# **README Documentation of Variables that Comprise Each Figure, Figs. 1 – 3 and S1 – S3**

#### **Description of Variables Used to Construct Figure 1**

General Note: All analyzed variables correspond to the maps of either observed or modeled mean cloud top height (CTH) and PBL height (PBLH<sub>N</sub>), as defined in the paper. These data are averaged between the months of August and November and the years 2006-2010.

smooth\_max\_low\_cloud\_height\_modis\_south\_map: FLOAT = ARRAY [110,55]
Description: Mean MODIS cloud top height (CTH) in meters as screened from low clouds as defined in
the text. Missing values and/or values over land are excluded and represented by "NAN". The longitude
array is "lon\_modis\_south" and the latitude array is "lat\_modis\_south". Longitude is given in a [0,360]
scale; subtract 360 from value in array to get negative longitude (°W) values. Array is smoothed with a
boxcar average of width of two bins in both (longitude and latitude) directions.

# cth\_median\_top\_cloud\_layer\_calipso:

Description: Median CALIPSO cloud top height (CTH) in meters screened from low clouds as defined in the text. Missing values and/or values of land are excluded and represented by "NAN". The longitude array is "LONBIN\_CALIPSO" and the latitude array is "LATBIN\_CALIPSO". Longitude is given in a [0,360] scale; subtract 360 from value in array to get negative longitude (°W) values.

# smooth\_BL\_height\_gps:

# FLOAT = ARRAY[180,90]

FLOAT = ARRAY [22, 15]

Description: Mean PBLH<sub>N</sub> as observed by GPS-RO in meters as defined in the text. Heights over land are included. The longitude array is "gps\_longitude\_2x2", and the latitude array is "gps\_latitude\_2x2". Longitude is given in a [0,360] scale; for values above 180°, subtract 360 from value in array to get negative longitude (°W) values, if desired. Array is smoothed with a boxcar average of width of two bins in both (longitude and latitude) directions.

smooth\_low\_cloud\_top\_height\_uppermost\_cloud\_cam5\_base\_south\_map: FLOAT=ARRAY[89,59] Description: Mean CAM5-Base cloud top height (CTH) in meters as screened from low clouds defined in the text. Heights over land are excluded and are represented by "NAN". Longitude is given in a [0,360] scale; subtract 360 from each value in array ("lon\_cam5\_base\_south") to get negative longitude (°W) values. Latitude array is given by "lat\_cam5\_base\_south". Array is smoothed with a boxcar average of width of two bins in both (longitude and latitude) directions.

smooth\_low\_cloud\_top\_height\_uppermost\_cloud\_camclubb\_south\_map: FLOAT=ARRAY[77,59] Description: Mean CAM5-CLUBB cloud top height (CTH) in meters as screened from low clouds defined in the text. Heights over land are excluded and are represented by "NAN". Longitude is given in a [0,360] scale; subtract 360 from each value in ("lon\_camclubb\_south") to get negative longitude (°W) values. Latitude array is given by "lat\_camclubb\_south". Array is smoothed with a boxcar average of width of two bins in both (longitude and latitude) directions.

smooth\_low\_cloud\_top\_height\_uppermost\_cloud\_camclubb\_south\_hires\_map: FLOAT=ARRAY[73,59] Description: Mean High-Res CAM5-CLUBB cloud top height (CTH) in meters as screened from low clouds defined in the text. Heights over land are excluded and are represented by "NAN". Longitude is given in a [0,360] scale; subtract 360 from each value in ("lon\_camclubb\_south\_hires") to get negative longitude (°W) values. Latitude array is given by "lat\_camclubb\_south\_hires". Array is smoothed with a boxcar average of width of two bins in both (longitude and latitude) directions.

smooth\_hpbl\_grad\_cam5\_base\_south\_map\_refractivity: FLOAT=ARRAY[89,59] Description: Mean CAM5-Base PBLH<sub>N</sub> in meters as defined in the text. Heights over land are excluded and are represented by "NAN". Longitude is given in a [0,360] scale; subtract 360 from each value in array ("lon\_cam5\_base\_south") to get negative longitude (°W) values. Latitude array is given by "lat\_cam5\_base\_south". Array is smoothed with a boxcar average of width of two bins in both (longitude and latitude) directions.

smooth\_hpbl\_grad\_camclubb\_south\_map\_refractivity:FLOAT = ARRAY [77,59]Description: Mean CAM5-CLUBB PBLHN in meters as defined in the text. Heights over land are excludedand are represented by "NAN". Longitude is given in a [0,360] scale; subtract 360 from each value inarray ("lon\_camclubb\_south") to get negative longitude (°W) values. Latitude array is given by"lat\_camclubb\_south". Array is smoothed with a boxcar average of width of two bins in both (longitudeand latitude) directions.

