



A NUMERICAL SIMULATION OF VORTEX FORMATION IN THE GULF OF THAILAND

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Abstract

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This research formulates a mathematical model for tropical cyclone formation in the Gulf of Thailand based on a collision of two wind streams. Data of two typhoons generated in the Gulf of Thailand, Gay (1989) and Vamei (2001), are used in model development. The concept of the model is to determine a spiral flow pattern of tropical cyclone vortex that matches the spiral cloud in the corresponding satellite image. The critical parameter in the model that has to be obtained by trial and error is the wind ratio parameter m. In the Gulf of Thailand the value of m for tropical cyclone vortex is in the range [-0.2,-0.24]. For tropical cyclone to form in this area, there must be a collision of strong northeast monsoon wind and another wind stream. Verification of the model shows that wind direction from the model is accurate but wind speed is too low. To combine the models for Gay and Vamei with different values of parameters, a linear regression model between the spiral flow direction and the distance from storm center is proposed.

Keywords: Vortex / Gulf of Thailand / Tropical Cyclone

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งานวิจัยนี้เป็นการสร้างแบบจำลองทางคณิตศาสตร์ สำหรับการก่อตัวของพายุหมุนเขตร้อนในอ่าว ไทยบนพื้นฐานของการชนกันของลมสองกระแส ข้อมูลจากได้ฝุ่น 2 ลูกที่ก่อตัวในอ่าวไทย คือ เกย์ (1989) และฮัวเหม่ย (2001) ได้นำมาใช้ในการพัฒนาแบบจำลอง แนวคิดของแบบจำลอง คือ การ กำหนดแบบรูปการ ไหลเวียนกันหอยของกระแสวนในพายุหมุนเขตร้อน ซึ่งเข้าคู่กับเมฆเวียนกันหอย ในภาพถ่ายดาวเทียมที่สมนัยกัน ตัวแปรเสริมวิกฤตในแบบจำลองซึ่ง ต้องหาโดยการลองผิดลองถูก คือ ตัวแปรเสริมอัตราส่วนลม m ในอ่าวไทย ค่าของ m สำหรับกระแสวนในพายุหมุนเขตร้อนอยู่ใน พิสัย [-0.20, -0.24] การที่พายุหมุนเขตร้อนจะก่อตัวในบริเวณนี้จะต้องมีการชนกันของลมมรสุม ตะวันออกเฉียงเหนือกำลังแรงกับกระแสลมอื่น การทวนสอบแบบจำลองแสดงว่าทิศลมจาก แบบจำลองมีความถูกต้อง แต่อัตราเร็วลมต่ำเกินไป เพื่อที่จะรวมแบบจำลองสำหรับเกย์และฮัวเหม่ย ซึ่งมีค่าตัวแปรเสริมต่างกัน จึงได้เสนอแบบจำลองถดถอยเชิงเส้นระหว่างทิศทางการไหลแบบเวียน กันหอยกับระยะห่างจากจุดศูนย์กลางพายุ

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LIST OF SYMBOLS

SYMBOL

 $ec{F}_{PGF}$ pressure gradient force

 \vec{F}_{CF} Coriolis force

 \vec{F}_{GE} gravity force

 m_f mass

 ρ air density

p pressure; $\nabla p = \frac{\partial p}{\partial x}\vec{i} + \frac{\partial p}{\partial y}\vec{j}$

 $\vec{\Omega}$ angular velocity of the rotation

 $\vec{V} = u\vec{i} + v\vec{j}$ horizontal velocity

 \vec{g} gravity force

 $f = 2\Omega \sin \phi$ Coriolis parameter

 ϕ latitude

 ∇_p the horizontal gradient operator applied with pressure held

constant

r distance from the center, radial distance

 $V_r = dr/dt$ radial wind component

 $V_t = r(d\theta/dt)$ cross-radial (tangential) wind component

dz/dt vertical component

m the wind speed ratio

 r_{initial} initial radius

r(0) the initial value of $r(\theta)$

M the probability of tropical storm formation

 α a-cut or α -level subset

 V_t tangential wind components

 $V_{i}(r)$ the tangential speed at the distance radial r

 $V_{\ell}(R_{\text{max}})$ the maximum speed of tangential wind

 R_{max} the radius of the maximum wind (V_t is maximum at

 R_{max}

γ the shape parameter

 θ the angle between the radius and the reference axis

 $V(r,\theta)$ the wind speed of a moving cyclone at distance r from the

center and the angle θ

 $V_{i}(r)$ the Rankine vortex wind speed at distance r from the

center

 V_{contor} the translation speed of the center

 θ_{tc} the angle of the line BA

 θ_{ss} the tangential wind direction at point A (symmetric wind)

 $\theta_{\nu\nu}$ the spiral wind direction

km kilometer

m meter s second

hPa hectopascal

UTC Coordinated Universal Time

nm nautical mile

°C Celsius

LIST OF TECHNICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

WMONEX International Winter Monsoon Experiment

RMW Radius of Maximum Winds

PSU Pennsylvania State University

NCAR National Center for Atmospheric Research Mesoscale

Model

ECMWF European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts

JTWC Joint Typhoon Warning Center

RSME Regional Specialized Meteorological Center

GMS Geostationary Meteorological Satellite

MTSAT Multi-function Transport Satellite