

# WGNE intercomparison of Tropical Cyclone Track forecast, 2013

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## History of the Project

- 1991: commencement with three centers: ECMWF, UKMO and JMA. The verification area was only western North Pacific.
- 1994 : **CMC** joined.
- 1999: Verification for the North Atlantic started.
- 2000 : DWD joined. Verification for the eastern North Pacific started.
- 2002 : Verification for 2 Southern Hemispheric regions, north Indian Ocean and the Central Pacific started.
- 2003 : NCEP and BoM joined. A website for this intercomparison project was launched.
- 2004 : Meteo-France and CMA joined.
- 2006 : CPTEC and NRL joined.
- 2011 : KMA joined. CMA came back.

2014: 10 NWP centers participated in the project.

[BOM CMA CMC DWD ECMWF JMA France NCEP NRL UKMO ]





## Specification of Data

NWP centers	Participate Year	Bogus data / Relocation	Horizontal Res. of provided data	Model Res. as of 2013
BoM	2003	-	0.562x0.375	40kmL70
CMA	2004	used in WNP	1.25x1.25	T213L31
СМС	1994	-	1.0x1.0	33km L80 (~Feb 12) 25km L80 (Feb 13~)
DWD	2000	-	0.25x0.25	20kmL60
ECMWF	1991	-	0.125x0.125	T <sub>L</sub> 1279L91 (~Jun 24) T <sub>L</sub> 1279L137 (Jun 25~)
JMA	1991	used in WNP	0.25x0.25	T <sub>L</sub> 959L60
France	2004	used*1	0.5x0.5	T <sub>L</sub> 798C2.4L70
NCEP	2003	used in NH	1.0x1.0	T574 L64
NRL	2006	used	1.0x1.0 (~Mar 12) 0.5x0.5 (Mar 13~)	T319L42 (~Mar 12) T359L50 (Mar13~)
UKMO	1991	-	0.3515x0.2345	25kmL70

<sup>\*1</sup> except for South Pacific and north Indian-Ocean





## Major upgrades of global NWP systems in this period

#### CMC:

 2013.02.13 Increases horizontal resolution from 33km to 25km. Use of hybrid sigma-p vertical coordinate. Increase horizontal resolution of the inner model used in 4DVAR.

#### • ECMWF:

- 2013.06.25 Increases the number of vertical layers from 91 to 137.
- 2013.11.19 Enhanced 25 member EDA background error. Parameterization changes.

#### Meteo France:

 2013.07.02 Assimilation of new satellite observations (ATMS and CriS on Suomi-NPP, OSCAT winds, Metop-B). Introduces wavelet approach for a flow-dependent B matrix from EDA. Parameterization changes.

#### NCEP:

2012.09.05 Bug-fix in land surface model.

#### NRL:

 2013.03.13 Upgrades global NWP from NOGAPS (T319L42, Eulerian) to NAVGEM (T359L50, SL/SI)

## Major upgrades after this period

#### CMA:

• 2014.07.11 Increases horizontal and vertical resolution from T213L31 to TL639L60.

#### • CMC:

2014.11.18 Introduction of 4D-EnVar and IAU (Incremental Analysis Update).
 Increase number of ensemble members of EnKF from 192 to 256.

#### • DWD:

• 2015.01.20 Replaces global model from GME to ICON. Horizontal resolution is increased from 20km to 13km.

#### JMA:

- 2014.03.18 Increases the number of vertical layers from 60 (top 0.1hPa) to 100 (top 0.01hPa). Parameterization changes. Use of AMSUA ch14 and ground-based GNSS. Assimilation of GNSSRO bending angle instead of refractivity.
- 2014.09.04 Upgrades typhoon bogus. Assimilates hyperspectral IR sounders (AIRS and IASI).

#### NCEP:

2015.01.14 Increases horizontal resolution from T574 (Eulerian) to TL1534 (SL/SI). Parameterization changes.

#### UKMO:

 2014.07.15 Increases horizontal resolution from 25km to 17km. Use of new dynamical core (ENDGame). Increases horizontal resolution of the analysis (from 60km to 40km).





## Method of TC verification using MSLP

#### TCs to be verified

TCs which intensity reached tropical storm (TS) with the maximum sustained wind of 34 knots or stronger are set as targets for this verification. The tropical depression (TD) stage of the targeted TCs is also included in this verification. However, the TCs which stayed at TD level all through their life are excluded.

#### 1. Tracking Method

local pressure minimum;

- a) First position (FT +Ohr): search from the best track position
- b) Second position (FT +6hr): search from the first position
- c) Third and after (FT +12hr~): search from estimated position from the latest two positions

(all position searched within 500km radius)

Forecast time interval is changed from 12 hours to 6 hours for 2013 (in NH only).





#### 2. Verification Method

#### Position Error (km)

The distance between the best-track (analyzed) position and the forecast position.

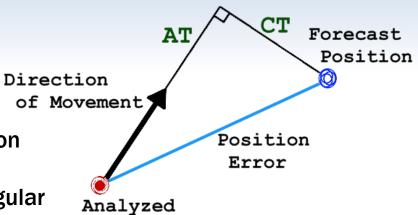
#### Along Track – Cross Track bias

AT(along-track)-bias: The bias in the direction

of TC movement

CT(cross-track)-bias: The bias in the rectangular

direction of TC movement



Position

Detection Rate

Detection Rate (t) = A(t)/B(t)

A(t): The number of forecast events in which a TC is analyzed at forecast time t on the condition that a NWP model continuously expresses the TC until the forecast time t.

B(t): The number of forecast events in which a TC is analyzed at forecast time t.

Note that following verification results are using inhomogeneous samples otherwise noticed

The verification method for TC detection rate may be in favor of the NWP system that generates

more TCs than actual, because the false alarm is not considered in the metric.

## TC Verification

#### TC tracks on 2013 season

Northern-Hemisphere [2013/01/01 to 2013/12/31]

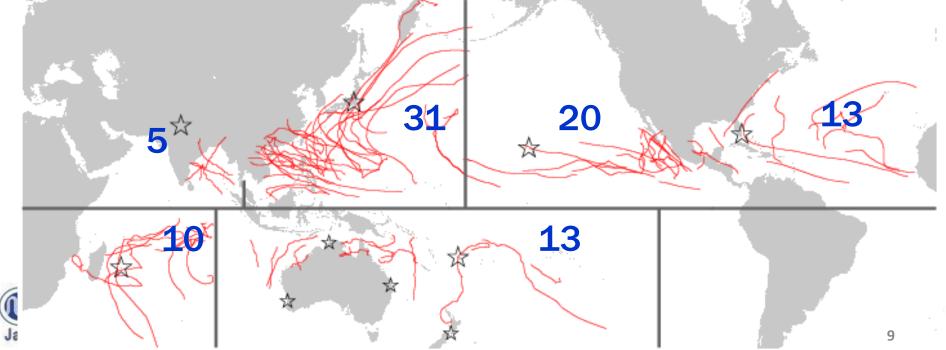
Southern-Hemisphere [2012/09/01 to 2013/08/31]

#### Number of TCs, [best-track data provider]

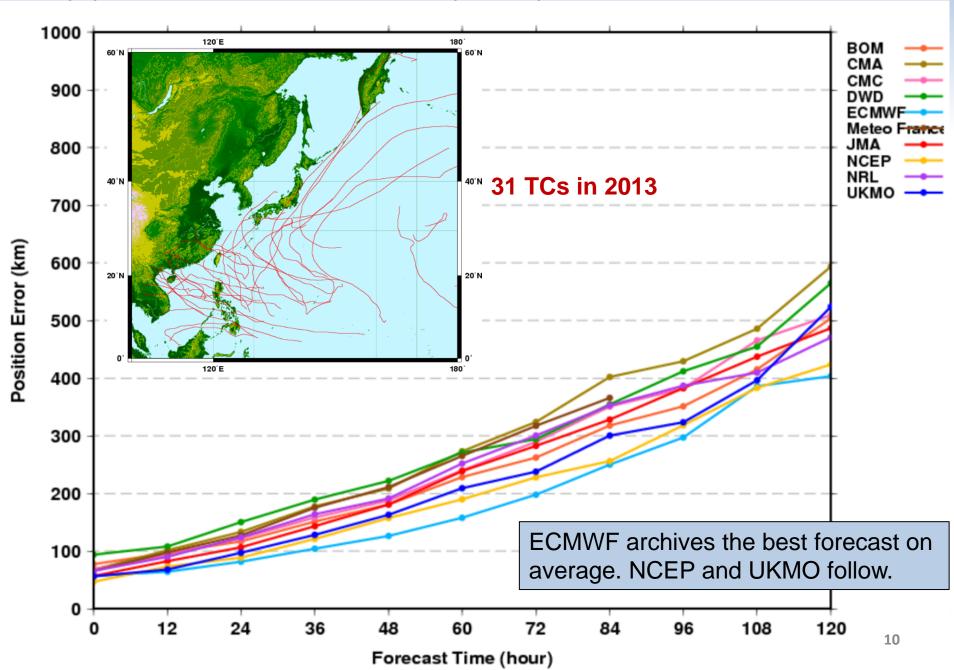
- 31 western North-Pacific [RSMC Tokyo]
- 20 eastern North-Pacific (including Central-Pacific) [RSMC Miami, Honolulu]

Include "operational" track

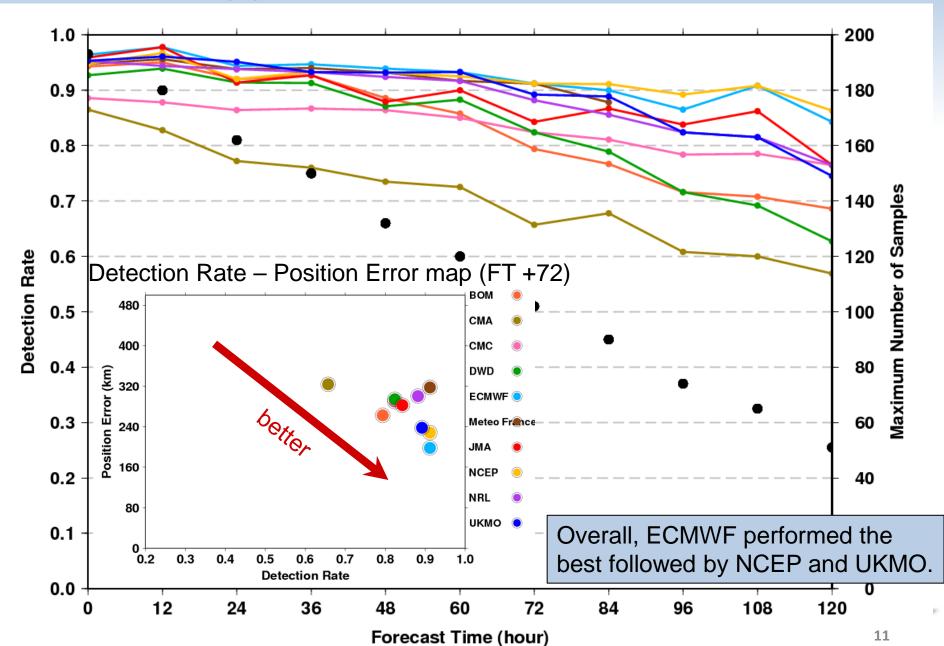
- 13 North Atlantic [RSMC Miami]
- 5 north Indian-Ocean [RSMC New-Delhi]
- 10 south Indian-Ocean [RSMC La-Reunion] data (for 8 TCs)
- 13 around Australia [RSMC Nadi and 4 TCWCs]

