Improvements to CLUBB's subgrid PDF shape

Brian Griffin and Vince Larson ASR Meeting 21 Mar 2018

The current version of CLUBB's PDF ("ADG1") has the following problems:

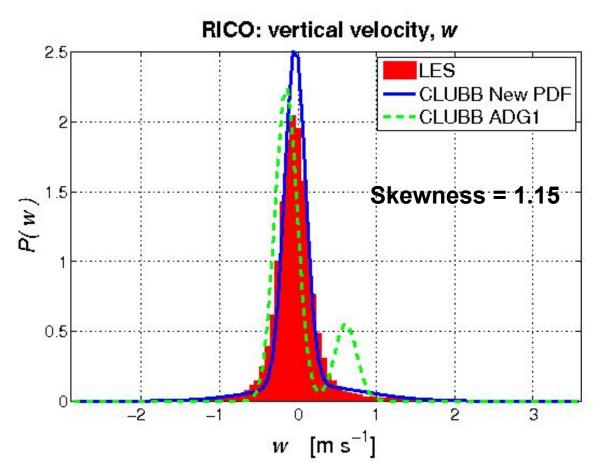
- Excessively bimodal PDF of vertical velocity, w.
- Excessive evaporation alongside cloud in precipitating cumulus cases.
- Underestimated turbulent advection of higher-order moments.

To circumvent these problems, we are developing a new analytic double Gaussian PDF that

- 1) approaches a single Gaussian in w in the limit of zero skewness; and
- 2) has non-zero within-component turbulent flux of heat and moisture.

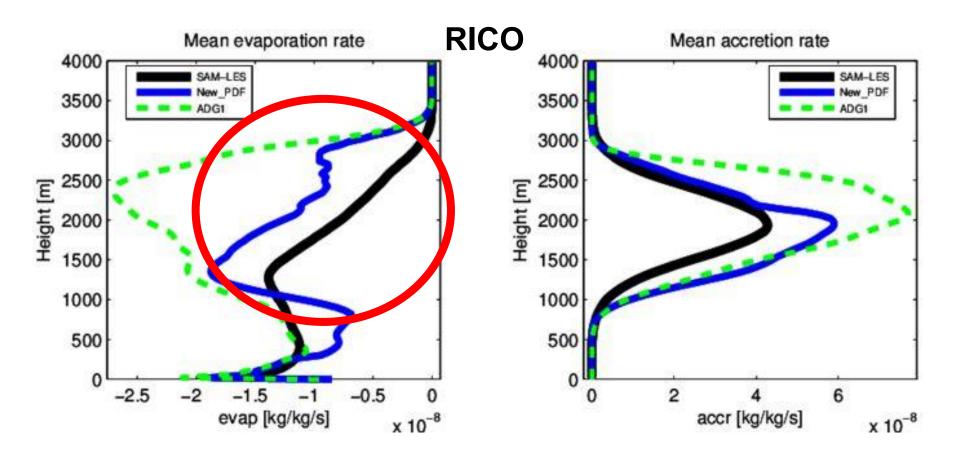
Next we'll evaluate the new PDF using non-interactive simulations of the RICO shallow cumulus case.

The new PDF of w is less bimodal (improved):



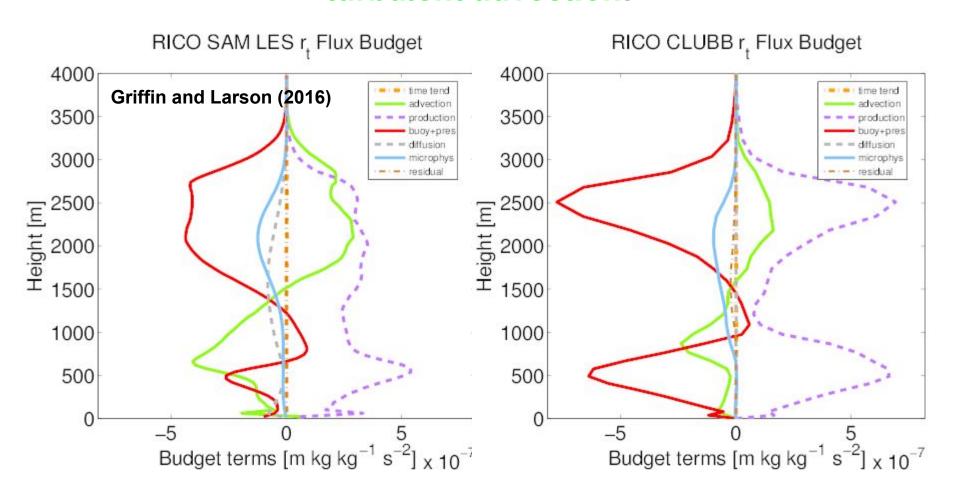
We hope that someday, the improved PDF of *w* will help with aerosol activation.

The new PDF reduces excessive evaporation aloft:



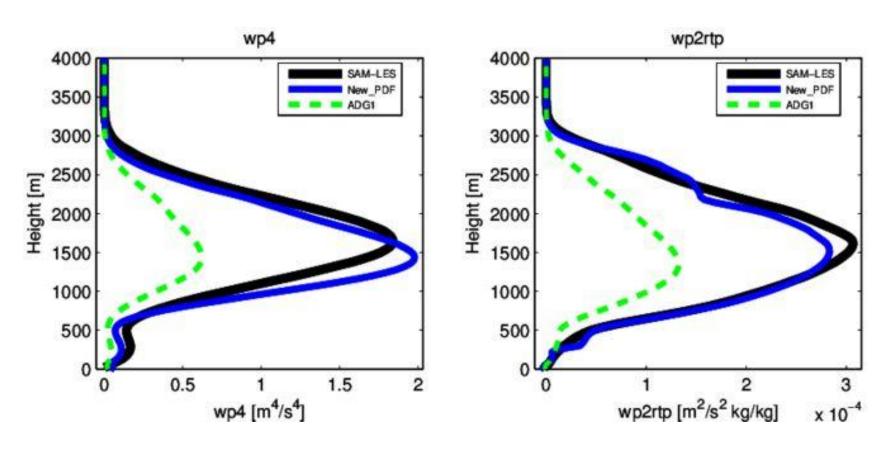
We hope that the reduced evaporation will reduce (improve) the precipitable water in global simulations using CLUBB-SILHS.

Problem . . . CLUBB's current PDF underpredicts turbulent advection:



Turbulent advection helps a layer to deepen.

The new PDF increases the 3rd- and 4th-order moments because the PDF is less bimodal:



We hope that the improvement will help deepen Cu layers.