 $smooth\_hpbl\_grad\_camclubb\_hires\_south\_map\_refractivity: FLOAT=ARRAY[73,59] \\ Description: Mean High-Res CAM5-CLUBB PBLH_N in meters as screened from low clouds defined in the text. Heights over land are excluded and are represented by "NAN". Longitude is given in a [0,360] scale; subtract 360 from each value in ("lon_camclubb_south_hires") to get negative longitude (°W) values. Latitude array is given by "lat_camclubb_south_hires". Array is smoothed with a boxcar average of width of two bins in both (longitude and latitude) directions. \\$ 

#### **Description of Variables Used to Construct Figure 2**

General Note: All analyzed variables below for Figure 2 are averaged between 19°S - 21°S and for ocean grids between 145°W and 70°W from all available or daily or instantaneous data between the months of August and November and the years 2006-2010.

cloud\_fraction\_calipso\_with\_cam5\_hires\_bins: FLOAT = ARRAY [38, 21] Description: CALIPSO cloud fraction profiles along the cross section versus longitude, using the same bins as interpolated from the High-Res CAM5-CLUBB vertical bins. Missing data denoted as "NAN". The x-axis for longitude is represented by "longitude\_bins\_calipso\_cloud\_fraction", and the y-axis is "vertical\_bins\_calipso\_with\_cam5\_hires\_bins".

BL\_height\_gps\_se\_pac\_cross\_section\_2x2\_km:FLOAT = ARRAY [46]Description: Mean GPS-RO PBLHN along the cross section versus longitude, with"gps\_lon\_se\_pac\_cross\_section\_2x2" the GPS-RO longitude bins

 $\label{eq:stderror_gps_cross_section_se_pac_km: FLOAT = ARRAY [46] \\ \mbox{Description: The standard error in km, as defined in the paper, scaled by three, of GPS-RO PBLH_N in each longitude bin ("gps_lon_se_pac_cross_section_2x2"). When added to and subtracted from "BL_height_gps_se_pac_cross_section_2x2_km", the 99% confidence interval at each mean observation is provided. \\ \end{tabular}$ 

max\_low\_cloud\_z\_modis\_cross\_section\_km: FLOAT = ARRAY [75] Description: MODIS low cloud top height (CTH) in km along the cross section at each longitude, with "lon\_modis\_se\_pac" the MODIS longitude bins. stderror\_max\_low\_cloud\_z\_modis\_cross\_section\_km: FLOAT = ARRAY [75]
Description: The standard error in km, as defined in the paper, scaled by three, of MODIS CTH in each
longitude bin ("lon\_modis\_se\_pac"). When added to and subtracted from
"max\_low\_cloud\_z\_modis\_cross\_section\_km", the 99% confidence interval at each mean observation is
computed.

cth\_median\_top\_cloud\_layer\_calipso: FLOAT = ARRAY [19] Description: CALIPSO low cloud top height (CTH) in km along the cross section at each longitude bin (4° bins), called "longitude\_bins\_calipso\_cth".

cth\_calipso\_all\_cloud\_layer\_stderror\_km: FLOAT = ARRAY [19] Description: The standard error in km, as defined in the paper, scaled by three, of CALIPSO CTH in each longitude bin ("longitude\_bins\_calipso\_cth"). When added to and subtracted from "cth\_median\_top\_cloud\_layer\_calipso", the 99% confidence interval at each mean observation is computed.

smooth\_cloud\_fraction\_profiles\_cam5\_base\_20S\_x\_section\_low\_cloud\_only: FLOAT = ARRAY [73,30] Description: CAM5-Base cloud fraction profiles along the cross section versus longitude. Missing data are denoted as "NAN". The x-axis for longitude is represented by "lon\_cam5\_base\_se\_pac", and the y-axis corresponding to each cloud fraction and each longitude is "height, profiles cam5\_base\_20S\_x\_section\_low\_slowd\_only, km", the heights in km

"height\_profiles\_cam5\_base\_20S\_x\_section\_low\_cloud\_only\_km", the heights in km.

smooth\_low\_cloud\_top\_height\_uppermost\_cam5\_base\_20S\_vs\_lon\_km: FLOAT = ARRAY [73]
Description:

CAM5-Base low cloud top height (CTH) in km along the cross section at each longitude bin at the native resolution (1.25° bins), called "lon\_cam5\_base\_se\_pac".

stderror\_low\_cloud\_top\_height\_uppermost\_cam5\_base\_20S\_vs\_lon\_km: FLOAT = ARRAY [73] Description: The standard error in km, as defined in the paper, scaled by three, of CAM5-Base CTH in each longitude bin ("lon\_cam5\_base\_se\_pac"). When added to and subtracted from "smooth\_low\_cloud\_top\_height\_uppermost\_cam5\_base\_20S\_vs\_lon\_km", the 99% confidence interval of each gridded CTH is computed.

smooth\_cloud\_fraction\_profile\_ecmwf\_interim\_20S: FLOAT = ARRAY [60,29]
Description: ECMWF-Interim screened low cloud top height along the cross section at each longitude bin
at the native resolution (1.5° bins), "lon\_ecmwf\_interim\_se\_pac". The heights corresponding to each
cloud fraction at each longitude along the cross section, in km, are represented by
"geo\_height\_20S\_ecmwf\_interim\_20S\_km", with a size of [60,29].

smooth\_cloud\_fraction\_profiles\_camclubb\_20S\_x\_section\_low\_cloud\_only: FLOAT = ARRAY [73,30]
Description: CAM5-CLUBB cloud fraction profiles along the cross section versus longitude. Missing data
are denoted as "NAN". The x-axis for longitude is represented by "lon\_camclubb\_se\_pac", and the yaxis corresponding to each cloud fraction and each longitude is
"height\_profiles\_camclubb\_20S\_x\_section\_low\_cloud\_only\_km", the heights in km.