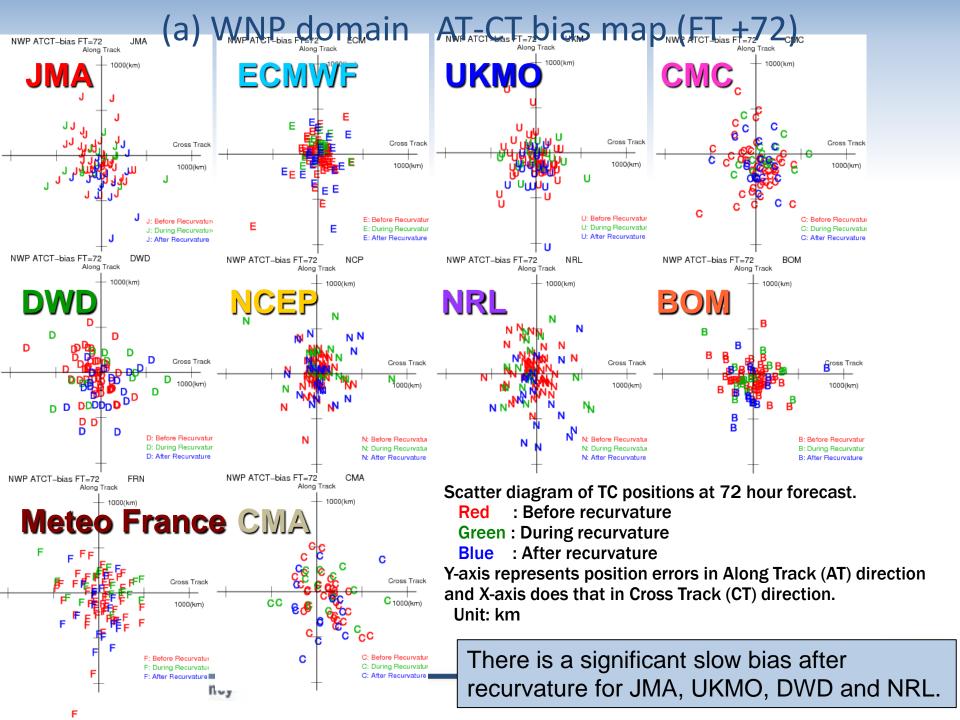


## (a) western North-Pacific (WNP) domain Position Error

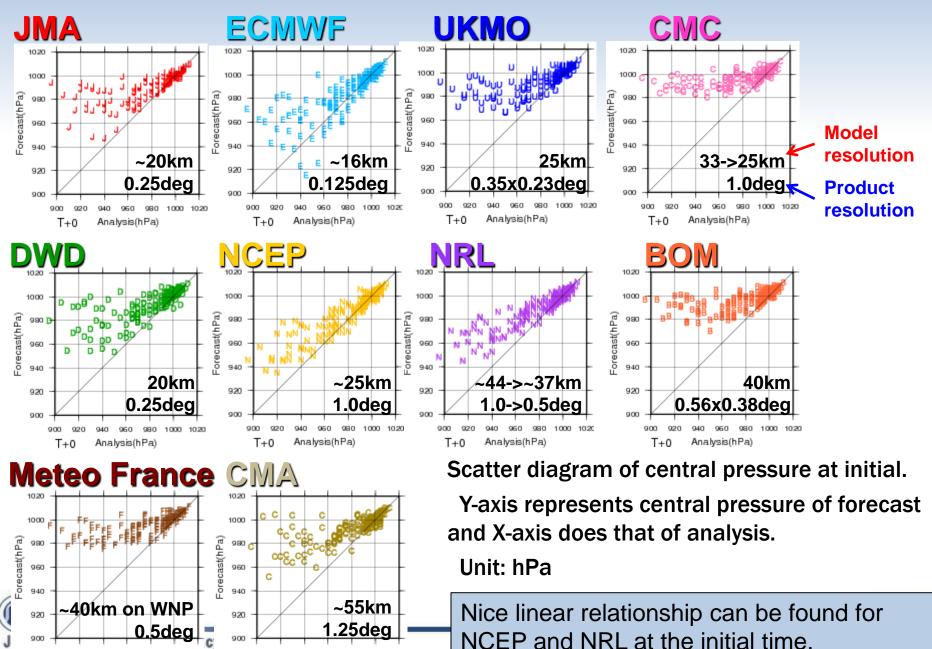


## (a) WNP domain Detection Rate





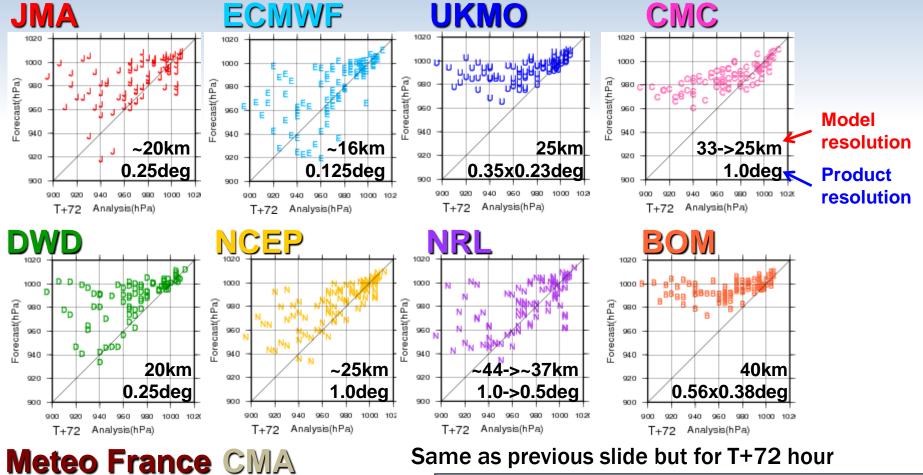
## (a) WNP domain Central Pressure scatter diagram (FT +0)



Analysis(hPa)

Analysis(hPa)

## (a) WNP domain Central Pressure scatter diagram (FT +72)



## UKMO, CMC, BOM and CMA predict relatively shallow TCs compared to the best track.

~55km

1.25deg

940

Analysis(hPa)

Forecast(hPa)

920

Forecast(hPa)

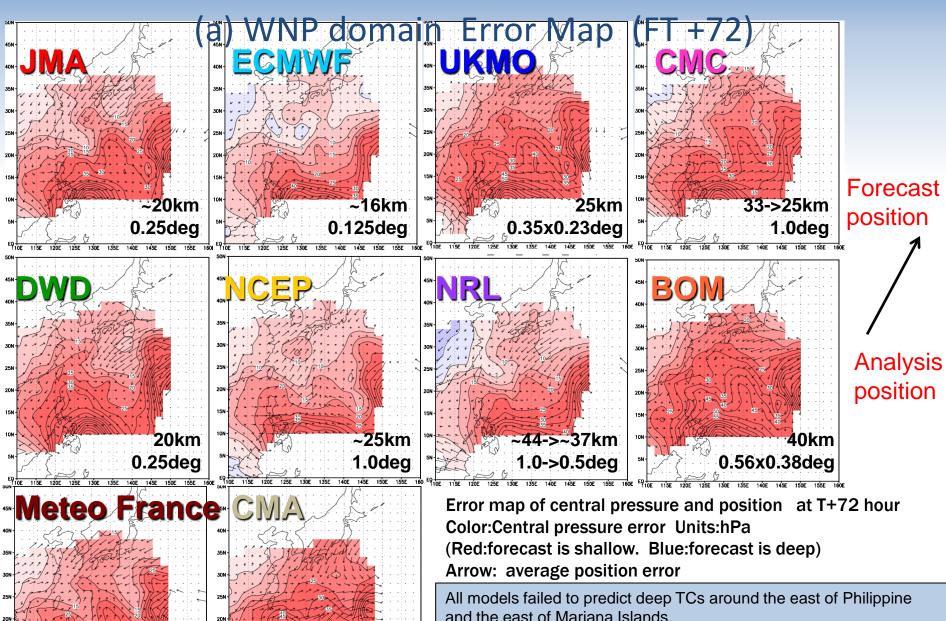
~40km on WNP

T+72 Analysis(hPa)

0.5dea

Note; the results depend on the horizontal resolution of the NWP model and gridded data

TCs represented in CMC and Meteo France model tend to get stronger from initial time to T+72 hour, while those in UKMO model tend to get weaker



~55km

1.25deg

≤40km on WNP

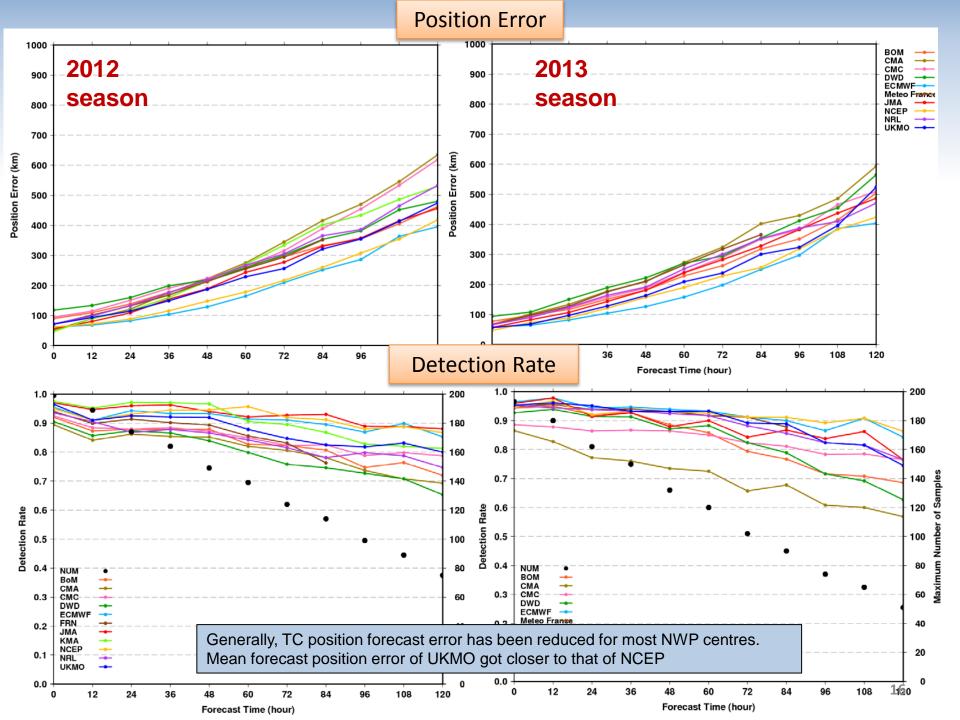
0.5deg

and the east of Mariana Islands.

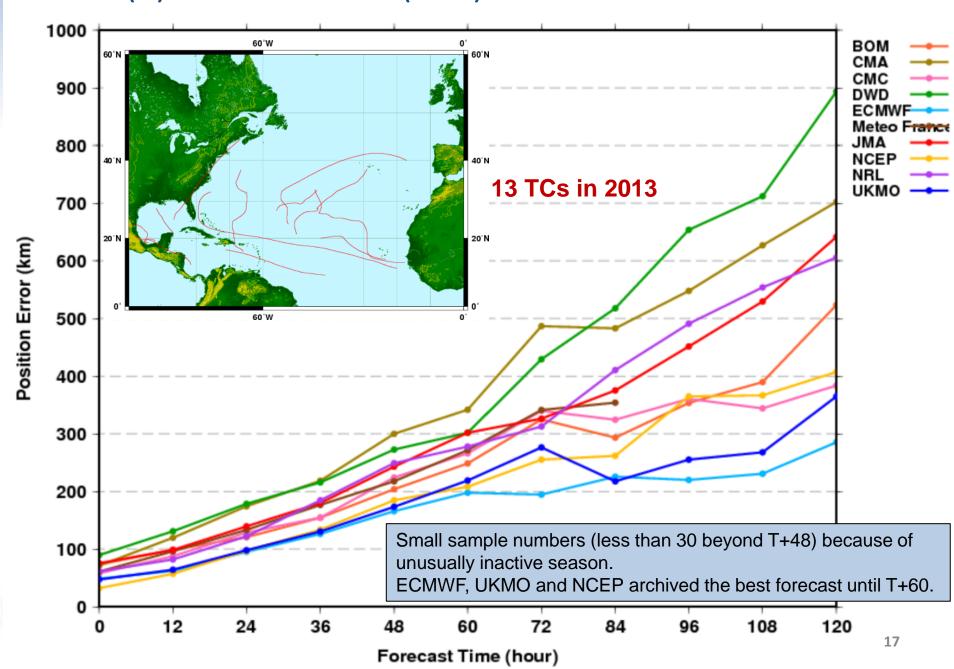
JMA, UKMO, DWD and NRL show large slow bias around Japan.

Meteo France and CMA show northward movement bias around the east of Philippine.

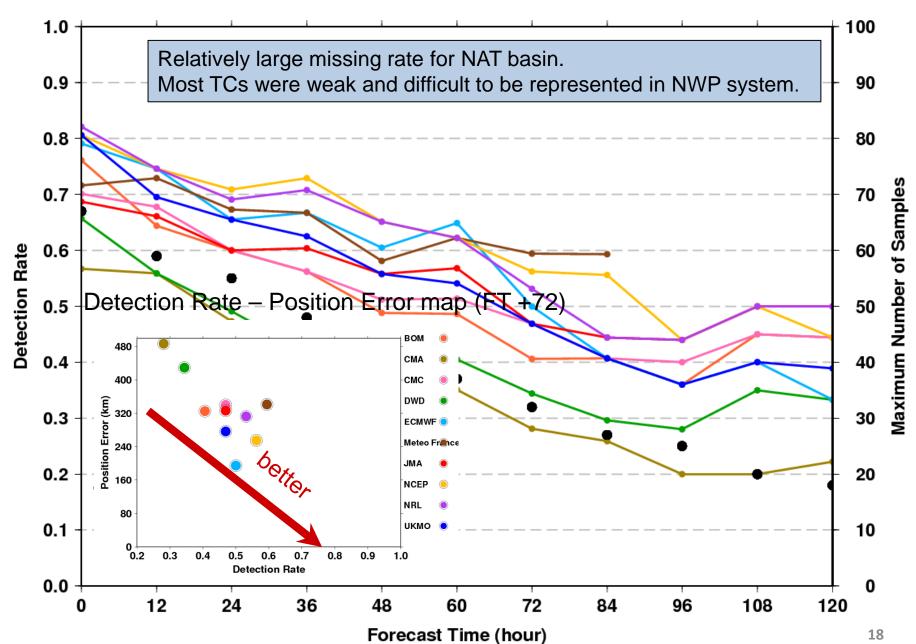
ECMWF, NCEP and NRL predicts relatively strong TCs in mid-latitude



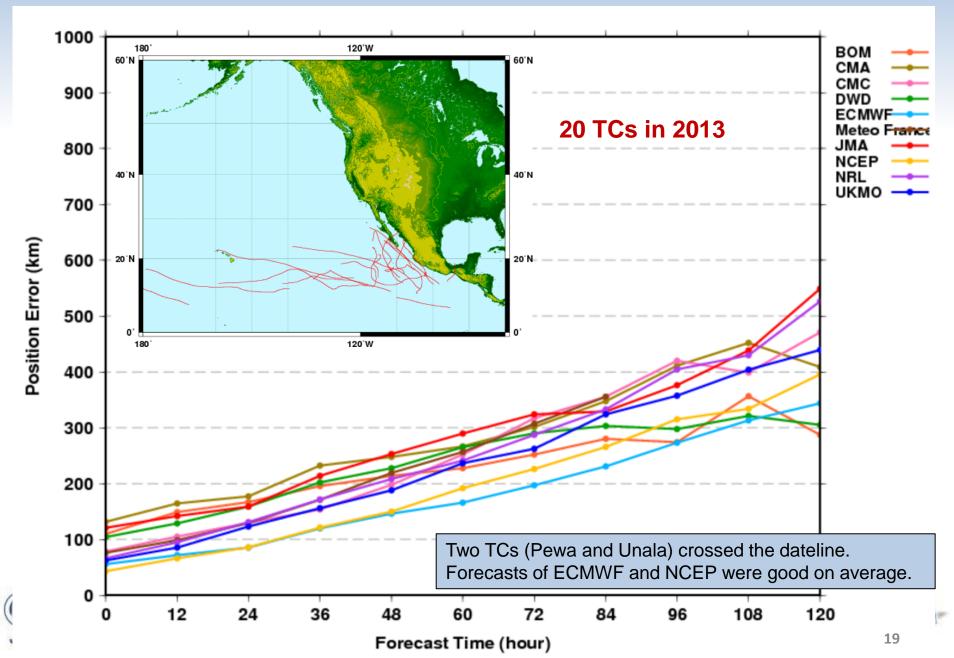
#### (b) North-Atlantic (NAT) domain Position Error



