis (15 yr)				
Jamaica, UWI (Mona)	Caribbean basin, 50 × 50 km <sup>2</sup>	A2 (30 yr) and B2 (30 yr), baseline (30 yr)				
Barbados, UWI (Cave Hill)	Eastern Caribbean, 25 × 25 km <sup>2</sup>	A2 (30 yr) and B2 (30 yr), baseline (30 yr)				
Belize, 5Cs	Caribbean and eastern Caribbean	Multiple runs				

### **PRECIS CARIBBEAN DOMAINS**





FIG. 4. Annual mean changes in precipitation (%) for 2071–99 with respect to 1961–89 as simulated by (left) HadAM3P and (right) PRECIS. Top (bottom) shows results for the B2 (A2) emission scenario.

### Some papers produced by PRECIS Caribbean initiative

- Campbell J. D., M. A. Taylor, T. S. Stephenson, R. A. Watson and F. S. Whyte, 2010. Future climate of the Caribbean from a regional climate model. Int. J. Clim. 31, 1866-1878, doi:10.1002/joc.2200.
- Martínez-Castro D., Borrajero I., Bezanilla A. and Centella A., 2011: The occurrence of tropical cyclones in the Caribbean and Mexico and global warming. Application of a regional climate model. "Rev. Ciencias de la Tierra y el Espacio", 12, 2011. http://www.iga.cu/publicaciones/revista/cte\_12/CTE12.html
- Karmalkar A. V., R. S. Bradley and H. F. Diaz, 2011. Climate change in Central America and Mexico: Regional climate model validation and climate change projections. Clim. Dyn. 37,605-629, doi:10.1007/s00382-011-1099-9.
- Taylor MA, Whyte F., Stephenson TS. and Campbell JD, 2012: Why dry? Investigating the future evolution of the Caribbean Low Level Jet to explain projected Caribbean drying. Int. Journ. Climatology. DOI: 10.1002/joc.3461
- Karmalkar A. V., M. A. Taylor, J. Campbell, T. Stephenson, M. New, A. Centella, A. Bezanilla and J. Charlery, 2013. A review of observed and projected changes in climate for the islands in the Caribbean. Atmósfera 26(2), 283-309
- Taylor MA, Centella A, Charlery J, Bezanilla A, Campbell J, Borrajero I, Stephenson T, Nurmohamed R, 2013: The Precis Caribbean Story: Lessons and Legacies. Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society. 94: 1065-1073.
- Centella-Artola A, Taylor MA, Bezanilla-Morlot A, Martínez-Castro D, Campbell J, Stephenson T, and Vichot-Llano A, 2015 Assessing the effect of domain size over the Caribbean region using the PRECIS regional climate model. Clim. Dyn. 44. 1901-1918. DOI 10.1007/s00382-014-2272-8.

## Future climate of the Caribbean from a regional climate model Int. Journ. Climatol. (2010)

Jayaka D. Campbell, Michael A. Taylor,\* Tannecia S. Stephenson, Rhodene A. Watson and Felicia S. Whyte

The Climate Studies Group Mona, The University of the West Indies, Mona, Kingston 7, Jamaica, West Indies









# **PROJECTIONS** (2071-2100) - (1961-1990)





### Climate change in Central America and Mexico: regional climate model validation and climate change projections

Ambarish V. Karmalkar · Raymond S. Bradley · Henry F. Diaz *Clim. Dyn.* **37**, 605-629, 2011 doi: 10.1007/s00382-011-1099-9



# Baseline. Air Temperature bias (Relative to CRU (61-90) and NARR (80-90))



#### Dependence of bias on elevation





#### Baseline. GCM and RCM bias relative to GPCC

Precipitation seasonal cycle. Domain landmass





Fig. 7 Regional model domain divided into six regions using EOF and cluster analyses on simulated mean annual SAT and PRCP data

**Table 3** Model bias in the mean ( $\mu$ ) and variability ( $\sigma$ ; standard deviation) of seasonal PRCP relative to the GPCC data for six regions defined in Fig. 7