smooth\_low\_cloud\_top\_height\_uppermost\_camclubb\_20S\_vs\_lon\_km: FLOAT = ARRAY [73]

Description: CAM5-CLUBB low cloud top height (CTH) in km along the cross section at each longitude bin at the native resolution (1.25° bins), called "lon\_camclubb\_se\_pac".

stderror\_low\_cloud\_top\_height\_uppermost\_camclubb\_20S\_vs\_lon\_km: FLOAT = ARRAY [73] Description: The standard error in km, as defined in the paper, scaled by three, of CAM5-CLUBB CTH in each longitude bin ("lon\_camclubb\_se\_pac"). When added to and subtracted from "smooth\_low\_cloud\_top\_height\_uppermost\_camclubb\_20S\_vs\_lon\_km", the 99% confidence interval of each gridded CTH is computed.

smooth\_max\_low\_cloud\_fraction\_vs\_lon\_era\_interim\_20S:FLOAT = ARRAY [60]Description: Maximum ERA-Interim cloud fraction within each mean profile for screened low cloud<br/>profiles as a function of longitude ("lon\_ecmwf\_interim\_se\_pac") along the cross section. Array is<br/>smoothed with a boxcar average of width of two bins.

smooth\_max\_low\_cloud\_fraction\_vs\_lon\_calipso\_20S: FLOAT = ARRAY [38]
Description: Maximum CALIPSO cloud fraction within each mean profile for screened low cloud profiles
as a function of longitude ("longitude\_bins\_calipso\_cloud\_fraction") along the cross section. Array is
smoothed with a boxcar average of width of two bins.

smooth\_max\_low\_cloud\_fraction\_vs\_lon\_cam5\_base\_20S:FLOAT = ARRAY [73]Description Maximum CAM5-Base cloud fraction within each mean profile for screened low cloud<br/>profiles as a function of longitude ("lon\_cam5\_base\_se\_pac") along the cross section.

smooth\_max\_low\_cloud\_fraction\_vs\_lon\_camclubb\_20S:FLOAT = ARRAY [73]Description Maximum CAM5-CLUBB cloud fraction within each mean profile for screened low cloud<br/>profiles as a function of longitude ("lon\_camclubb\_se\_pac") along the cross section.

smooth\_max\_low\_cloud\_fraction\_vs\_lon\_camclubb\_hires\_20S: FLOAT = ARRAY [73]
Description Maximum High-Res CAM5-CLUBB cloud fraction within each mean profile for screened low
cloud profiles as a function of longitude ("lon\_camclubb\_se\_pac\_hires") along the cross section.

smooth\_cloud\_fraction\_profiles\_camclubb\_hires\_20S\_x\_section\_low\_cloud\_only: FLOAT = ARRAY [73,60]

Description: High-Res CAM5-CLUBB cloud fraction profiles along the cross section versus longitude. Missing data are denoted as "NAN". The x-axis for longitude is represented by "lon\_camclubb\_se\_pac\_hires", and the heights in km corresponding to each cloud fraction and each longitude is "height profiles camclubb hires 20S x section low cloud only km".

smooth\_low\_cloud\_top\_height\_uppermost\_camclubb\_hires\_20S\_vs\_lon\_km: FLOAT = ARRAY [73]
Description: High-Res CAM5-CLUBB low cloud top height (CTH) in km along the cross section at each
longitude bin at the native resolution (1.25° bins), called "lon\_camclubb\_se\_pac\_hires".

stderror\_low\_cloud\_top\_height\_uppermost\_camclubb\_hires\_20S\_vs\_lon\_km: FLOAT = ARRAY [73] Description: The standard error in km, as defined in the paper, scaled by three, of High-Res CAM5-CLUBB CTH in each longitude bin ("lon\_camclubb\_se\_pac\_hires"). When added to and subtracted from "smooth\_low\_cloud\_top\_height\_uppermost\_camclubb\_hires\_20S\_vs\_lon\_km", the 99% confidence interval of each gridded CTH is computed.

# **Description of Variables Used to Construct Figure 3**

General Note: All analyzed variables below for Figure 3 are between 15°S - 25°S at 145°W-210°W from all available or conditional instantaneous or daily data between the months of August and November and the years 2006-2010.

smooth\_joint\_dist\_ecmwf\_omega\_profiles\_vs\_gps\_pblh\_with\_modis: FLOAT = ARRAY [21,29] Description: Smoothed (with a boxcar average along the x-axis of width of 2 bins, with no smoothing in the vertical) ECMWF  $\omega$  profiles (pressure vertical velocity) conditional for bins of PBLH<sub>N</sub> of GPS-RO when there is a defined low cloud fraction as seen by MODIS. Units are in mb day<sup>-1</sup>.

1	obl	z	cat	ego	ries	_mid:

FLOAT = ARRAY [21]Description: Midpoint categories of GPS-RO PBLH<sub>N</sub> in km for which ECMWF-Interim  $\omega$  are conditioned, as well as for which MODIS CTH observations are conditioned.