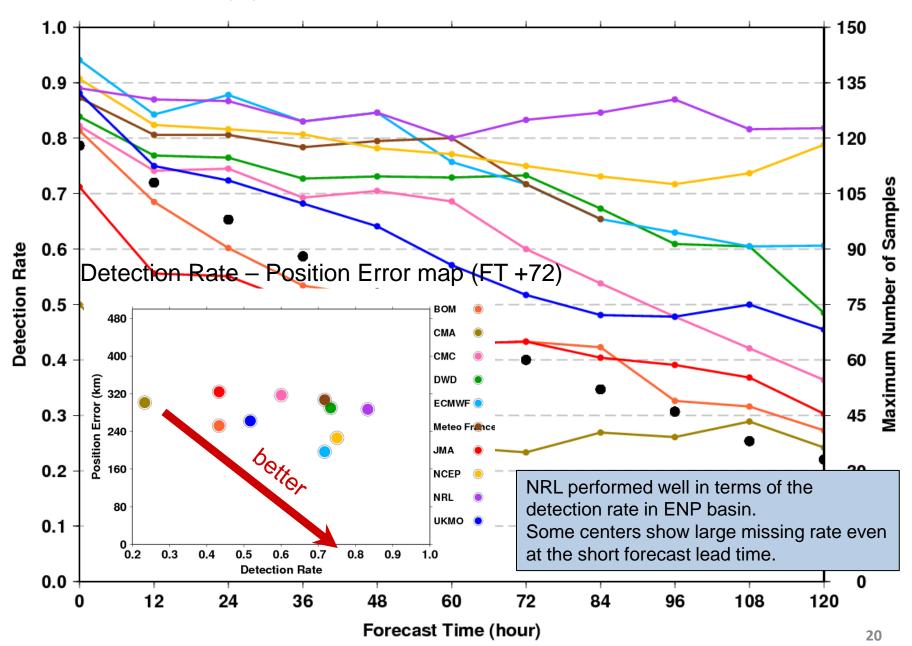
## (b) NAT domain Detection Rate



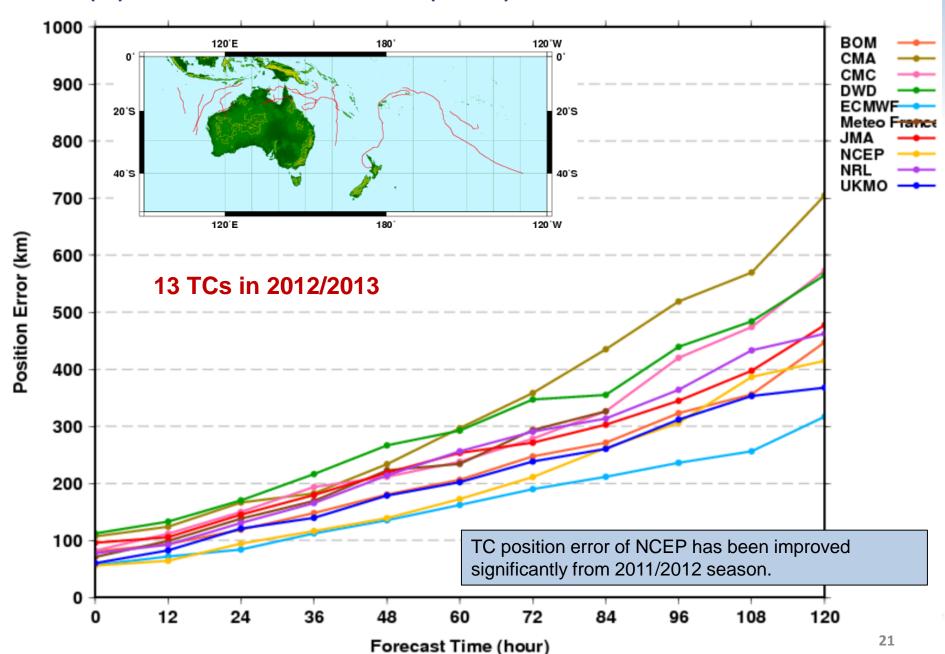
## (c) eastern North-Pacific (ENP) domain Position Error



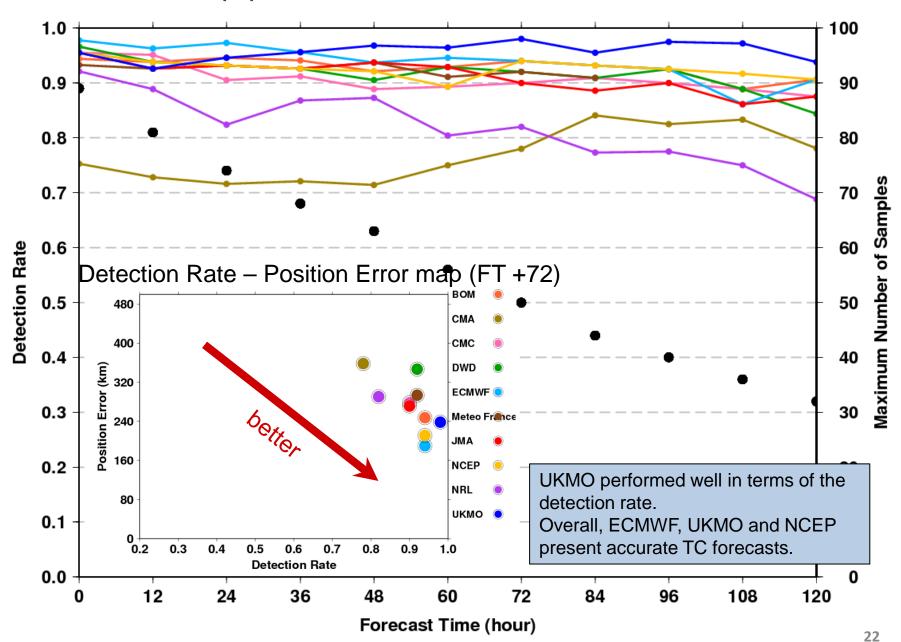
## (c) ENP domain Detection Rate



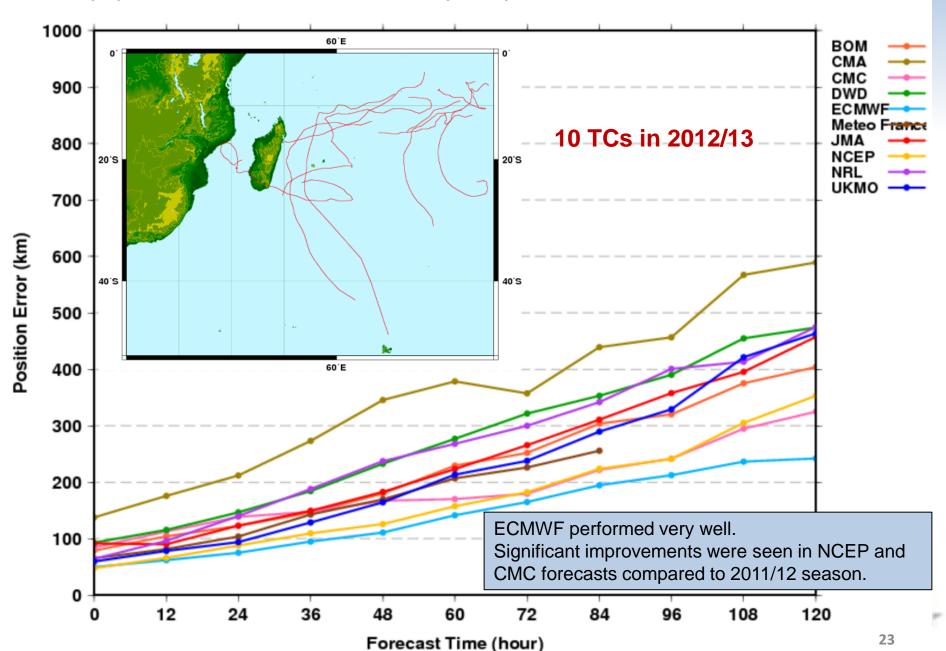
## (d) "around Australia" (AUR) domain Position Error



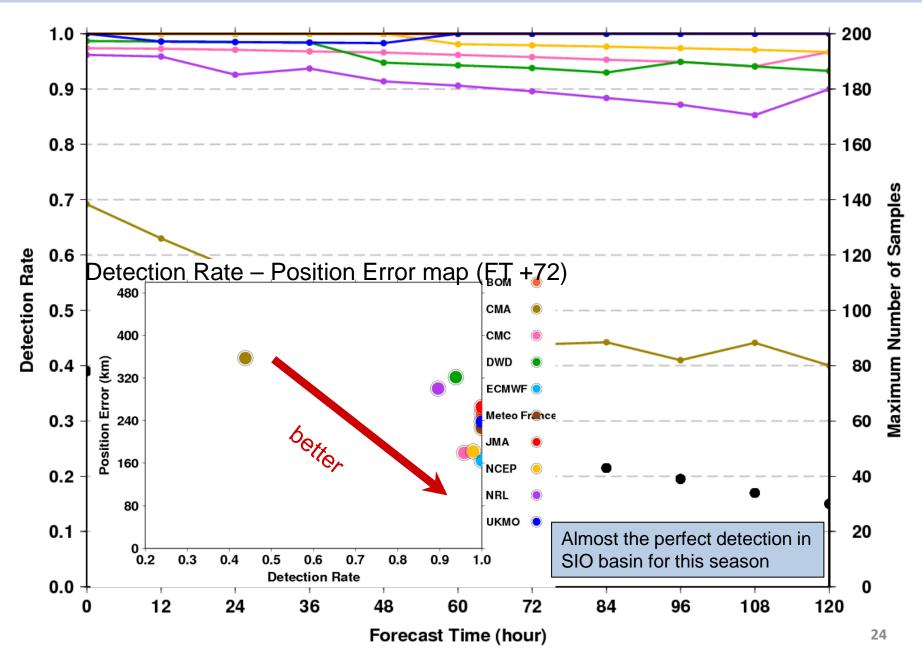
## (d) AUR domain Detection Rate



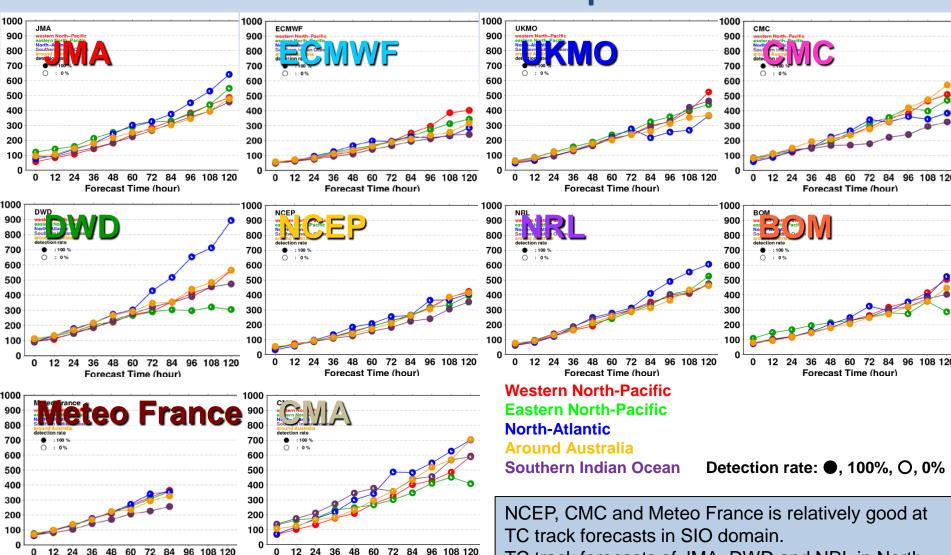
## (e) South Indian Ocean (SIO) domain Position Error



## (e) SIO domain Detection Rate



## visualization with "pie-chart"



Forecast Time (hour)

Forecast Time (hour)

Meteorological Agency

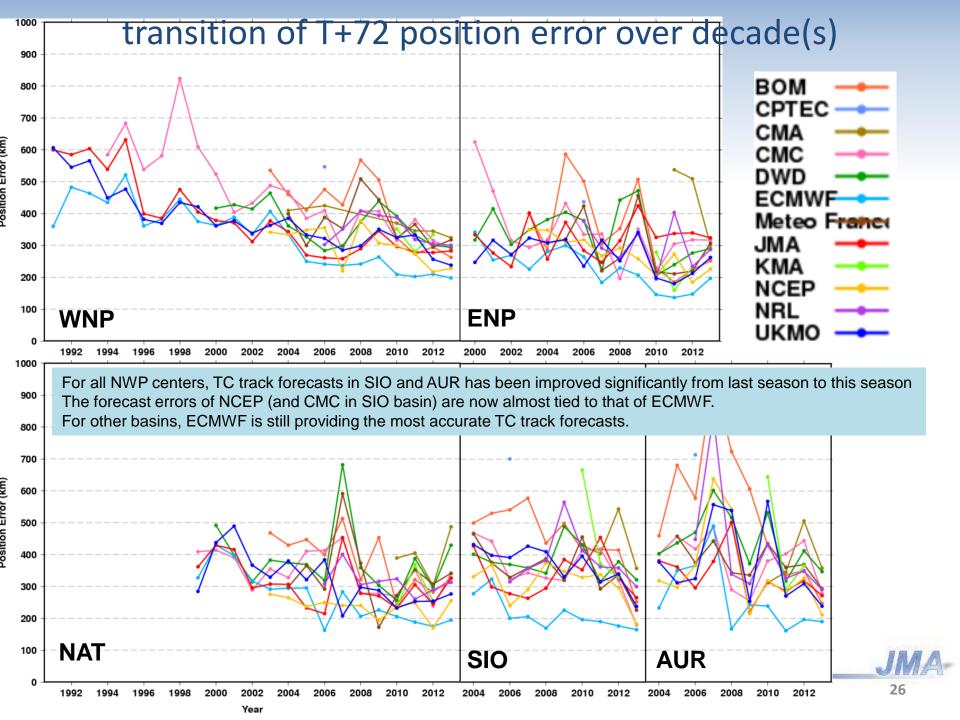
TC track forecasts in SiO domain.