	Wet season				Dry season			
	$\mu_{\rm bias}$ (%)		$\sigma_{ m bias}$ (%)		$\mu_{\rm bias}$ (%)		$\sigma_{ m bias}$ (%)	
	GCM	RCM	GCM	RCM	GCM	RCM	GCM	RCM
1	-33	-9	-64	-39	30	35	-9	-2
2	-42	15	-57	6	95	78	10	15
3	-53	2	-72	-39	15	87	-26	59
4	-31	-3	-61	-40	25.5	30	-28	-15
5	-57	-23	-77	-45	-59	-18	-53	-1
6	-45.5	-21	-68	-30	-47	15	-58	-19

**Table 2** Model bias in the mean  $(\mu)$  and variability ( $\sigma$ ; standard deviation) of seasonal SAT relative to the CRU data for six regions defined in Fig. 7

	Wet season				Dry season				
	$\mu_{\text{bias}}$ (°C)		$\sigma_{\rm bias}~(\%)$		$\mu_{\text{bias}}$ (°C)		$\sigma_{\rm bias}~(\%)$		
	GCM	RCM	GCM	RCM	GCM	RCM	GCM	RCM	
1	0.2	-1.1	1	-10	-0.1	-0.7	10	0	
2	-0.1	-1.5	9	-18	-1.5	-0.7	-4	-17	
3	-0.5	-1.1	47	-22	-0.6	-0.3	46	-22	
4	-0.7	-0.7	6	-17	-0.4	-0.3	1	-15	
5	0.2	-0.4	13	$^{-8}$	0.6	-0.1	29	$^{-2}$	
6	-0.9	0	-7	-38	-0.4	0	1	-41	

### **MAIN CONCLUSIONS**

RCM captures precipitation pattern, showing improvement over the GCMs Negative bias in the wet season Positive bias in the dry season (Driving GCM underestimates precipitation in CAM) Warming in CAM in the wet season higher than in the dry season and nearly 4°C.

# A review of observed and projected changes in climate for the islands in the Caribbean

Atmósfera 26(2), 283-309 (2013)

Karlmakar (Oxford Univ. UK); Taylor, Campbell, Stephenson (UWI. Mona, Jamaica); New (Univ Cape Town, SA); Centella, Bezanilla (INSMET, Cuba); Charlery (UWI, Cave Hill, Barbados)



RCM: PRECIS GCM: HadamP; ECHAM4

Present: 1970-1089 Future: 2080-2089

Fig. 1. Two regions of the Caribbean—western (70-80° W) and eastern (58-68° W)—for which zonal means are calculated.

#### Present time precipitation (70-89) CMIP3 and PRECIS

18

(a)

**Eastern Caribbean** 

-CMIP3-20C PRCP (58W-68W) - -

-(b)-

D

D

#### Western Caribbean





### **BIAS (Models-CMAP)**



#### Projected changes in precipitation by 2080 under SRES A2 CMIP3 Wet season



#### **Projected changes in precipitation by 2080 under SRES A2 PRECIS** Wet season Western Caribbean Eastern Caribbean CMIP3 PRCP Projections (70W-80W (a) CMIPS PRCP Projections 158W-68W 18 CMIP3 26 25 17 (No) 900121 20 ensemble 16 15 14 13 M M A .1 s 0 45 55 27 RECIS PRCP Projections RCM-H (70W-80) PRCP Projections RCI 18 17 16 15 14 13 18 17 0 N D S 0 S F M A M J J A N PRECIS PRCP Projections RCM-E (58W-68W PRCP Projections RCM-E (70W-(e) 18 26 25 17 RCM-ECHAM Z 24 16 22 atitude 15 21 20 14 13 18 17 n M A M J A S 0 N D .1

[%]

[%]

#### MAIN CONCLUSIONS

RCM project more intense drying in the wet season than GCM. GCM and RCM project higher warming over NW Caribbean. RCM projects higher warming. MSD is reproduced and projected.

# Projected changes in air temperature by 2080 under SRES

#### A2 CMIP3 Annual



## Assessing the effect of domain size over the Caribbean region using the PRECIS regional climate model

Abel Centella-Artola · Michael A. Taylor · Arnoldo Bezanilla-Morlot · Daniel Martinez-Castro · Jayaka D. Campbell · Tannecia S. Stephenson · Alejandro Vichot



Climate Dynamics 44. 1901-1918. DOI 10.1007/ s00382-014-2272-8.