FLOAT = ARRAY [29]

pressure ecmwf: Description: Pressure levels in hPa of the ECMWF-Interim  $\omega$  profiles.

smooth joint dist modis cloud height vs gps pblh: FLOAT = ARRAY [21,20]Description: Smoothed (with a boxcar average along the x-axis of width of 2 bins, with no smoothing in the vertical) joint distribution of MODIS cloud top height and GPS-RO PBLH<sub>N</sub> between 15°S-25°S and 145°W and 210°W from all the daily data between the months of August and November and the years 2006-2010. PDFs add up to one within each  $PBLH_N$  bin for which there are valid data. "cloud\_z\_categories\_mid\_km" are the vertical cloud top height bins in km to which the joint distribution corresponds.

cumulative gps ro heights new method2: FLOAT = ARRAY [24]Description: Cumulative probability density function of GPS-RO  $PBLH_N$ , with "pbl z categories cumulative2" the bin categories in km

cumulative modis cloud heights new method fine: FLOAT = ARRAY [40] Description: Cumulative probability density function of MODIS cloud top heights, with "cloud\_z\_categories\_fine\_km" the corresponding bin categories in km

cumulative\_total\_ztop\_modified\_20S\_cam5\_base: FLOAT = ARRAY [10]Description: Cumulative probability density function of CAM5-Base cloud top height, with "mean\_z\_profile\_cam5\_base\_for\_cumulative\_ztop\_km" the bin categories in km

cumulative total ztop modified 20S camclubb: FLOAT = ARRAY [10]Description: Cumulative probability density function of CAM5-CLUBB cloud top height, with "mean\_z\_profile\_camclubb\_for\_cumulative\_ztop\_km" the bin categories in km

cumulative\_total\_ztop\_modified\_20S\_camclubb\_hires: FLOAT = ARRAY [20]Description: Smoothed (with a boxcar average of width of 2 bins) cumulative probability density function of High-Res CAM5-CLUBB cloud top height, with "mean\_z\_profile\_hires\_camclubb\_for\_cumulative\_ztop\_km" the bin categories in km

smooth cumulative total hpbl modified 20S cam5 base: FLOAT = ARRAY [21] Description: Smoothed (with a boxcar average of 2 bins) cumulative probability density function of CAM5-BASE PBLH<sub>N</sub>, with "pbl\_z\_categories\_km" the bin categories in km

 $smooth\_cumulative\_total\_hpbl\_modified\_20S\_camclubb: FLOAT = ARRAY [21] \\ Description: Smoothed (with a boxcar average of 2 bins) cumulative probability density function of CAM5-CLUBB PBLH_N, with "pbl_z_categories\_km" the bin categories in km$ 

smooth\_cumulative\_total\_hpbl\_modified\_20S\_camclubb\_hires:FLOAT = ARRAY [21]Description: Smoothed (with a boxcar average of 2 bins) cumulative probability density function of High-<br/>Res CAM5-CLUBB PBLH<sub>N</sub>, with "pbl\_z\_categories\_km" the bin categories in km

smooth\_omega\_profiles\_cam5\_base\_20S\_vs\_hpbl\_modified: FLOAT = ARRAY [21, 30] Description: Smoothed (with a boxcar average along the x-axis of 2 bins, with no smoothing in the vertical) CAM5-Base  $\omega$  profiles (pressure vertical velocity) conditional for bins of PBLH<sub>N</sub> when there is a defined low cloud fraction as simulated by CAM5-Base. Units are in mb day<sup>-1</sup>. PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins, the x-axis, are defined by "pbl\_categories\_modified\_mid" (x-axis), and "smooth\_pressure\_profile\_cam5\_base\_20S\_vs\_hpbl\_modified" the pressure values in hPa corresponding to each CAM5-Base binned  $\omega$ .

smooth\_omega\_profiles\_camclubb\_20S\_vs\_hpbl\_modified:FLOAT = ARRAY [21, 30]Description: Smoothed (with a boxcar average along the x-axis of 2 bins, with no smoothing in the<br/>vertical) CAM5-CLUBB  $\omega$  profiles (pressure vertical velocity) conditional for bins of PBLH<sub>N</sub> when there is a<br/>defined low cloud fraction as simulated by CAM5-CLUBB. Units are in mb day<sup>-1</sup>. PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins, the x-axis,<br/>are defined by "pbl\_categories\_modified\_mid" (x-axis), and<br/>"smooth\_pressure\_profile\_camclubb\_20S\_vs\_hpbl\_modified" the pressure values in hPa corresponding

to each CAM5-CLUBB binned ω.

smooth\_omega\_profiles\_camclubb\_20S\_vs\_hpbl\_hires\_modified: FLOAT = ARRAY [21, 60] Description: Smoothed (with a boxcar average along the x-axis of 2 bins, with no smoothing in the vertical) High-Res CAM5-CLUBB  $\omega$  profiles (pressure vertical velocity) conditional for bins of PBLH<sub>N</sub> when there is a defined low cloud fraction as simulated by High-Res CAM5-CLUBB. Units are in mb day<sup>-1</sup>. PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins, the x-axis, are defined by "pbl\_categories\_modified\_mid" (x-axis), and "smooth\_pressure\_profile\_camclubb\_20S\_vs\_hpbl\_hires\_modified" the pressure values in hPa corresponding to each High-Res CAM5-CLUBB binned  $\omega$ .

smooth\_dist\_ztop\_cam5\_base\_20S\_vs\_hpbl\_modified:FLOAT = ARRAY [21, 29]Description: Smoothed (with a boxcar average along the x-axis of 2 bins, with no smoothing in the<br/>vertical) CAM5-BASE joint distribution of cloud top height and PBLH<sub>N</sub>. PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins (x-axis) are represented<br/>in km by "pbl\_categories\_modified\_mid", and