TC track forecasts of JMA, DWD and NRL in North

Atlantic are not as accurate as those in other basins.

ECMWF and NCEP provide the accurate TC track

forecasts over the all basins.



## TC intercomparison website is available now!

WGNE Intercomparison of Tropical Cyclone Track Forecasts Using Operational Global Models

Updated: 24 Mar 20

Verification

Verification-Regional

Readme Intro

DataSpec

DataSpec(regional)

Contact

#### **Verification Result**

please select the region on the map; the verifications will pop-up.



Login ID: verif

Password: wgne2014 (beyond 20 Mar. 2015)

Contact: wgne tc@naps.kishou.go.jp



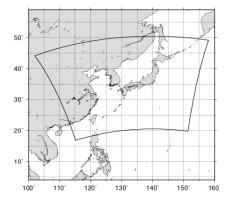


## ADDITIONAL VERIFICATION

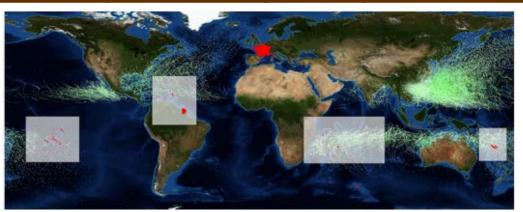
Verification of Regional Models

## **Specification of Regional Models**

NWP centers	Name of Model	Verification Region	Boundary	Bogus data	Model Res. as of 2013
JMA	MSM	WNP*	GSM	Used	5kmL50
Meteo France	ALADIN	AUR NAT ** SIO	IFS(AUR,NAT) ARPEGE(SIO)	Used	8kmL70
NCEP	HWRF	NAT,ENP	GFS	Used	3/9/27kmL42 (triple nest)



\*Region of MSM



\*\* Region of ALADIN





#### Position Error of homogeneous samples MSM/GSM(WNP) HWRF/GFS(NAT) T130 T1301 MSM03s NCP Num. of Sample Num. of Sample 12 18 24 30 36 42 48 54 60 66 72 78 84 90 96 10 21 08 1 1 4 1 2 0 Forecast Time (hours) Forecast Time (hours) HWRF/GFS(ENP) **ALADIN/ARPEGE(SIO)** T1301 FRN Num. of Sample Num. of Sample

54 60

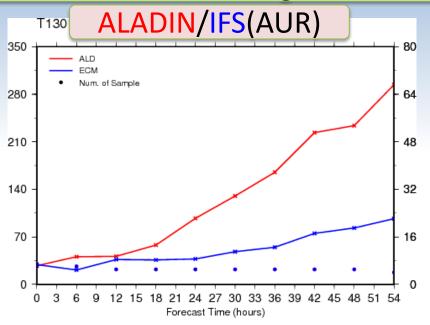
Forecast Time (hours)

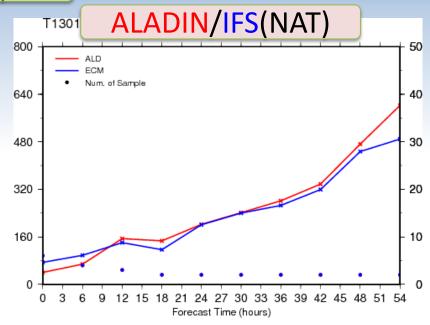
72 78

12 18 24 30 36 42 48 54 60 66 72 78 84 90 96 10 21 08 11 41 20

Forecast Time (hours)

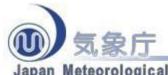
#### Position Error of homogeneous samples





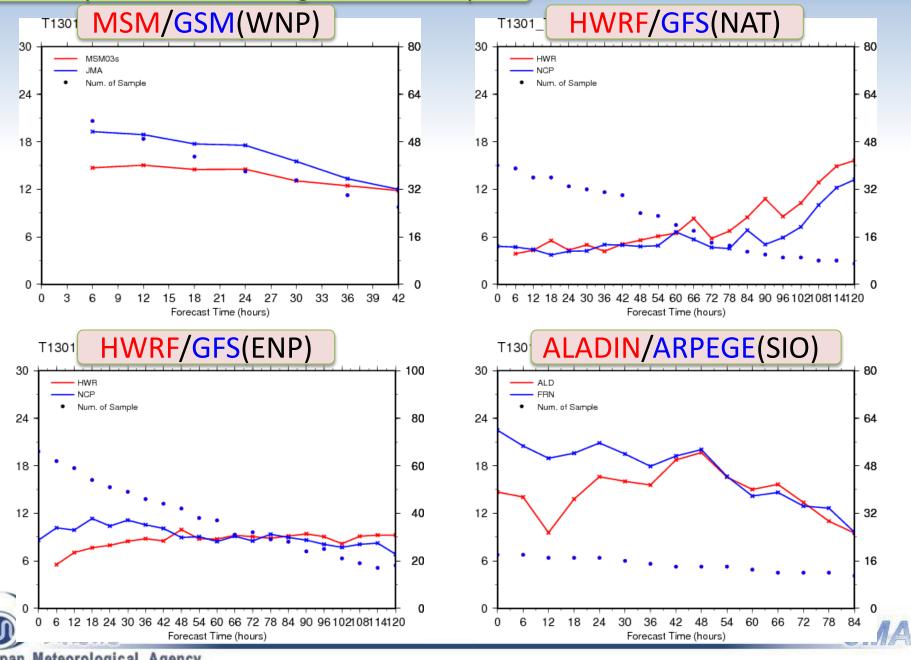
In this season number of TC samples is very few in AUR and NAT region.

Roughly speaking, position error of regional model is almost as same as that of global model.

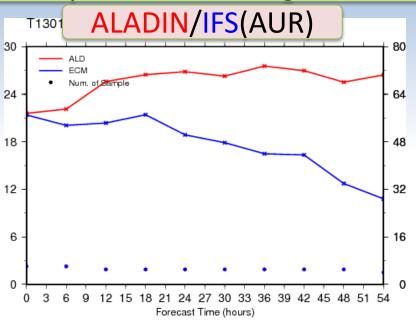


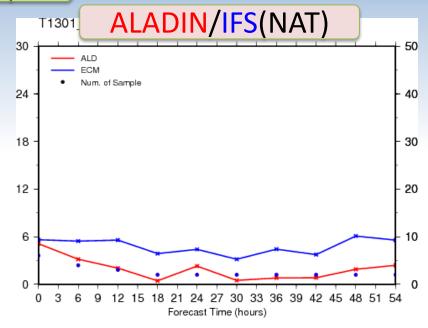


#### Intensity RMSE of homogeneous samples



#### Intensity RMSE of homogeneous samples





Some regional models show that its intensity RMSE is smaller than that of the global model which provides LBC to it especially in the beginning of forecast.





## **ADDITIONAL VERIFICATION**

Verification using 850 hPa winds

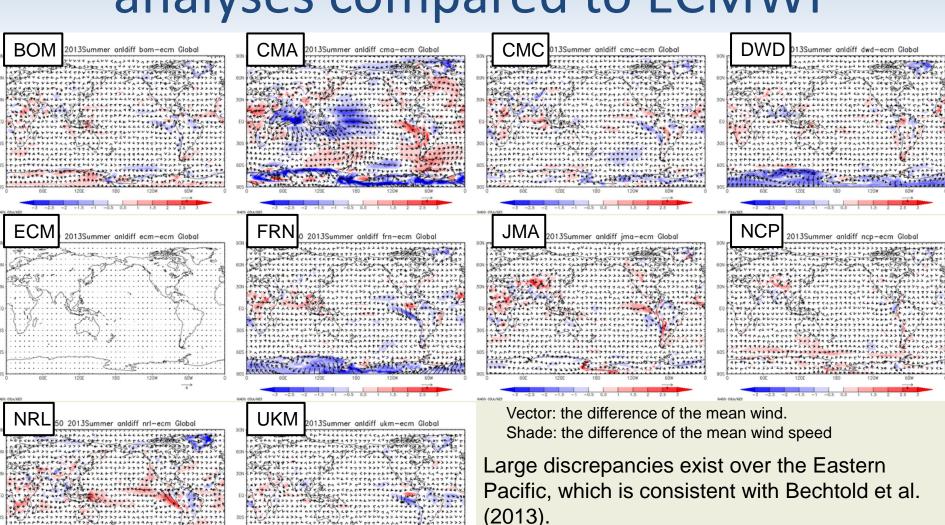
## Motivation and Methodology

- Wind fields in the Tropics are uncertain due to the limited observation.
- How do the tropical winds in the analyses differ between the models?
- What kinds of bias in the wind fields do the models have? Is there any common feature?

- Data: Wind fields at 850 hPa. The forecasts initiated at 12 UTC each day are verified.
- Period: Boreal summer (May-Nov. 2013.)

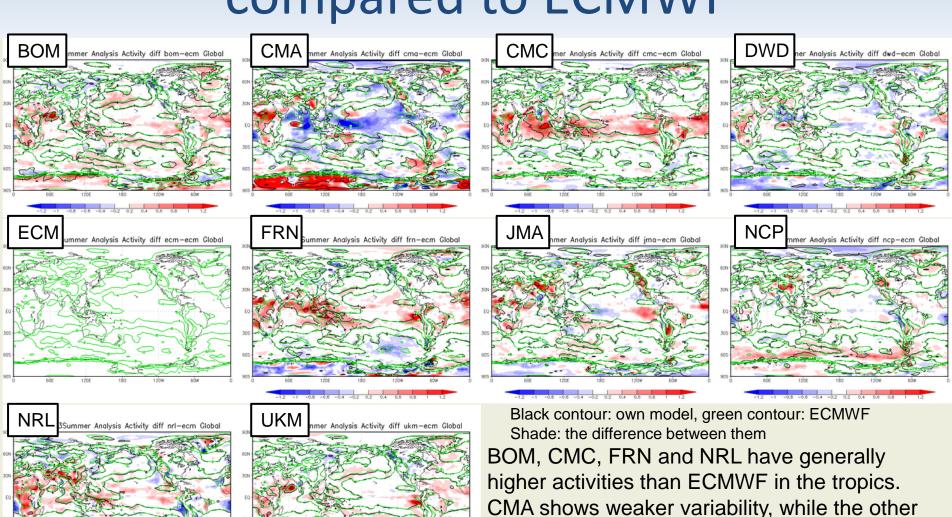


## Difference of wind fields in the analyses compared to ECMWF



CMA, NRL and JMA have more crossequatorial flow than ECMWF, whereas BOM, CMC, FRN and UKM have less.

# Difference of analysis activities compared to ECMWF

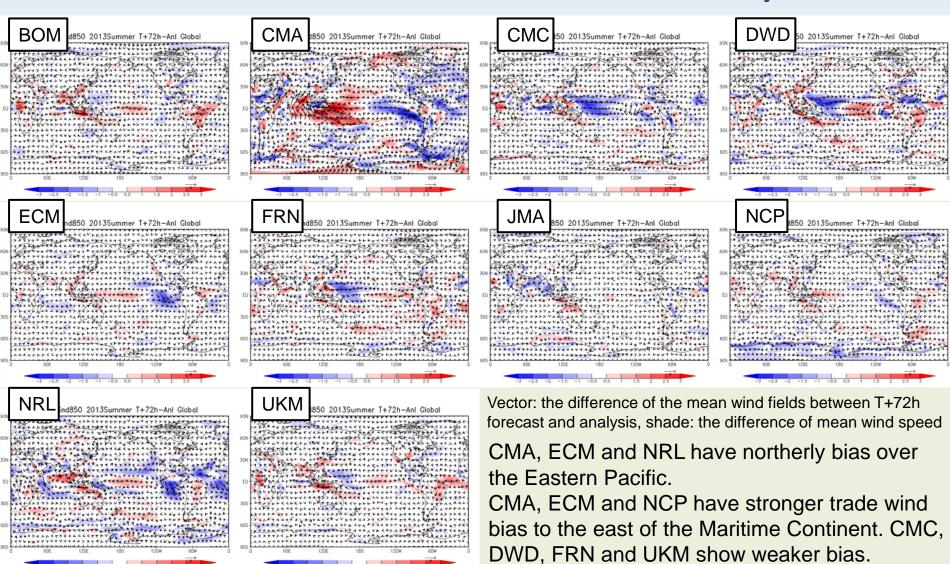


 $AA = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (A_i - C_i)^2}$ 

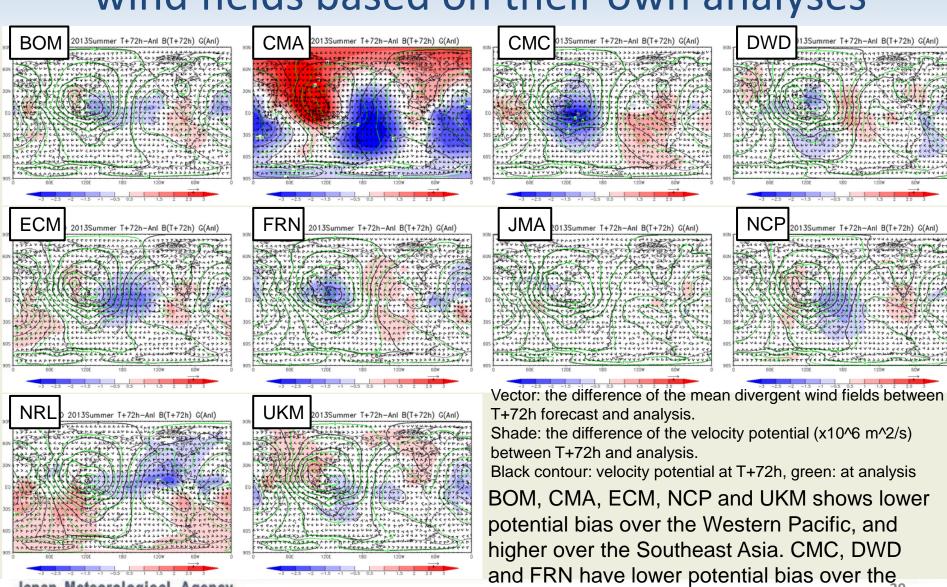
centers are comparable.