#### **Main conclusions**

Precipitation, cloud cover, evaporation:. D1, D2, D3 comparable

Reproduction of MSD and NASH: D2 best

Wind circulation, wind shear: D1, D2 best

The extension of the domain through the Atlantic does not improve simulations

# REGIONAL CLIMATE MODELING FOR THE DEVELOPING WORLD The ICTP RegCM3 and RegCNET

BAMS SEPTEMB

BY JEREMY S. PAL, FILIPPO GIORGI, XU NELLIE ELGUINDI, FABIEN SOLMON, 2 SARA A. RAUSCHER, RAQUEL FRANC ASHRAF ZAKEY, JONATHAN WIN MOETASIM ASHFAQ, F JASON L. BELL, NOAL AGADISH KARM ABOURAHAMAN DANIEL MARTI ROSMER LISA C AL

- Martínez-Castro D, Porfirio da Rocha R, Bezanilla-Morlot A, Alvarez-Escudero L, Reyes J. P, Silva-Vidal Y, Arrit RW (2006): Sensitivity studies of the RegCM3 simulation of summer precipitation, temperature and local wind field in the Caribbean Region. Theor. Appl. Climatol. 86, 1-4, p.5-22
- **Diro GT, Rauscher SA, Giorgi F, Tompkins AM (2012):** Sensitivity of seasonal climate and diurnal precipitation over Central America to land and sea surface schemes in RegCM4. Clim. Res. Vol. 52: 31-48, doi:10.3354/cr01049
- Vichot-Llano A, Martínez-Castro D, Centella-Artola A, Bezanilla-Morlot A (2014): Sensibilidad al cambio de dominio y resolución de tres configuraciones del modelo climático regional RegCM 4.3 para la región de América Central y el Caribe. Rev. Climatol., 14:45-62.
- Fuentes-Franco R, Coppola E, Giorgi F, Graef F and Pavía EG, (2014): Assessment of RegCM4 simulated interannual variability and daily-scale statistics of temperature and precipitation over Mexico. Clim Dyn, 42:629-647. DOI 10.1007/s00382-013-1686-z
- Fuentes-Franco R. Coppola E. Giorgi F. Pavia E. G. Diro G. T, Graef F. (2014): Inter-annual variability of precipitation over Southern Mexico and Central America and its relationship to sea surface temperature from a set of future projections from CMIP5 GCMs and RegCM4 CORDEX simulations. DOI 10.1007/s00382-014-2258-6
- **GT Diro, F Giorgi, R Fuentes-Franco, KJE Walsh, G Giuliani, E Coppola (2014):** Tropical cyclones in a regional climate change projection with RegCM4 over the CORDEX Central America domain. Climatic change 125 (1), 79-94.
- Martínez-Castro D., Vichot-Llano A., ,Bezanilla-Morlot, A., Centella-Artola A., Campbell J. and Viloria-Holguin C..(2016): Performance of RegCM-4.3 over the Caribbean region using different configurations of the Tiedtke convective parameterization scheme. Rev. Climat. 16 (2016): 77-98. http://webs.ono.com/reclim11/reclim16f.pdf

#### Sensitivity studies of the RegCM3 simulation of summer precipitation, temperature and local wind field in the Caribbean Region Theor. Appl. Climatol. 86, 5–22 (2006) DOI 10.1007/s00704-005-0201-9

D. Martínez-Castro, R. Porfirio da Rocha, A. Bezanilla-Morlot, L. Alvarez-Escudero, J. P. Reyes-Fernández, Y. Silva-Vidal, and R. W. Arritt



# Numerical experiments with RegCM3

Experime nt	Domain	Hor. Res. (km)	Conv.Sch.	Closure	Surf.Flux over
					Ocean
BGAS	Big	50	Grell	Arak-S	Zeng
BGFC	Big	50	Grell	Fritsch-C	Zeng
BGKuo	Big	50	Kuo		Zeng
BGASB	Big	50	Grell	Arak-S	BATS
SGAS	Small	25	Grell	Arak-S	Zeng
SGFC	Small	25	Grell	Fritsch-C	Zeng
SKuo	Small	25	Kuo		Zeng
SGASB	Small	25	Grell	Arak-S	BATS

### Period of simulation: A rainy season + 1 month spin-up



#### **MAIN CONCLUSIONS**

Grell\_AS was the less sensitive to change of domain and resolution and in reproducing local circulations. Kuo fails to reproduce local circulation and diurnal cycle.