"smooth\_z\_profile\_for\_deriv\_20S\_vs\_hpbl\_modified\_cam5\_base" the heights corresponding to each cloud top height. PDFs add up to one within each PBLH<sub>N</sub> bin for which there are valid data.

smooth\_dist\_ztop\_camclubb\_20S\_vs\_hpbl\_modified:FLOAT = ARRAY [21, 29]Description: Smoothed (with a boxcar average along the x-axis of 2 bins, with no smoothing in the<br/>vertical) CAM5-CLUBB joint distribution of cloud top height and PBLH<sub>N</sub> PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins (x-axis) are<br/>represented in km by "pbl\_categories\_modified\_mid", and

"smooth\_z\_profile\_for\_deriv\_20S\_vs\_hpbl\_modified" the heights corresponding to each cloud top height. PDFs add up to one within each PBLH<sub>N</sub> for which there are valid data.

smooth dist ztop camclubb 20S vs hpbl hires modified: FLOAT = ARRAY [21, 59]Description: Smoothed (with a boxcar average along the x-axis of 2 bins, with no smoothing in the vertical) High-Res CAM5-CLUBB joint distribution of cloud top height and PBLH<sub>N</sub> PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins (x-axis) are represented in km by "pbl categories modified mid", and

"smooth z profile for deriv 20S vs hpbl hires modified" the heights corresponding to each cloud top height. PDFs add up to one within each PBLH<sub>N</sub> for which there are valid data.

# **Description of Variables Used to Construct Figure S1**

# smooth\_omega700\_south\_map:

FLOAT = ARRAY [110, 55] Description: Mean ERA-Interim pressure vertical velocity ( $\omega$ ) at 700 hPa averaged over the months of August through November and 2006 through 2010 at 1°x1° resolution over the Southeast Pacific. Longitude bins are "lon\_ecmwf\_1x1", and latitude bins are "lat\_ecmwf\_1x1". For presentation purposes, the  $\omega_{700}$  array is smoothed with a boxcar average of width of two bins in both (longitude and latitude) directions. Units are in mb day<sup>-1</sup>. For longitude values, subtract 360 from value in array to get negative longitude (°W) values.

smooth omega700 cam5 base south map: FLOAT = ARRAY [89, 59] Description: Mean CAM5-Base pressure vertical velocity ( $\omega$ ) at 700 hPa averaged over the months of August through November and 2006 through 2010 at 1°x1° resolution over the Southeast Pacific. Longitude bins are "lon\_cam5\_base\_south", and latitude bins are "lat\_cam5\_base\_south". For presentation purposes, the  $\omega_{700}$  array is smoothed with a boxcar average of width of two bins in both (longitude and latitude) directions. Units are in mb day<sup>-1</sup>. For longitude values, subtract 360 from value in array to get negative longitude (°W) values.

smooth omega700 camclubb south map: FLOAT = ARRAY [77, 59]Description: Mean CAM5-Base pressure vertical velocity ( $\omega$ ) at 700 hPa averaged over the months of August through November and 2006 through 2010 at 1°x1° resolution over the Southeast Pacific. Longitude bins are "lon\_camclubb\_south", and latitude bins are "lat\_camclubb\_south". For presentation purposes, the  $\omega_{700}$  array is smoothed with a boxcar average of width of two bins in both (longitude and latitude) directions. Units are in mb day<sup>-1</sup>. For longitude values, subtract 360 from value in array to get negative longitude (°W) values.

#### smooth omega700 camclubb south map hires

#### FLOAT = ARRAY [73, 59]

Description: Mean CAM5-Base pressure vertical velocity ( $\omega$ ) at 700 hPa averaged over the months of August through November and 2006 through 2010 at 1°x1° resolution over the Southeast Pacific. Longitude bins are "lon\_camclubb\_south\_hires", and latitude bins are "lat\_camclubb\_south\_hires". For presentation purposes, the  $\omega_{700}$  array is smoothed with a boxcar average of width of two bins in both (longitude and latitude) directions. Units are in mb day<sup>-1</sup>. For longitude values, subtract 360 from value in array to get negative longitude (°W) values.

# **Description of Variables Used to Construct Figure S2**

All arrays for Figure S2 are of profiles of refractivity gradient ( $\partial N/\partial Z$ ) in units of N-Units/km along 20°S during August-November 2006-2010 for the three versions of CAM5 and GPS-RO.

 $dN_dZ_profiles_cam5_base_20S_N_per_km$ : FLOAT = ARRAY [73,30]Description: Profiles of  $\partial N/\partial Z$  from CAM5-Base, with full details given in the text. The longitude bins are represented by "lon\_cam5\_base\_south\_for\_dN\_dZ", and "height\_profiles\_cam5\_base\_20S\_km" in km is the array of heights corresponding to each layer and each longitude.

 $dN_dZ_profiles_camclubb_20S_N_per_km$ : FLOAT = ARRAY [73,30] Description: Profiles of  $\partial N/\partial Z$  from CAM5-CLUBB, with full details given in the text. The longitude bins are represented by "lon\_camclubb\_south\_for\_dN\_dZ", and "height\_profiles\_camclubb\_20S\_km" in km is the array of heights corresponding to each layer and each longitude.