A: Analysis
C: Climatology

## Model forecast biases in the wind fields based on their own analyses



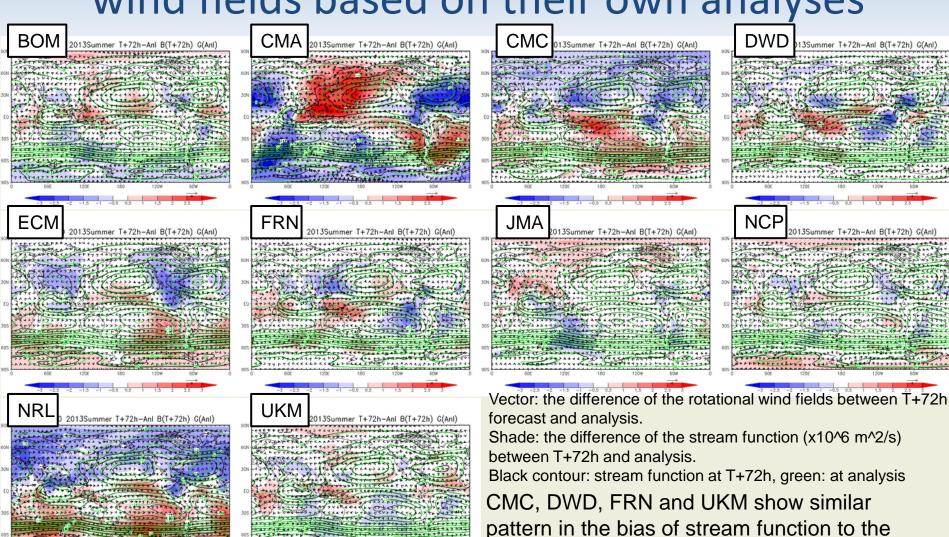
## Model forecast biases in the divergent wind fields based on their own analyses



Maritime Continent.

Japan Meteorological Agency

## Model forecast biases in the rotational wind fields based on their own analyses



wind bias.

Japan Meteorological Agency

east of the Maritime Continent, and westerly

## **Brief comment**

- Large discrepancies in the analyses exist over the Eastern Pacific.
- Several models have forecast bias over the Eastern Pacific and Western Pacific, which seems partly due to the difficulty in maintaining the convective activity over the Maritime Continent.

### Reference

Bechtold, P., P. Bauer, J.-R. Bidlot, C. Cardinali, L. Magnusson, F. Prates and M. Rodwell, 2013: Uncertainty in tropical winds. ECMWF News Letter, 134, 33-37.

### **ADDITIONAL VERIFICATION**

Selective Ensemble Mean for Tropical Cyclone Track Forecasting

### Selective Ensemble Mean for Tropical Cyclone Track Forecasting

### 1. Introduction:

- Selective ensemble mean technique, in which larger weights are given to ensemble members close to observations at short lead times (e.g., 6 hours), for tropical cyclone track forecasting is investigated.
- The slowness of availability time of ensemble forecasts, which is due mainly to the required large computational resources, makes it possible to utilize the observations.

### 2. Main Results:

- Selective ensemble mean approach is better than simple ensemble mean approach, but has only limited effects when compared with the best single model forecasts that are ECMWF deterministic forecasts.
- However selective ensemble mean approach shows the best performance for cases where the ensemble spread at short lead time (e.g., 6 hours) is large.
- In general, best performance has been obtained from a simple ensemble mean of ECMWF and NCEP.

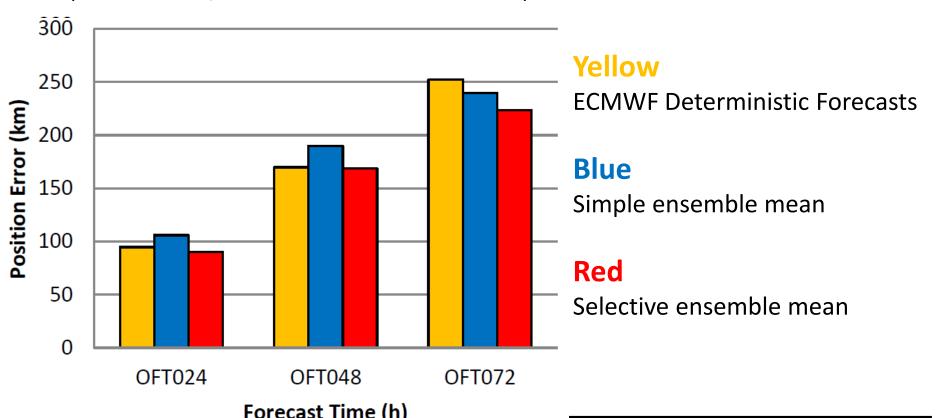
### 3. Future plan

 Planning to submit a paper to an international journal (e.g., Tropical Cyclone Research and Review).

### Results (1/2)

### Samples with large ensemble spread

(2010 – 2013, North Western Pacific Basin)

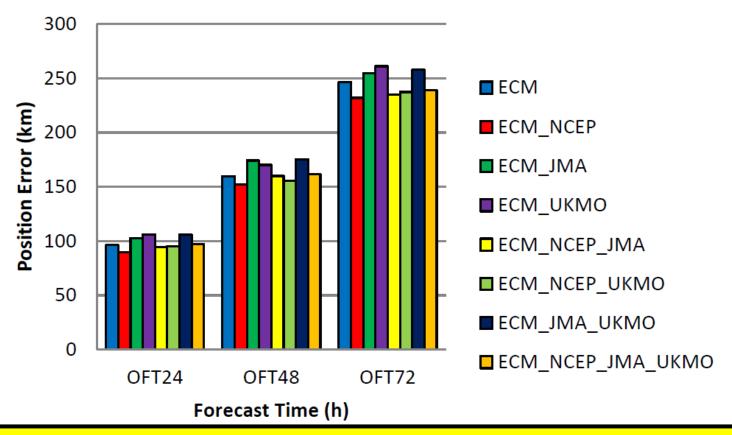


The position arrow of coloctive encouple made is smaller than that of simple

•If the verification samples are limited to cases with large ensemble spread at a short lead time, selective ensemble mean approach shows the best performance.

## Results (2/2)

Simple ensemble mean using ECMWF, JMA, NCEP, UKMO ensembles (2010 – 2013, North Western Pacific Basin)

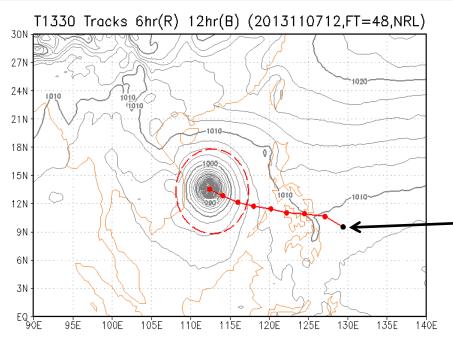


•A simple ensemble mean of ECMWF and NCEP shows the best performance for all verification samples from 2010 to 2013 over the North Western Pacific basin.

## **BACKUP SLIDES**

Dependencies of verification result on the spatial and temporal resolution of forecast GPVs

# Using 6-hourly forecast instead of 12-hourly forecast



Forecast of Typhoon Haiyan (NRL, Initial: 12UTC 7 November, 2013)

Red: forecast track with 6-hourly GPV
Black: forecast track with 12-hourly GPV
Circle: search range (500km radius) of
central position of each track

Both tracks start from the same position (close enough to the besttrack position)

At FT=6, red track found TC center within 500km search range

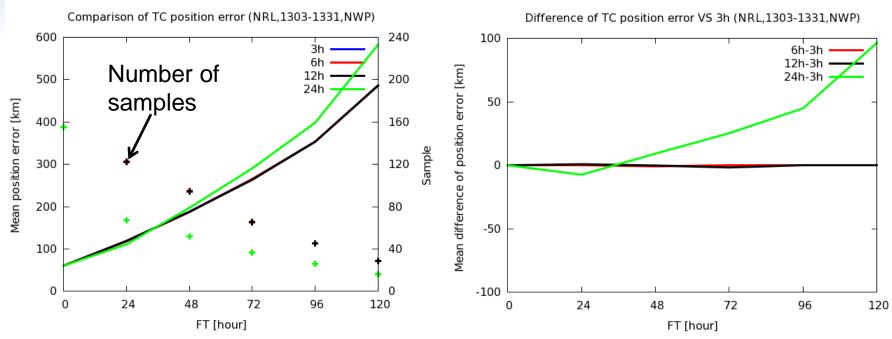
At FT=12, black track tried to find TC center within 500km from the initial position, but failed. Red track could find it within 500km radius circle centered on the first-guess position determined from the positions at FT=0 and 6.

Initial tracking will be failed if TC moves faster than

500km / 6h  $\sim$  83 km/h from FT=0 to FT=6 for 6-hourly track 500km / 12h  $\sim$  42 km/h from FT=0 to FT=12 for 12-hourly track



# Using 6-hourly forecast instead of 12-hourly forecast



Mean position error [km] of TC forecast track using 3, 6, 12 and 24 hourly GPV (NRL, WNP basin, T1303-T1331)

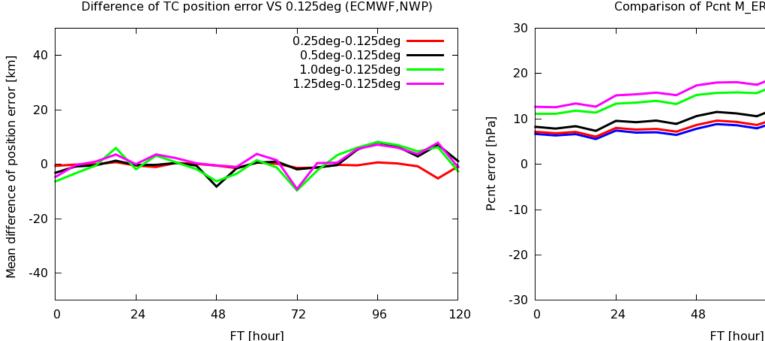
Difference of mean position error [km] from that of 3 hourly TC track *Inhomogeneous sample* 

There is no discernable difference among mean position errors of 3, 6 and 12 hourly TC track

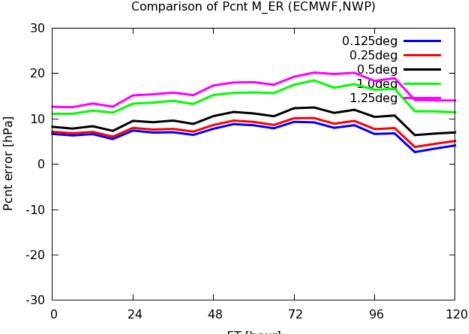




## Dependency on horizontal resolution



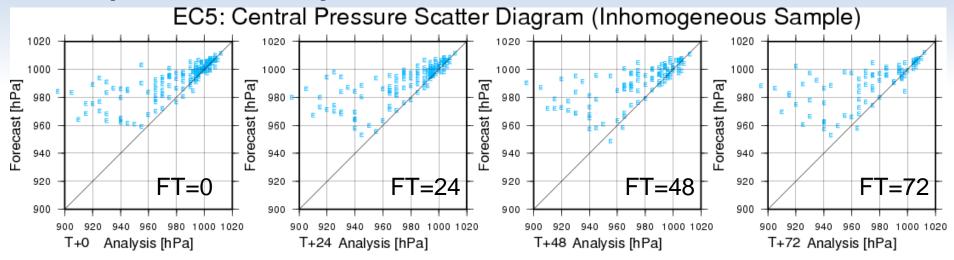
FT [hour] Difference of mean TC position error [km] using various horizontal resolution (vs 0.125 deg., ECMWF, WNP basin)



Central pressure forecast bias [hPa] using various horizontal resolution Homogeneous sample

- There is little dependency on the horizontal resolution for mean TC position error.
- Large systematic dependency on the horizontal resolution for central pressure forecast.
  - Larger bias for coarser resolution.

## Dependency on horizontal resolution



Resolution: 1.25 degree

Scatter plot of central pressure forecast (vertical axis) and the analyzed central pressure (horizontal axis). (ECMWF, WNP basin)

- Central pressure forecast bias for strong TCs is increased when the horizontal resolution changes from 0.125 degrees to 0.25 degrees.
- Using the coarser GPVs resulted in larger central pressure forecast bias.
- We need special cautions when comparing the TC intensity bias using GPVs with different horizontal resolution.