Recommendes schemes: Grell-AS with BATS

# Sensitivity of seasonal climate and diurnal precipitation over Central America to land and sea surface schemes in RegCM4

CLIMATE RESEARCH Vol. 52: 31–48, 2012 doi: 10.3354/cr01049

G. T. Diro , S. A. Rauscher , F. Giorgi , A. M. Tompkins



Convective scheme: MIT\_Emanuel over ocean Grell (AS) over land

Period of simulation: Six years

**Experiments:** 

Control: CTRL: Land surface scheme Biosphere-Atmosphere Transfer Scheme (BATS)

Sensitivity 1: CLM: Land Surface scheme Community Land Model 3.5 (CLM 3.5)

Sensitivity 2: DCSST: Diurnal



Fig. 2. JJAS mean precipitation (mm d<sup>-1</sup>) for: (a) TRMM, (b) GPCP, (c) RegCM4\_CTRL; and precipitation difference for (d) RegCM4\_CTRL minus TRMM; (e) RegCM4\_DCSST minus RegCM4\_CTRL; and (f) RegCM4\_CLM minus RegCM4\_CTRL. Contour lines in the bottom-right panel: differences which are statistically significant at the 0.1 level



MAIN CONCLUSIONS

The model reproduces the spatial and seasonal patterns of precipitation over the region. **Regional circulations are well** reproduced Low-level jet is underestimated Sensitivity to land surface scheme. Both schemes have biases in different regions of the domain Lower sensitivity to SST diurnal cycle scheme

Fig. 7. JJAS mean temperature (°C), 1998–2002. (a) 2 m temperature from CRU, (b) ERA-Interim surface temperature,
 (c) RegCM4\_CTRL, (d) RegCM4\_CTRL minus CRU, (e) RegCM4\_DCSST minus RegCM4\_CTRL, and (f) RegCM4\_CLM minus RegCM4\_CTRL. The contour lines in the bottom-right panel represent values which are significant at 0.1 level



MAIN CONCLUSIONS

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 (c) RegCM4\_CTRL, (d) RegCM4\_CTRL minus CRU, (e) RegCM4\_DCSST minus RegCM4\_CTRL, and (f) RegCM4\_CLM minus RegCM4\_CTRL. The contour lines in the bottom-right panel represent values which are significant at 0.1 level

## Assessment of RegCM4 simulated inter-annual variability and daily-scale statistics of temperature and precipitation over Mexico

Ramón Fuentes-Franco · Erika Coppola · Filippo Giorgi · Federico Graef · Edgar G. Pavia Clim Dyn (2014) 42:629-647 DOI 10.1007/s00382-013-1686-z

RegCM4 configuration: Convective scheme: MIT-Emanuel over Ocean Grell over land

Land surface processes: BATS

Simulation period: 1982-2008 (27 ysars) BC: ERA Interim





Precipitation and mean wind circulation



#### **MAIN CONCLUSIONS**

The model reproduced well the mean patterns of temperature and precipitation, interannual variability and extremes Precipitation overestimated over mountains.

Reproduced well the annual cycle of precipitation.

Realistically represented tropical cyclone occurrence with simple detection criteria.

