Thesis Title Numerical Simulation of Tropical Cyclone Formation in the Gulf

of Thailand

Thesis Credits 36

Candidate Miss Wikanda Suphasanun

Thesis Advisor Dr. Dusadee Sukawat
Program Doctor of Philosophy
Field of Study Applied Mathematics

Department Mathematics Faculty Science B.E. 2556

#### Abstract

Tropical cyclone with typhoon intensity is seldom formed in the Gulf of Thailand. However, when this occurs the consequence is severe damage due to a very short distance to the coast. In this research, the developments of typhoons GAY (8929) and VAMEI (0126) are simulated in terms of vorticity of the storms. A single level primitive equation model is used for the simulations. Unrealistic weak observed wind speeds of the tropical cyclones are enhanced with an asymmetric wind model before being used as the initial conditions of the primitive equation model. In addition, weak observed northeast monsoon wind speeds at the initial times of simulations are also enhanced. With the enhanced winds of the tropical cyclones and the enhanced monsoon winds, the simulations provide realistic results. The comparison of intensification of typhoons GAY and VAMEI in the Gulf of Thailand with typhoons CHANTHU (0405) and MUIFA (0425) over the Northwest Pacific Ocean shows that northeast monsoon wind plays an important role in the rapid formation of typhoons GAY and VAMEI in the Gulf of Thailand.

Keywords: Tropical Cyclone / Vorticity / Gulf of Thailand

หัวข้อวิทยานิพนธ์ การจำลองเชิงตัวเลขของการเกิดพายุหมุนเขตร้อนในอ่าวไทย

หน่วยกิต 36

ผู้เขียน นางสาววิกานคา สุภาสนันท์

อาจารย์ที่ปรึกษา คร.คุษฎี ศุขวัฒน์

หลักสูตร ปรัชญาคุษฎีบัณฑิต สาขาวิชา คณิตศาสตร์ประยุกต์

 ภาควิชา
 คณิตศาสตร์

 คณะ
 วิทยาศาสตร์

พ.ศ. 2556

### บทคัดย่อ

พายุหมุนเขตร้อนที่มีความรุนแรงระดับ ได้ฝุ่นไม่ค่อยเกิดขึ้นในอ่าวไทย อย่างไรก็ตามเมื่อเกิดขึ้นผลที่ ตามมาคือความเสียหายอย่างมาก เนื่องจากระยะทางที่สั้นมากจากชายฝั่ง ในงานวิจัยนี้ได้จำลองการ พัฒนาของได้ฝุ่นเกย์ (8929) และว่าเหม่ย (0126) ในพจน์ของการหมุนวนของพายุโดยใช้แบบจำลอง สมการปฐมฐานระดับเดียว ในการจำลองได้ทำการเสริมอัตราเร็วลมตรวจวัดของพายุหมุนเขตร้อนที่ อ่อนกว่าความเป็นจริงด้วยแบบจำลองลมอสมมาตรก่อนที่จะใช้เป็นเงื่อนไขเริ่มต้นของแบบจำลอง สมการปฐมฐาน ยิ่งไปกว่านั้นยังได้ทำการเสริมอัตราความเร็วลมตรวจวัดของมรสุมตะวันออกเฉียงเหนือ ณ เวลาเริ่มต้นของการจำลองด้วยเช่นกัน การจำลองด้วยลมที่ถูกเสริมของพายุหมุนเขตร้อนและลม มรสุมให้ผลที่สมจริง การเปรียบเทียบการแรงขึ้นของได้ฝุ่นเกย์และว่าเหม่ยในอ่าวไทยกับได้ฝุ่นจันทู (0405) และ หมุ่ยฟ้า (0425) เหนือมหาสมุทรแปซิฟิกด้านตะวันตกเฉียงเหนือแสดงว่าลมมรสุม ตะวันออกเฉียงเหนือมีบทบาทที่สำคัญในการก่อตัวอย่างรวดเร็วของได้ฝุ่น เกย์ และว่าเหม่ย ในอ่าวไทย

คำสำคัญ : พายุหมุนเขตร้อน / การหมุนวน / อ่าวไทย

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

I would like to express my gratefully thanks to many people who encouraged and helped me throughout the course of this study: Dr. Dusadee Sukawat, my thesis supervisor, for their great elaborate guidance, friendly encouragement and tolerance with problems solving during the course of study. I am also grateful to the members of the examination committee, Dr. Angkool Wangwongchai and Dr. Chatchawan Watchararuangwit, from the Department of Mathematics, and Dr. Sugunyanee Yavinchan from the Thai Meteorological Department for their valuable comments and suggestions.

Also, I am gratefully indebted to all the lecturers who have taught me. Sincere thanks are extended to Miss Duenpen Kirdnark and Mrs. Peangpit Rodpan for their kind assistance and encouragement. I would like to thank my good friends and Dr. Butsakorn Kongead for friendly helps whenever I need. Thank also to the Department of Mathematics, King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi and Rajamangala University of Technology Krungthep for giving partial financial support during the preparation of the thesis. Finally, I express my deep gratitude to my family who has always been my inspiration and my guiding light. They always support me with all their love.