## **BACKUP SLIDES 2**

Comparison of cyclone density in Tropics

### Cyclone detection using 850 hPa winds

#### 1. Detection method

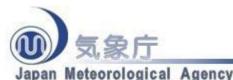
- 1) Interpolate all forecast fields to 1.25x1.25 lat-lon grids
- 2) Search grid points where
  - mean sea-level pressure (MSLP) becomes minimum within 500 km radius,
  - its minimum value is at least 0.5 hPa less than average MSLP within 500 km radius, and
  - average 850 hPa relative vorticity within 300 km is larger than 30x10<sup>-6</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> (opposite sign for Southern Hemisphere)

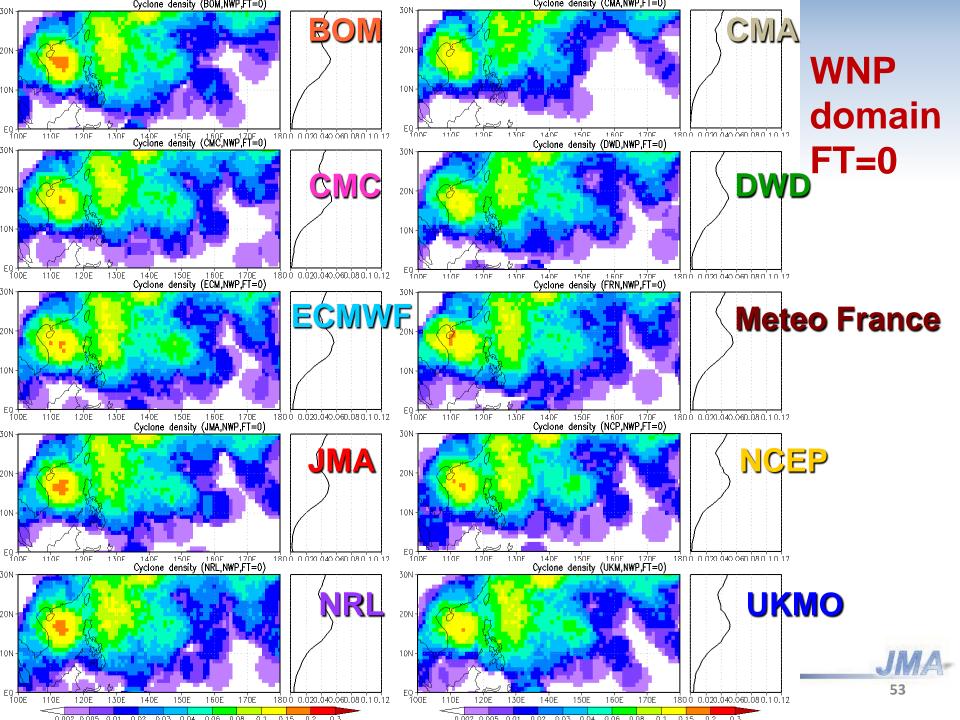
#### 2. Verification method

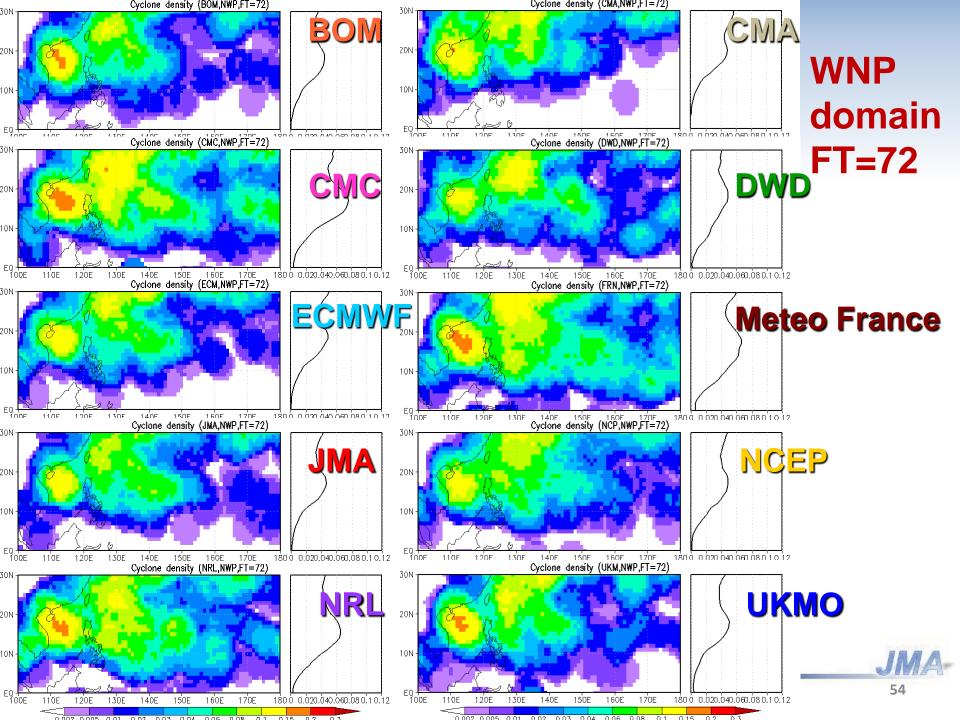
Compare the average number of forecast cyclone center positions within 500 km

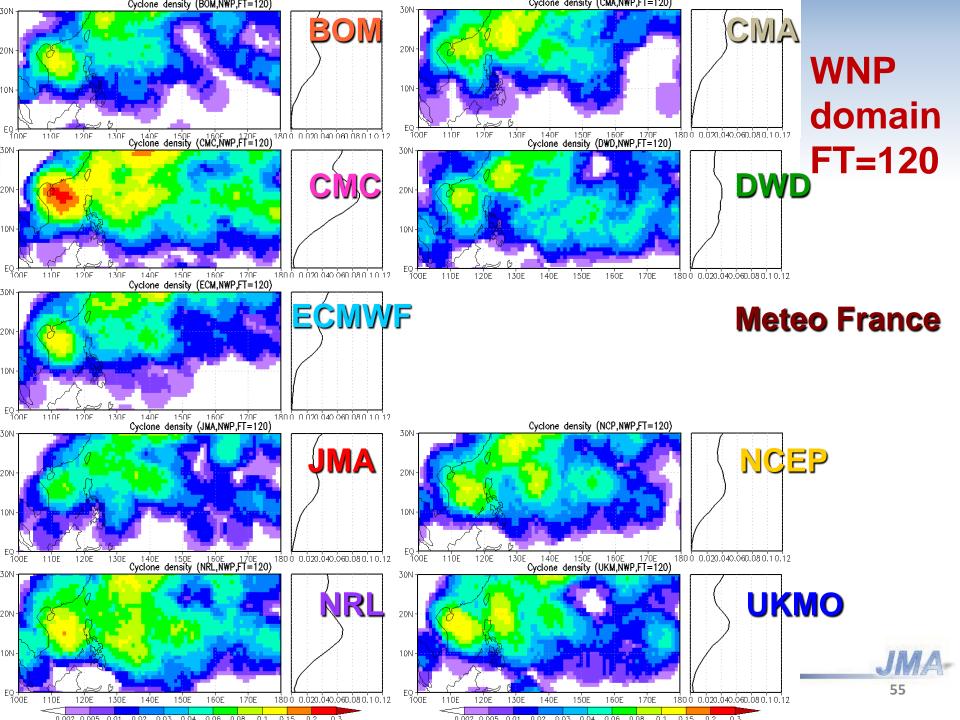
#### 3. Periods

Northern Hemisphere: from May 1, 2013 to November 30, 2013 Southern Hemisphere: from December 1, 2012 to March 31, 2013

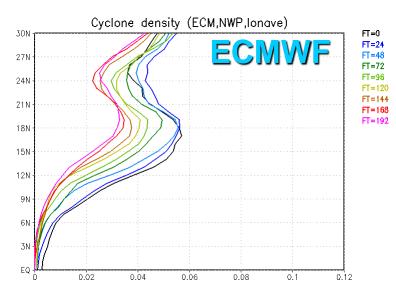


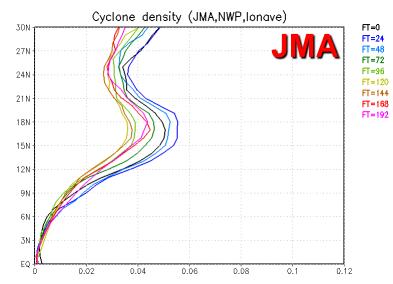


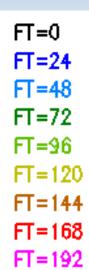


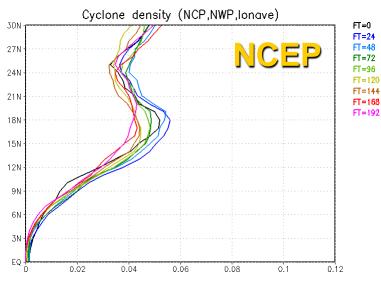


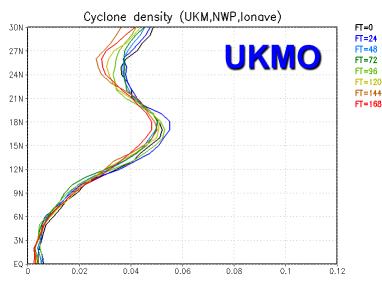
## Comparison of 4 NWP centers (WNP)