Inter-annual variability of precipitation over Southern Mexico and Central America and its relationship to sea surface temperature from a set of future projections from CMIP5 GCMs and RegCM4 CORDEX simulations

Ramón Fuentes-Franco · Erika Coppola · Filippo Giorgi · Edgar G. Pavia · Gulilat Tefera Diro · Federico Graef

Clim Dyn DOI 10.1007/s00382-014-2258-6

GCMs (CMIP5): HasdGEM ES2 **MPI-ES-MR** Regcm4 **Configurations:** Em+CLM 50 km Gr+BATS 50 km

Simulations: 1970-2099 **Present day:** 1976-2005 **Future: GHG RCP 8.5** 

Focus: JJAS (rainy season) Southern Mexico and Central America (SMECAM)



Model	Mean change in precipitation (%)	σ/μ in the 1976– 2005 period	σ/μ in the 2070– 2099 period	Change of σ/μ (%)
HadGEM	-40.6	0.34	0.44	+29.4
MPI	-0.5	0.23	0.34	+47.8
RegCM Em + CLM HadgGEM	-46.2	0.37	0.46	+24.3
RegCM Gr + BATS HadgGEM	-64.4	0.50	0.53	+6.0
RegCM Em + CLM MPI	-33.4	0.26	0.29	+11.5
RegCM Gr + BATS MPI	-43.2	0.34	0.40	+17.6



#### Present

Future

Present



### **MAIN CONCLUSIONS**

Gradient TNA-TNP modulator of precipitation annual variability over SMECAM Greater warming in TNP than TNA induces strong drying under RCP 8.5

Sources of uncertainty:

- 1. How GCMs simulate SST response
- 2. Resolution of the models (stronger response in RCM)
- 3. Convection and surface parameterizations



## Tropical cyclones in a regional climate change projection with RegCM4 over the CORDEX Central America domain (2014) 12

Climatic Change (2014) 125:79–94 DOI 10.1007/s10584-014-1155-7

G. T. Diro · F. Giorgi · R. Fuentes-Franco · K. J. E. Walsh · G. Giuliani · E. Coppola

RegCM4. Grell and MIT\_Emanuel parameterizations Simulation period: 1982-1003. Perfect BC: ERA Interim. GCM: 1970-2100

Present: 1982-2003. Future: 2078-2099 (RCP 8.5)

**Detection parameters:** 

**Relative vorticity** at 850 hPa >  $10^{-5} s^{-1}$ 

Closed pressure minimum within 100 km (At least 2 hPa less than neighborhood)

Surface wind > 17.5 msî-1

Warm core (700-300 hPa)

SST>26°C at the center

#### HURR-NHC

ERA





MPI\_RegCM4 (present)

MPI\_RegCM4 (Future RCP 8.5)







#### **MAIN CONCLUSIONS**

The MPI-ESM + RegCM4 (MIT\_Emanuel) reproduces well the TC climatology for present climate and is recommended for projections.

Projections RCP 8.5: Long-lasting TC increase slightly Oveall frequency of TCs decrease in AO and coastal EPO increase in EPO far from the coast

### Performance of RegCM4.3 over the Caribbean region using different configurations of the Tiedtke convective parameterization scheme

Daniel Martínez-Castro<sup>1</sup>, Alejandro Vichot-Llano<sup>1</sup>, Arnoldo Bezanilla-Morlot<sup>1</sup>, Abel Centella-Artola<sup>1</sup>, Jayaka Campbell<sup>2</sup> and Cecilia Viloria-Holguin<sup>3</sup>.



RegCM 4.3. BC: ERA Interim. Hor. Res: 50 km. Period: 2 years Configurations: (Covection schemes)

MIT Emanuel; MIT\_Emanuel over ocean; Grell over Land Tiedtke (16 multiparameter configurations)



#### **PRECIPITATION BIAS**



# **Bias and variability**

#### **PRECIPITATION BIAS**











#### **MAIN CONCLUSIONS**

Tiedtke scheme with tuned entrainment and autoconversion parameters and G\_E reproduce well climatic features and has relatively low biases for some regions of the domain. The performance of RegCM4.3 over the Central America and Caribbean region using different cumulus parameterizations. Martínez-Castro et al. (submitted)



### **Caribbean Low Level Jet (925 hPa)**



### **Caribbean-CAM Midsummer drought**



#### **MAIN CONCLUSIONs:**

The Tiedtke scheme with entrainment and autocon parameters has limited bi reproduces well variabilit and MSD. GE has lower pi biases but is worst in repr **MSD and ITCZ MIT\_Emanuel overestmat** precipitation An ensemble of GE and or Tiedtke configurations is recommended for climati projections

Thank you!!