## Working Group 1: Tropical Systems

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# Climate Change Impact in Tropical Cyclones for Mesoamerican and Caribbean Regions

- 1.- Introduction
- 2.- Objectives
- 3.- Primary physical parameters discussion for cyclones genesis
- 4.- Numerical models with WFR
- 5.- Methodology for the evaluation of climate change impact for Mesoamerican and Caribbean regions
- 6.- Analysis of results
- 7.- Commentaries and Conclusions
- 8.- Annexes of Graphics

### Methodology (from first meeting...)

Step 2 Catalogue all Tropical Systems that occurred historically within the domain of interest.

- Sub-divide the storms into Atlantic and Pacific occurrences.
- For each domain
- For each basin (Atlantic and Pacific)
- Select the highest intensity Tropical System for each year of the period of interest.
- To facilitate detection in tropical step 4 the storm must existed within domain of interest for approximately 48 hours.

#### Methodology

- Attempt to identify individual TC's identified in Step 2.
- For each Domain. (Gualdi et al. 2008)
- We assume that a model TC is active over a certain gridpoint A if the following conditions are satisfied:
- in A, relative vorticity at 850 hPa is >3 x 10^-5 s^-1; there is a relative minimum surface pressure and wind velocity is >14 m s^-1 in an area of 2.25° around A; (metric to be adjusted for each domain)
- the wind velocity at 850 hPa is > wind velocity at 300 hPa;
- the sum of temperature anomalies at 700, 500, and 300 hPa is > 2°K, where the anomalies are defined as the deviation from a spatial mean computed over an area of 13 grid points in the east-west and 2 grid points in the north-south direction;
- the temperature anomaly at 300 hPa is greater than the temperature anomaly at 850 hPa;
- the above conditions persist for a period longer than 1.5 days.

#### Historic Impact of Hurricanes in Atlantic and Pacific Basins











#### The Structure of a Hurricane: The Eye



- A quasi-circular or quasi-oval region of light winds and skies that are clear to partly cloudy and free of rain.
- Caused by descending air that heats by compression, making it the warmest region of the storm.













#### Changes in June

CCSM4 RCP8.5 June Projected Climatological Change Fill: 1000hPa Geopotential Height (m) 30°N 25°N 20°N -15°N – 10°N -5°N -0° Be -5°S 105°W 90°W 75°W 60°W -28 -24 -20 -12 -8 8 12 16 -16 -4 0 4 Geopotential Height (m)



#### Changes in June

30°N

0°

5°S



CCSM4 RCP8.5 June Projected Climatological Change Fill: 300hPa Temperature (°C) 25°N -20°N -15°N — 10°N — 5°N — 105°W 75°W 90°W 60°W 4.25 4.5 4.75 5 5.25 2 2.25 2.5 2.75 3 3.25 3.5 3.75 4 Temperature (°C)

#### Changes in June



#### Changes in July

CCSM4 RCP8.5 July Projected Climatological Change Fill: 1000hPa Geopotential Height (m) 30°N 30°N 25°N 25°N -20°N 15°N – 20°N -10°N 15°N -5°N 10°N 0° 5°N 105°W 5°S 105°W 90°W 75°W 60 -10 6 8 10 -8 -2 0 2 -6 Geopotential Height (m)



#### Changes in July



#### Changes in August

CCSM4 RCP8.5 August Projected Climatological Change Fill: 1000hPa Geopotential Height (m) 30°N 25°N 20°N 15°N -10°N -5°N — 0° 5°S 105°W 90°W 75°W 60°W 10 12 14 16 18 -8 -6 -2 0 2 6 8 -4 4 Geopotential Height (m)



#### Changes in August



#### Changes in September





#### Changes in September





#### Changes in October

**October Projected Climatological Change** Fill: 1000hPa Geopotential Height (m) 30°N 25°N 20°N 15°N — 10°N — 5°N 0° 5°S 75°W 105°W 90°W 60°W -20 -18 -16 -14 -12 -10 2 6 -8 -6 -4 -2 0 4 8 Geopotential Height (m)

CCSM4 RCP8.5



#### Changes in October





#### Recommendations

- Add tropospheric data
- Add SST data and graphics
- Explore the possibility to add Skew T Diagrams
- Recalculate humidity change, there is an error