### **CONTENTS**

			PAGE	
EN	NGLISH	H ABSTRACT	ii	
TH	IAI AB	STRACT	iii	
A(	CKNOV	VLEDGEMENTS	iv	
CONTENTS				
LIST OF TABLES				
LIST OF FIGURES				
		SYMBOLS	ix	
LI	ST OF	TECHNICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS	xi	
CI	HAPTE	ER .		
1.	INTRODUCTION		1	
	1.1	Rational / Problem	1	
	1.2	1	1	
		Classification of Tropical Cyclone	1	
		Features of Tropical Cyclone	2	
	1.2.3	1 2	2	
	1.3	Literature Review	2	
	1.4	Objective	4	
2.	. THEORIES		5	
	2.1	Symmetric Wind Model	5	
	2.2	<b>3</b>	7	
	2.3	The Shallow Water Model	9	
	2.4	Vorticity and Circulation	11	
	2.5	Wind Direction and Degree	14	
3.	METHODOLOGY		17	
	3.1	Experiment Cases	17	
	3.2	Single Level Primitive Equation Model	18	
	3.3	SILEPE Model Setting	19	
	3.4	Step of the Simulation	20	
	3.5	Enhancement of Northeast Monsoon Wind	22	
4.	. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION		25	
	4.1	Simulation without Bogus Wind	25	
	4.1.1	Typhoon GAY	25	
	4.1.2	<b>7</b> 1	27	
	4.2	Simulation with Bogus Wind	28	
	4.2.1	Typhoon GAY	31	
	4.2.2	Typhoon VAMEI	33	
	4.3	Simulation with Bogus Wind and Enhancement of	33	
	121	Northeast Monsoon Wind Simulation of GAY	35	
	471	ADDITION OF CIA I	17	

			PAGE
	4.3.2	Simulation of VAMEI	38
	4.4	Storm Intensification	40
5.	CON	CLUCION AND RECOMMENDATION	42
	5.1	Conclusion	42
	5.2	Recommendation	42
RI	EFERE	ENCES	43
ΒI	OGRA	PHY	46

# LIST OF TABLES

TABLE		PAGE
2.1	Meteorological wind direction and degree.	15
3.1	Experiment cases.	17
3.2	Information of typhoon GAY (8929) (JTWC, 2012).	17
3.3	Information of typhoon VAMEI (0126) (JTWC, 2012).	18
3.4	The experiment setting.	19
4.1	Maximum winds from NOAA/NCEP at the initial time of simulations.	25
4.2	The simulated vorticity of typhoon GAY without bogus wind.	27
4.3	The simulated vorticity of typhoon VAMEI without bogus wind.	28
4.4	Input initial data and results from Steps 1 and 2.	28
4.5	The initial values of b and corresponding inputs.	29
4.6	Input initial data for Step 3 and the corresponding results from the symmetric wind model.	29
4.7	Maximum winds from NOAA/NCEP and the corresponding maximum bogus winds at the initial time of simulation.	30
4.8	Maximum bogus wind speed after initialization.	30
4.9	The simulated maximum vorticity of typhoon GAY with bogus wind.	31
4.10	The simulated maximum vorticity of typhoon VAMEI with bogus wind.	s 33
4.11	The maximum vorticity of GAY from JTWC data ( $\zeta_{ITWC}$ ) and the maximum vorticity from shallow water model ( $\zeta_{Model}$ ).	34
4.12	The maximum vorticity of VAMEI from JTWC data ( $\zeta_{JTWC}$ ) and the maximum vorticity from shallow water model ( $\zeta_{Model}$ ).	34
4.13	The simulated vorticity of GAY with bogus wind and enhanced northeast monsoon wind.	35
4.14	The simulated vorticity of GAY with bogus wind and enhanced northeast monsoon wind for every 1-hour interval.	37
4.15	The maximum vorticity of VAMEI with bogus wind and enhance northeast monsoon wind.	ed 38
4.16	The simulated maximum vorticity of VAMEI with bogus wind an enhanced northeast monsoon wind for every 1-hour interval.	nd 39

# LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURE	PA	AGE
2.1	An example of symmetric wind speed of tropical cyclone.	6
2.2	Each circle represents a contour of wind speed (isotach).	7
2.2	(a) Symmetric wind speed (ms <sup>-1</sup> ) and (b) Symmetric wind vector.	7
2.3	Wind vectors associated with the asymmetric wind model.	8
2.4	Relationships between $\vec{V}_{asym}(R,\theta), V_h(R)$ and $\vec{V}_{center}$ .	8
2.5	(a) Asymmetric wind speed (ms <sup>-1</sup> ) and (b) Asymmetric wind vector.	9
2.6	Derivation of vorticity in Cartesian coordinates.	12
2.7	Wind vectors on a rectangular grid.	12
2.8	Combination of the tangent wind and the translation vectors.	13
2.9	Wind cardinal and degree directions.	14
2.10	Wind vector and meteorological wind direction.	15
3.1	Model domain and the study domain (small red rectangular).	19
3.2	The study domain.	20
3.3	Wind directions and speeds from JTWC data at the radius of maximum wind, $R_{\text{max}}$ .	22
3.4	The area with enhanced northeast monsoon wind.	23
3.5	Flow chart showing the steps of simulation.	24
4.1	The initialized winds (ms <sup>-1</sup> ) of (a) GAY and (b) VAMEI.	25
4.2	The simulated vorticity of typhoon GAY without bogus wind.	26
4.3	The simulated vorticity of typhoon VAMEI without bogus wind.	27
4.4	The initialized winds (ms <sup>-1</sup> ) of (a) GAY and (b) VAMEI with bogus winds (in the circles).	30
4.5	The simulated vorticity of typhoon GAY with bogus wind.	32
4.6	The simulated vorticity of typhoon VAMEI with bogus wind.	33
4.7	Initialized winds (ms <sup>-1</sup> ) of (a) GAY and (b) VAMEI with bogus winds and enhanced northeast monsoon wind. The square area represents the area with enhanced northeast monsoon wind.	35
4.8	The simulated vorticity of GAY with bogus wind and enhanced northeast monsoon wind.	36
4.9	The simulated vorticity of GAY for every 1-hour interval.	37
4.10	The simulated vorticity of VAMEI with bogus wind and enhanced northeast monsoon wind.	38
4.11	The simulated vorticity of VAMEI for every 1-hour interval.	39
4.12	Simulated maximum vorticity of (a) GAY and (b) VAMEI as plotted with respect to time.	40

### LIST OF SYMBOLS

#### **SYMBOL**

RRadius of the storm $V_h(R)$ Tangential wind speedbShape of the radial profile $p_{center}$ Central pressure of the storm $p_{env}$ Environmental pressure $R_{max}$ Radius of maximum wind $\rho$ Air density of fluid

 $\Omega$  Angular speed of the earth

f Coriolis parameter

 $\phi$  Latitude

 $\vec{V}_{asym}(R,\theta)$  Asymmetric wind vector

 $\vec{V}_{center}$  Translation vector of the storm center

 $\vec{u}_{\theta}$  Unitary vector

 $\theta$  Angle

Wind component along x axis (zonal wind)
 Wind component along y axis (meridional wind)
 Vertical wind speed component along z axis

p Pressure g Gravity

h Depth of the fluidH Mean depth

Φ Geopotential height

 $\Delta x$  Grid intervals along x-axis  $\Delta y$  Grid intervals along y-axis  $V_H$  Horizontal wind vector  $v_{\text{Vect}}$  The wind vector angle

 $\phi_{Met}$  The meteorological wind direction angle  $\phi_{Polar}$  The wind vector polar angle in two-dimensions

 $\varphi(\text{rad})$  Angular between u and v components in units of radians  $\varphi(\text{deg})$  Angular between u and v components in units of degrees

 $egin{array}{lll} ar{V} & ext{Velocity field} \ ar{V}_{\psi} & ext{Non-divergent part} \ ar{V}_{\lambda} & ext{Divergent part} \end{array}$ 

 $\vec{V}_H$ , Non-divergent part of the flow

 $\psi$  Stream function

 $\zeta_{ITWC}$  Vorticity computed from JTWC data

 $\zeta_{Model}$  Vorticity from SILEPE model

 $U_{Enh}$  Enhanced wind speeds

 $u_{Enh}$ ,  $v_{Enh}$  Enhanced northeast monsoon wind components

*t* Time

 $\zeta_{GAY}$  Vorticity computed from SILEPE model of typhoon Gay Vorticity computed from SILEPE model of typhoon Vamei

 $\zeta_{GAY(JTWC)}$ Vorticity computed from JTWC data of typhoon Gay $\zeta_{VAMEI(JTWC)}$ Vorticity computed from JTWC data of typhoon Vamei $\zeta_{CHANTHU(JTWC)}$ Vorticity computed from JTWC data of typhoon Chanthu $\zeta_{MUIFA(JTWC)}$ Vorticity computed from JTWC data of typhoon Muifa

### LIST OF TECHNICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

°C Degree Celsius hPa Hestopascal

MM5 Fifth-Generation Penn State/NCAR Mesoscale Model

NCAR National Center for Atmospheric Research

WRF Weather Research and Forecasting

RSMC Regional Specialized Meteorological Center

AWM Asymmetric wind model

JTWC Joint Typhoon Warning Center

NOAA National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration NCEP National Center for Environmental Prediction

SILEPE Single level primitive equation UTC Coordinated Universal Time