 $dN_dZ_profiles_camclubb_hires_20S_N_per_km$ : FLOAT = ARRAY [73,30] Description: Profiles of  $\partial N/\partial Z$  from CAM5-Base, with full details given in the text. The longitude bins are represented by "lon\_camclubb\_south\_hires\_for\_dN\_dZ", and "height\_profiles\_camclubb\_hires\_20S\_km" in km is the array of heights corresponding to each layer and each longitude.

 $dN_dZ_profiles_gps_N_per_km$ : FLOAT = ARRAY [45,60] Description: Profiles of  $\partial N/\partial Z$  from GPS-RO, with longitude bins of "gps\_lon", and height bins contained in "height\_gps\_km".

#### **Description of Variables Used to Construct Figure S3**

General Description: 9 of the twelve variables are joint distributions of cloud top height (CTH) and PBLH<sub>N</sub>, either from observations – MODIS/GPS-RO, or from two of the three versions of CAM5 – CAM5-Base and CAM5-CLUBB, with different conditions for each distribution, as thoroughly described in the legend of Figure S3. Three of the joint PDFs are the same as presented in Figure 3, but they are included here for convenience, since they are presented in Figure S3. Pressure vertical velocity ( $\omega$ ) profiles under different subsidence (or all) conditions as a function of PBLH<sub>N</sub> are also included for CAM5-Base. All the joint distributions and  $\omega$  profiles from Figure S3 are analyzed between 15°S-25°S and 145°W and 210°W, the same region as in Figure 3. Missing data for any PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins denoted as "NAN".

smooth\_joint\_dist\_modis\_cloud\_height\_vs\_gps\_pblh\_subsidence\_aloft: FLOAT = ARRAY [21,20] Description: Joint PDFs of observational MODIS cloud top height (CTH) and GPS-RO PBLH<sub>N</sub> for conditions in which there is daily-mean subsidence aloft at 575 hPa ( $\omega_{575} > 0$  mb/day) as determined by ERA-Interim reanalysis data. Smoothed with a boxcar average along the x-axis of width of two bins, with no smoothing in the vertical. PDFs add up to one within each PBLH<sub>N</sub> bin for which there are valid data for the PBLH<sub>N</sub> conditions. The PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins in km are given by "pbl\_z\_categories\_mid\_km", and "cloud\_z\_categories\_mid\_km" are the vertical cloud top height bins in km. Missing data for any PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins denoted as "NAN".

smooth\_joint\_dist\_modis\_cloud\_height\_vs\_gps\_pblh\_subsidence\_both\_modes: FLOAT = ARRAY [21,20] Description: Joint PDFs of observational MODIS cloud top height (CTH) and GPS-RO PBLH<sub>N</sub> for conditions in which there is daily-mean subsidence both at 575 hPa and at 800 hPa, as determined by ERA-Interim reanalysis data. Smoothed with a boxcar average along the x-axis of width of two bins, with no smoothing in the vertical. PDFs add up to one within each PBLH<sub>N</sub> bin for which there are valid data for the PBLH<sub>N</sub> conditions. The PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins in km are given by "pbl\_z\_categories\_mid\_km", and "cloud\_z\_categories\_mid\_km" are the vertical cloud top height bins in km. Missing data for any PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins denoted as "NAN".

smooth\_joint\_dist\_modis\_cloud\_height\_vs\_gps\_pblh: FLOAT = ARRAY [21,20]Description: Joint PDFs of observational MODIS cloud top height (CTH) and GPS-RO PBLH<sub>N</sub> without any conditions of subsidence. Smoothed with a boxcar average along the x-axis of width of two bins, with no smoothing in the vertical. PDFs add up to one within each PBLH<sub>N</sub> bin for which there are valid data for the PBLH<sub>N</sub> conditions. The PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins in km are given by "pbl z categories mid km", and "cloud z categories mid km" are the vertical cloud top height bins in km. Missing data for any PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins denoted as "NAN".

smooth\_dist\_ztop\_cam5\_base\_20S\_vs\_hpbl\_modified\_subsidence\_aloft FLOAT = ARRAY [21,29]Description: Joint PDFs of modeled CAM5-Base cloud top height (CTH) and PBLH<sub>N</sub> for conditions in which there is instantaneous subsidence aloft at 575 hPa ( $\omega_{575} > 0$  mb/day) as determined by simulated CAM5-Base data. Smoothed with a boxcar average along the x-axis of width of two bins, with no smoothing in the vertical. PDFs add up to one within each  $PBLH_N$  bin for which there are valid data for the  $PBLH_N$ conditions. The PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins in km are given by "pbl\_categories\_modified\_mid\_km", and "smooth z profile for deriv 20S vs hpbl modified cam5 base km" are the vertical cloud top height bins in km. The latter is smoothed with a boxcar average along the x-axis of width of two bins, with no smoothing in the vertical. Missing data for any PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins denoted as "NAN".

smooth dist ztop cam5 base 20S vs hpbl modified subsidence both modes:

FLOAT = ARRAY [21,29]