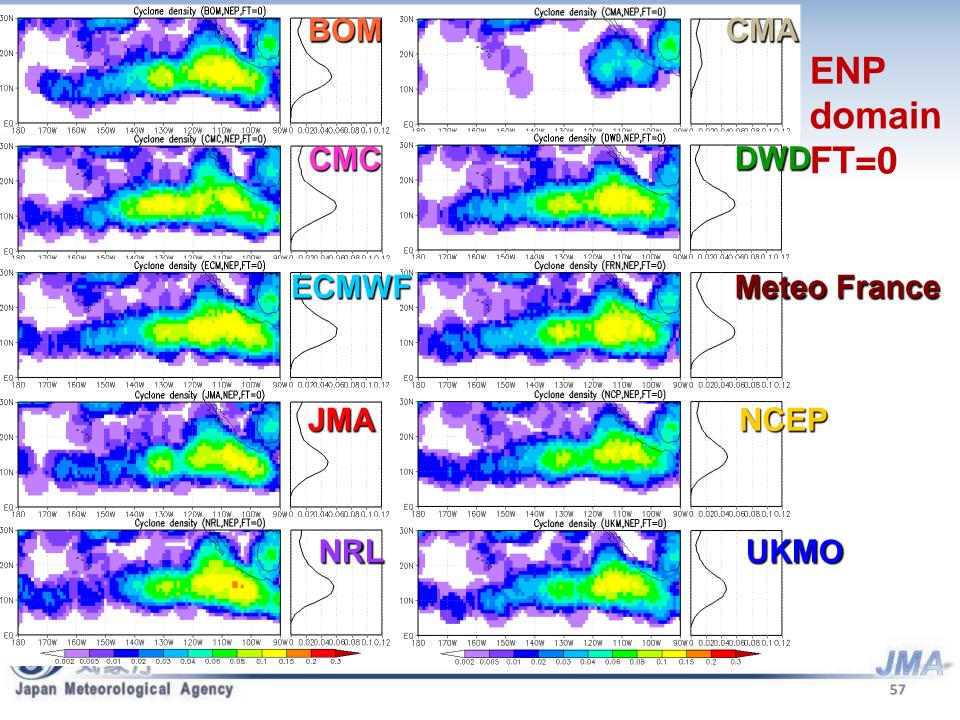


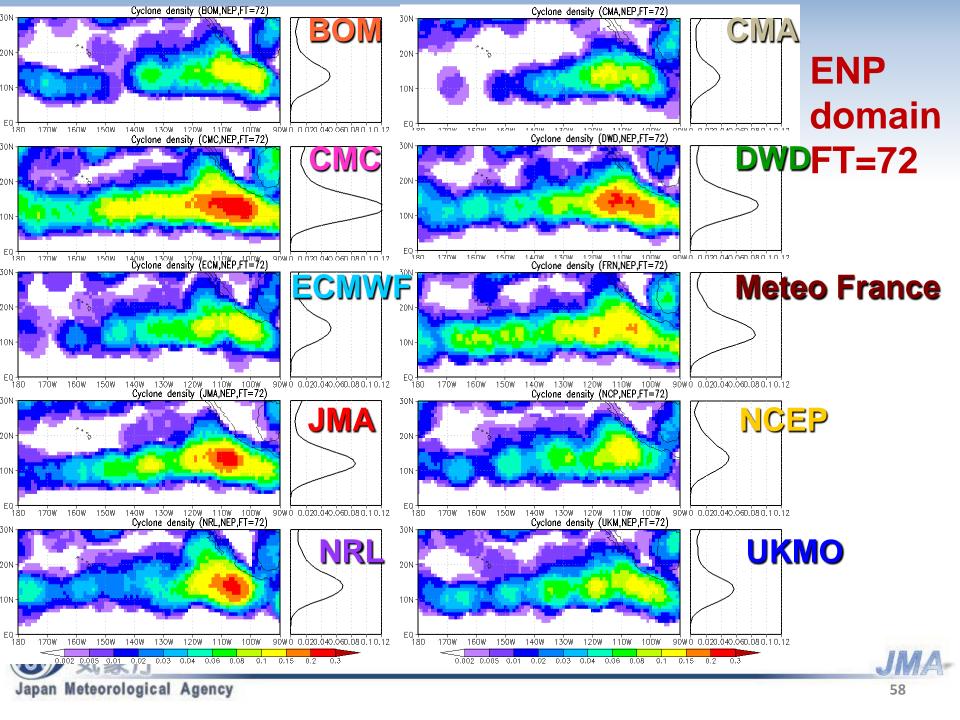


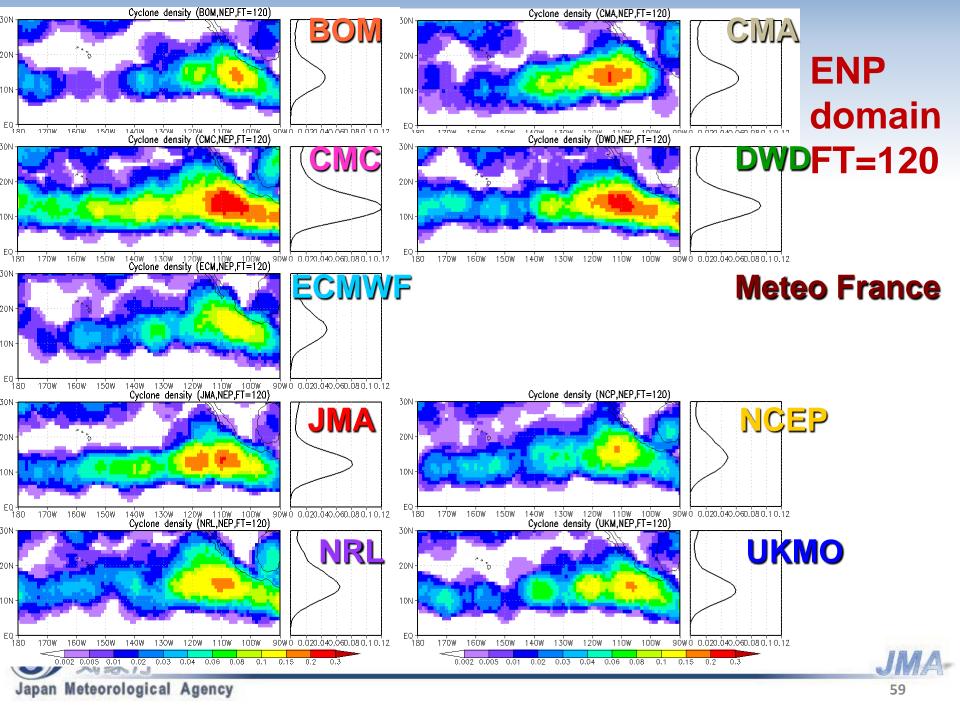




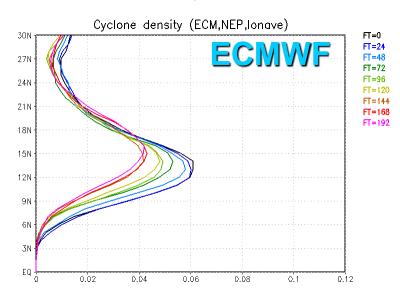


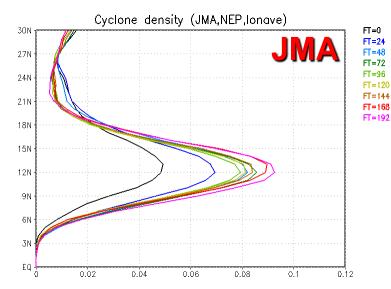


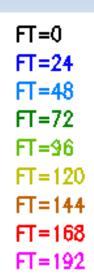


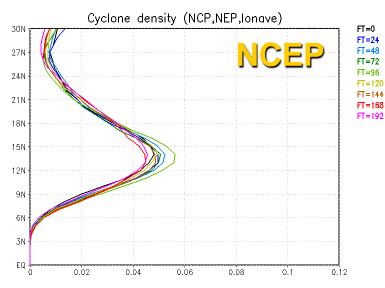


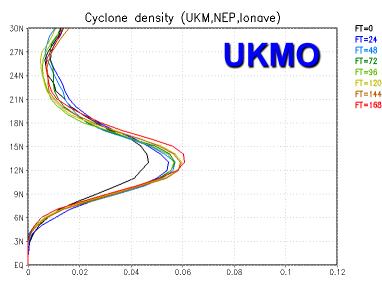
## Comparison of 4 NWP centers (ENP)

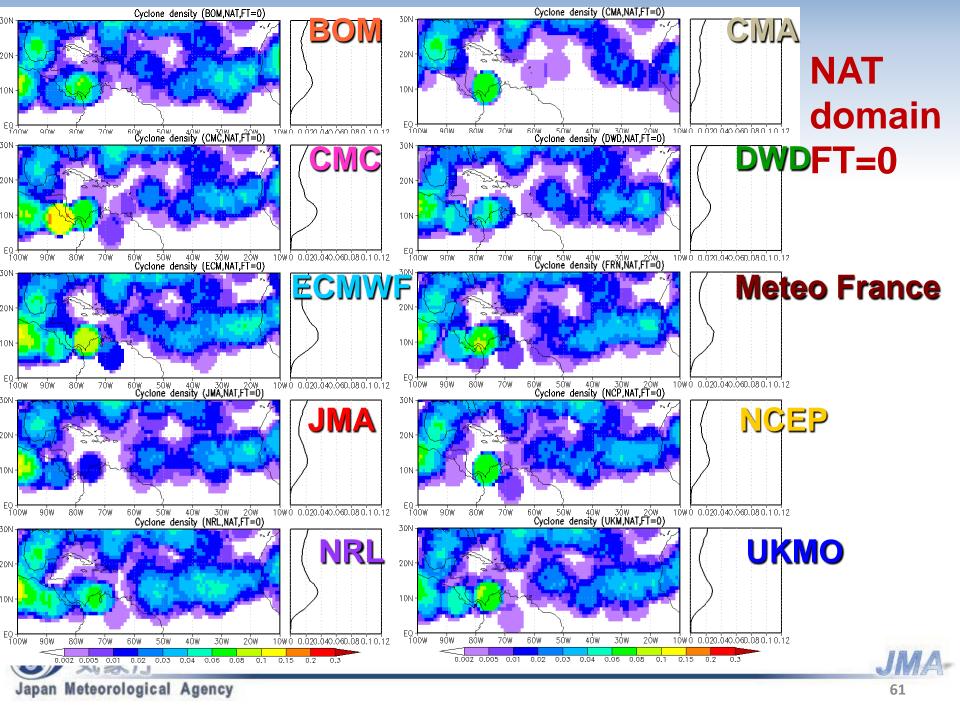


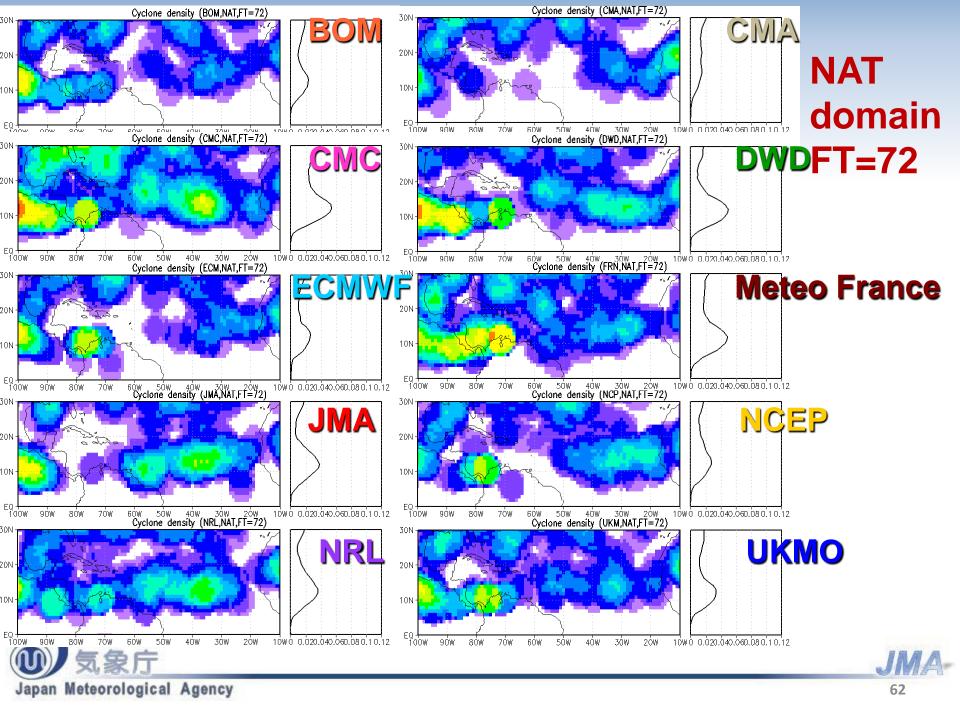


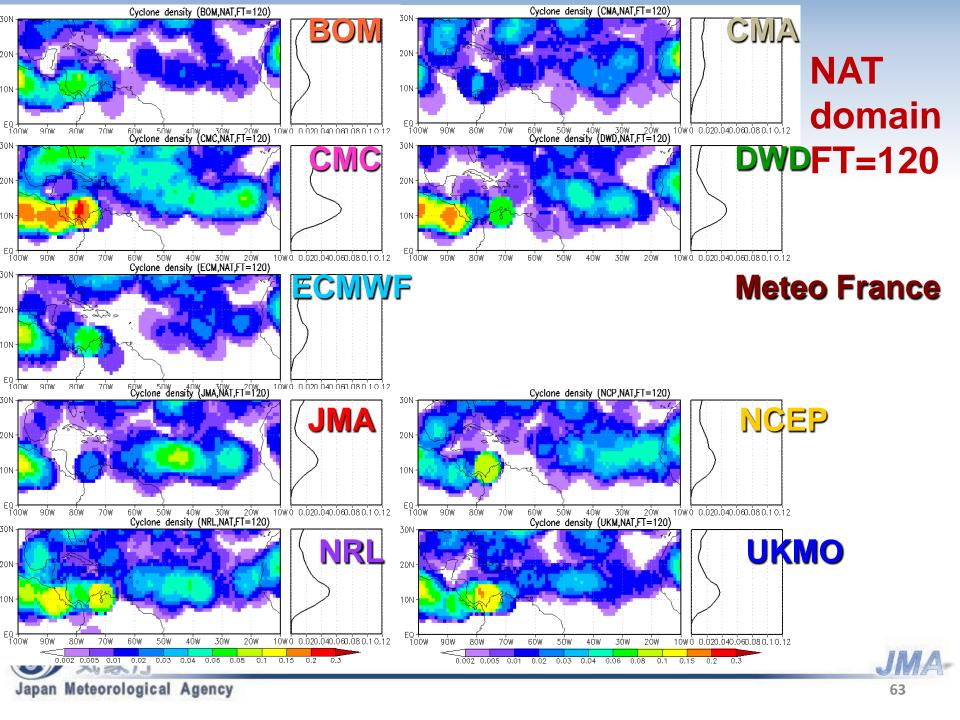




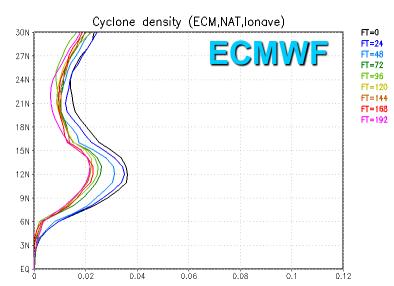


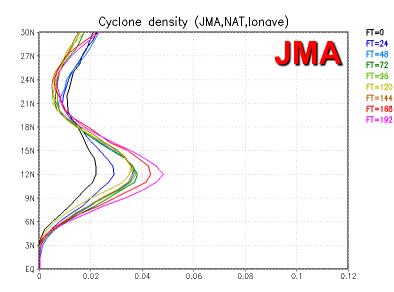


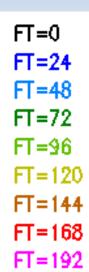


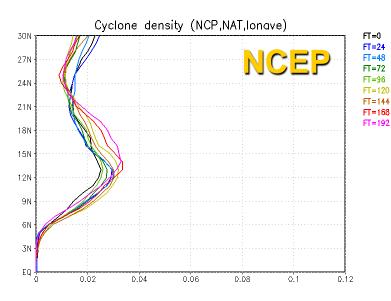


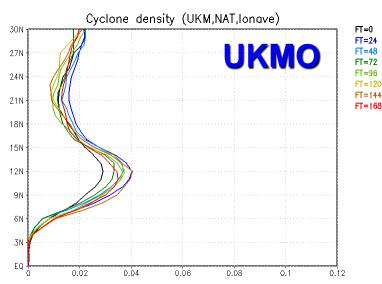
## Comparison of 4 NWP centers (NAT)