Description: Joint PDFs of modeled CAM5-Base cloud top height (CTH) and PBLH<sub>N</sub> for conditions in which there is instantaneous subsidence aloft at both 575 hPa ( $\omega_{575} > 0$  mb/day) and at 800 hPa ( $\omega_{800} > 0$ mb/day) as determined by simulated CAM5-Base data. Smoothed with a boxcar average along the xaxis of width of two bins, with no smoothing in the vertical. PDFs add up to one within each PBLH<sub>N</sub> bin for which there are valid data for the  $PBLH_N$  conditions . The  $PBLH_N$  bins in km are given by "pbl categories modified mid km", and

"smooth z profile for deriv 20S vs hpbl modified cam5 base km" are the vertical cloud top height bins in km. The latter is smoothed with a boxcar average along the x-axis of width of two bins, with no smoothing in the vertical. Missing data for any PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins denoted as "NAN".

smooth dist ztop cam5 base 20S vs hpbl modified:

#### FLOAT = ARRAY [21,29]

Description: Joint PDFs of modeled CAM5-Base cloud top height (CTH) and PBLH<sub>N</sub> without any conditions of subsidence. Smoothed with a boxcar average along the x-axis of width of two bins, with no smoothing in the vertical. PDFs add up to one within each  $PBLH_N$  bin for which there are valid data for the PBLH<sub>N</sub> conditions. The PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins in km are given by "pbl categories modified mid km", and "smooth z profile for deriv 20S vs hpbl modified cam5 base km" are the vertical cloud top height bins in km. The latter is smoothed with a boxcar average along the x-axis of width of two bins, with no smoothing in the vertical. Missing data for any PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins denoted as "NAN".

smooth dist ztop camclubb 20S vs hpbl modified subsidence aloft FLOAT = ARRAY [21,29]Description: Joint PDFs of modeled CAM5-CLUBB cloud top height (CTH) and PBLH<sub>N</sub> for conditions in which there is instantaneous subsidence aloft at 575 hPa ( $\omega_{575} > 0 \text{ mb/day}$ ) as determined by simulated CAM5-CLUBB data. Smoothed with a boxcar average along the x-axis of width of two bins, with no

smoothing in the vertical. PDFs add up to one within each PBLH<sub>N</sub> bin for which there are valid data for the PBLH<sub>N</sub> conditions. The PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins in km are given by "pbl\_categories\_modified\_mid\_km", and "smooth\_z\_profile\_for\_deriv\_20S\_vs\_hpbl\_modified\_camclubb\_km" are the vertical cloud top height bins in km. The latter is smoothed with a boxcar average along the x-axis of width of two bins, with no smoothing in the vertical. Missing data for any PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins denoted as "NAN".

smooth\_dist\_ztop\_cam5\_base\_20S\_vs\_hpbl\_modified\_subsidence\_both\_modes:
FLOAT = ARRAY [21,29]

Description: Joint PDFs of modeled CAM5-Base cloud top height (CTH) and PBLH<sub>N</sub> for conditions in which there is instantaneous subsidence aloft at both 575 hPa ( $\omega_{575} > 0 \text{ mb/day}$ ) and at 800 hPa ( $\omega_{800} > 0 \text{ mb/day}$ ) as determined by simulated CAM5-Base data. Smoothed with a boxcar average along the x-axis of width of two bins, with no smoothing in the vertical. PDFs add up to one within each PBLH<sub>N</sub> bin for which there are valid data for the PBLH<sub>N</sub> conditions. The PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins in km are given by "pbl\_categories\_modified\_mid\_km", and

"smooth\_z\_profile\_for\_deriv\_20S\_vs\_hpbl\_modified\_cam5\_base\_km" are the vertical cloud top height bins in km. The latter is smoothed with a boxcar average along the x-axis of width of two bins, with no smoothing in the vertical. Missing data for any PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins denoted as "NAN".

 $smooth\_dist\_ztop\_cam5\_base\_20S\_vs\_hpbl\_modified: FLOAT = ARRAY [21,29] \\ Description: Joint PDFs of modeled CAM5-Base cloud top height (CTH) and PBLH_N without any conditions of subsidence. Smoothed with a boxcar average along the x-axis of width of two bins, with no smoothing in the vertical. PDFs add up to one within each PBLH_N bin for which there are valid data for the PBLH_N conditions. The PBLH_N bins in km are given by "pbl_categories_modified_mid_km", and "smooth_z_profile_for_deriv_20S_vs_hpbl_modified_cam5_base_km" are the vertical cloud top height bins in km. The latter is smoothed with a boxcar average along the x-axis of width of two bins, with no smoothing in the vertical. Missing data for any PBLH_N bins denoted as "NAN".$ 

smooth\_omega\_profiles\_cam5\_base\_20S\_vs\_hpbl\_modified\_subsidence\_aloft: FLOAT = ARRAY [21,30] Description: Pressure vertical velocity ( $\omega$ ) profiles from CAM5-Base as a function of PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins for which there is instantaneous subsidence aloft at 575 hPa ( $\omega_{575} > 0 \text{ mb/day}$ ). Smoothed with a boxcar average along the x-axis of width of two bins, with no smoothing in the vertical. The PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins are given by "pbl\_categories\_modified\_mid\_km", and

"smooth\_pressure\_profile\_cam5\_base\_20S\_vs\_hpbl\_modified\_hpa" represents the pressure levels in hPa which correspond to each value of

"smooth\_omega\_profiles\_cam5\_base\_20S\_vs\_hpbl\_modified\_subsidence\_aloft". The pressure profiles along PBLH<sub>N</sub> are smoothed with a boxcar average along the x-axis of width of two bins, with no smoothing in the vertical. Missing data for any PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins denoted as "NAN".

smooth\_omega\_profiles\_cam5\_base\_20S\_vs\_hpbl\_modified\_subsidence\_both\_modes:
FLOAT = ARRAY [21,30]

Description: Pressure vertical velocity ( $\omega$ ) profiles from CAM5-Base as a function of PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins for which there is instantaneous subsidence aloft at 575 hPa ( $\omega_{575} > 0 \text{ mb/day}$ ) and also at 800 hPa ( $\omega_{800} > 0 \text{ mb/day}$ ). Smoothed with a boxcar average along the x-axis of width of two bins, with no smoothing in the vertical. The PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins are given by "pbl\_categories\_modified\_mid\_km", and "smooth pressure profile cam5 base 20S vs hpbl modified hpa" represents the pressure levels in hPa which correspond to each value of

"smooth\_omega\_profiles\_cam5\_base\_20S\_vs\_hpbl\_modified\_subsidence\_both\_modes". The pressure profiles along PBLH<sub>N</sub> are smoothed with a boxcar average along the x-axis of width of two bins, with no smoothing in the vertical. Missing data for any PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins denoted as "NAN".

smooth\_omega\_profiles\_cam5\_base\_20S\_vs\_hpbl\_modified:

FLOAT = ARRAY [21,30]

Description: Instantaneous pressure vertical velocity ( $\omega$ ) profiles from CAM5-Base as a function of PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins for which there are no subsidence conditions. Smoothed with a boxcar average along the x-axis of width of two bins, with no smoothing in the vertical. The PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins are given by "pbl categories modified mid km", and

"smooth\_pressure\_profile\_cam5\_base\_20S\_vs\_hpbl\_modified\_hpa" represents the pressure levels in hPa which correspond to each "smooth\_omega\_profiles\_cam5\_base\_20S\_vs\_hpbl\_modified". The pressure profiles along PBLH<sub>N</sub> are smoothed with a boxcar average along the x-axis of width of two bins, with no smoothing in the vertical. Missing data for any PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins denoted as "NAN".

smooth\_dist\_ztop\_camclubb\_20S\_vs\_hpbl\_modified\_subsidence\_aloft: FLOAT = ARRAY [21,29] Description: Joint PDFs of modeled CAM5-CLUBB cloud top height (CTH) and PBLH<sub>N</sub> for conditions in which there is instantaneous subsidence aloft at 575 hPa ( $\omega_{575} > 0 \text{ mb/day}$ ) as determined by simulated CAM5-CLUBB data. Smoothed with a boxcar average along the x-axis of width of two bins, with no smoothing in the vertical. PDFs add up to one within each PBLH<sub>N</sub> bin for which there are valid data for the PBLH<sub>N</sub> conditions. The PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins in km are given by "pbl\_categories\_modified\_mid\_km", and "smooth\_z\_profile\_for\_deriv\_20S\_vs\_hpbl\_modified\_camclubb\_km" are the vertical cloud top height bins in km. The latter is smoothed with a boxcar average along the x-axis of width of two bins, with no smoothing in the vertical. Missing data for any PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins denoted as "NAN".

smooth\_dist\_ztop\_camclubb\_20S\_vs\_hpbl\_modified\_subsidence\_both\_modes: FLOAT
= ARRAY [21,29]

Description: Joint PDFs of modeled CAM5-CLUBB cloud top height (CTH) and PBLH<sub>N</sub> for conditions in which there is instantaneous subsidence aloft at both 575 hPa ( $\omega_{575} > 0 \text{ mb/day}$ ) and at 800 hPa ( $\omega_{800} > 0 \text{ mb/day}$ ) as determined by simulated CAM5-CLUBB data. Smoothed with a boxcar average along the x-axis of width of two bins, with no smoothing in the vertical. PDFs add up to one within each PBLH<sub>N</sub> bin for which there are valid data for the PBLH<sub>N</sub> conditions. The PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins in km are given by "pbl\_categories\_modified\_mid\_km", and

"smooth\_z\_profile\_for\_deriv\_20S\_vs\_hpbl\_modified\_camclubb\_km" are the vertical cloud top height bins in km. The latter is smoothed with a boxcar average along the x-axis of width of two bins, with no smoothing in the vertical. Missing data for any PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins denoted as "NAN".

 $smooth\_dist\_ztop\_camclubb\_20S\_vs\_hpbl\_modified: FLOAT = ARRAY [21,29] \\ Description: Joint PDFs of modeled CAM5-CLUBB cloud top height (CTH) and PBLH<sub>N</sub> without any conditions of subsidence. Smoothed with a boxcar average along the x-axis of width of two bins, with no smoothing in the vertical. PDFs add up to one within each PBLH<sub>N</sub> bin for which there are valid data for the PBLH<sub>N</sub> conditions. The PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins in km are given by "pbl_categories_modified_mid_km", and "smooth_z_profile_for_deriv_20S_vs_hpbl_modified_camclubb_km" are the vertical cloud top height bins in km. The latter is smoothed with a boxcar average along the x-axis of width of two bins, with no smoothing in the vertical. Missing data for any PBLH<sub>N</sub> bins denoted as "NAN".$