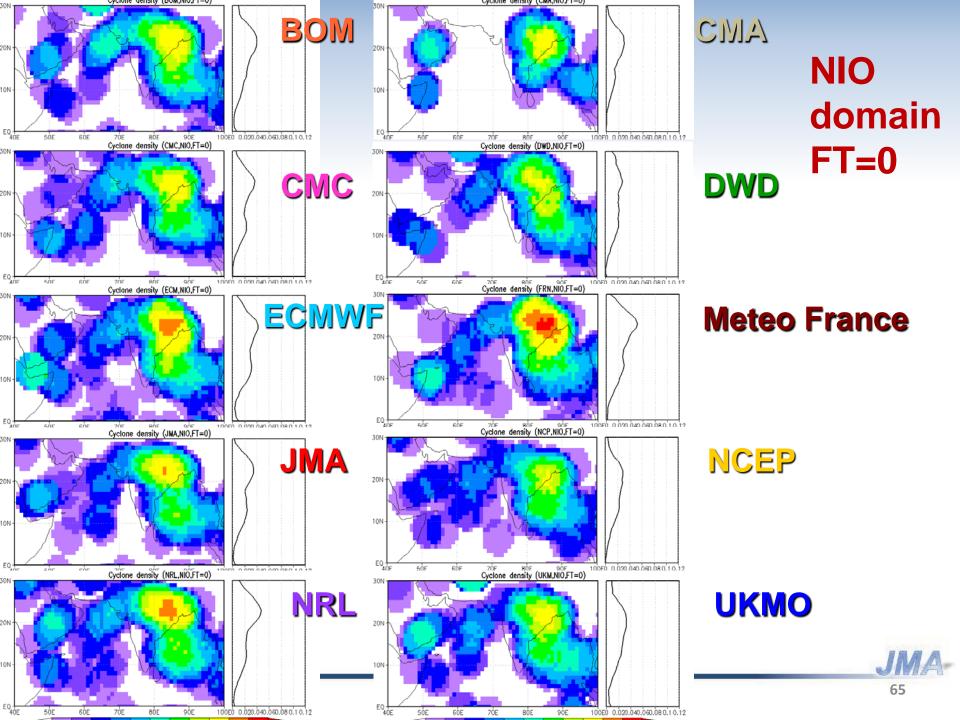


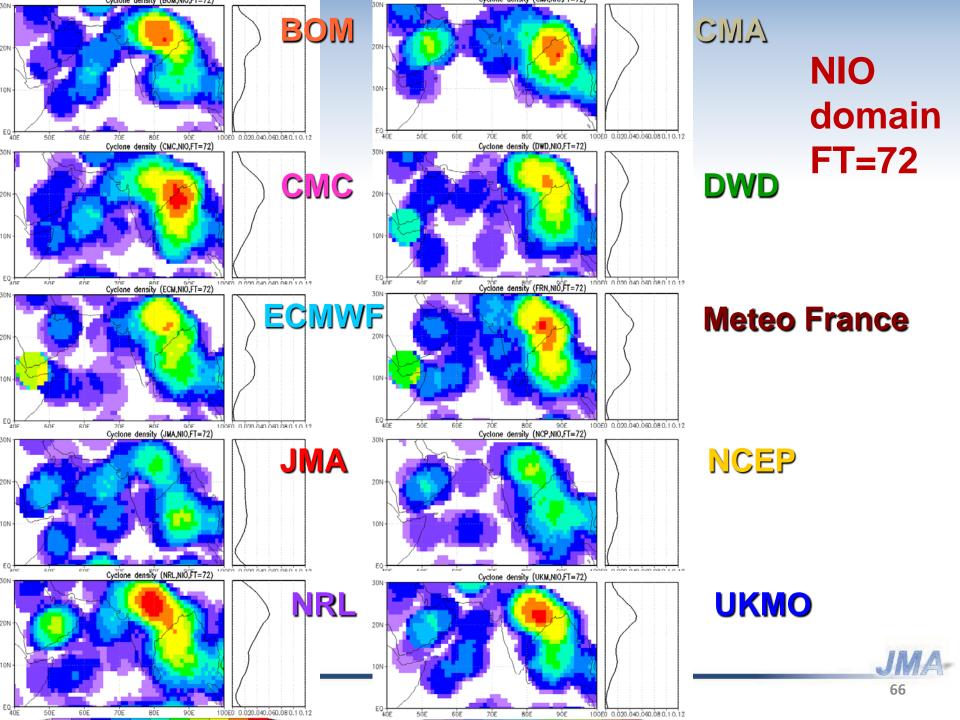


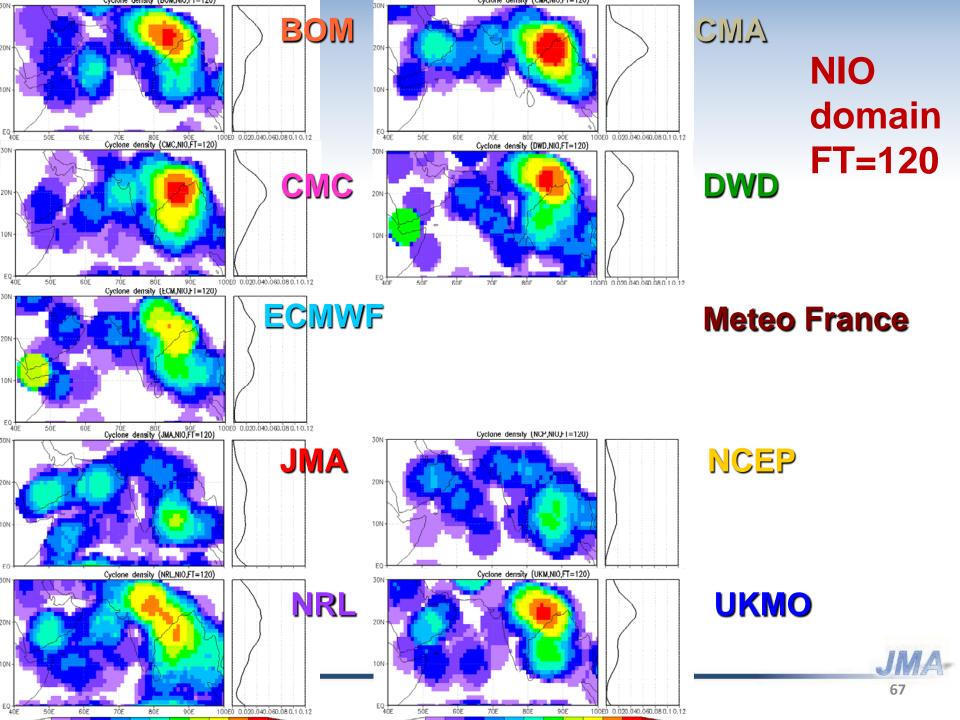




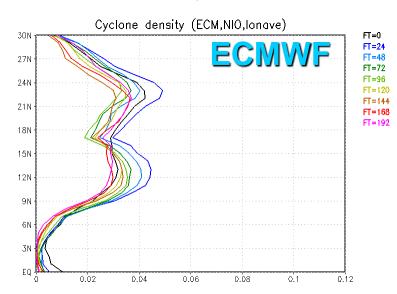


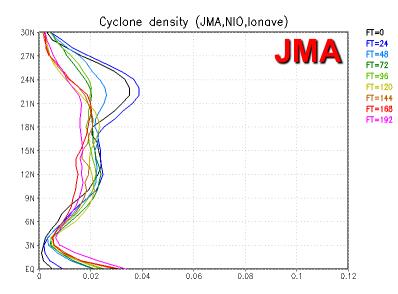


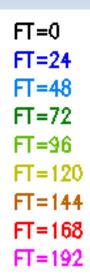


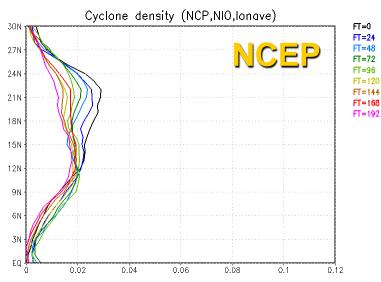


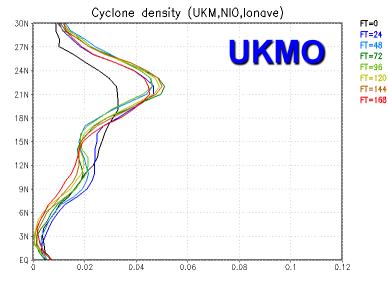
## Comparison of 4 NWP centers (NIO)



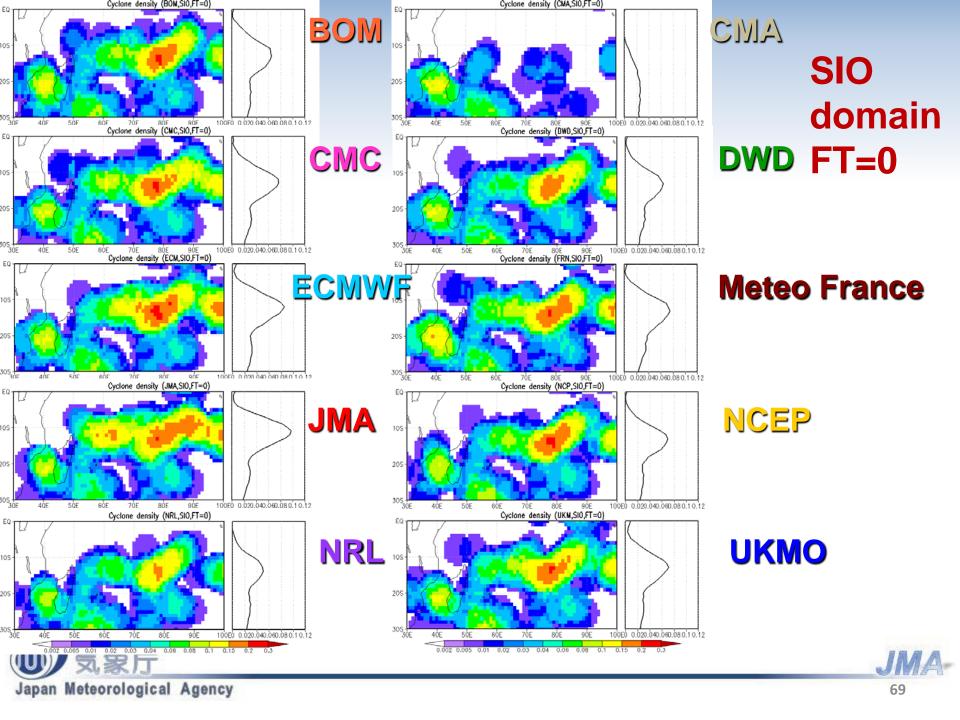


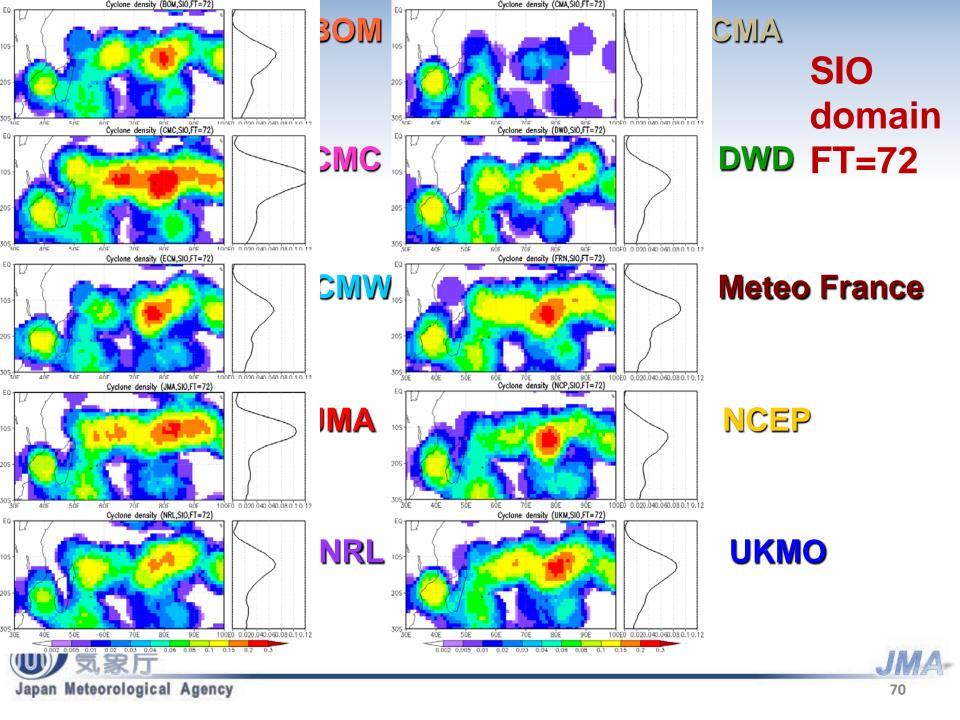


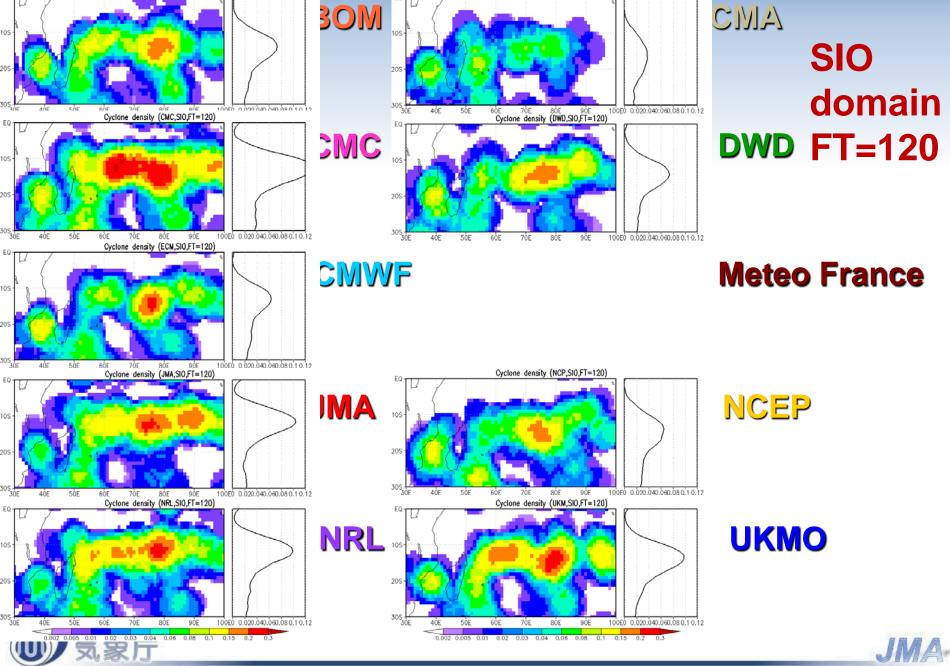








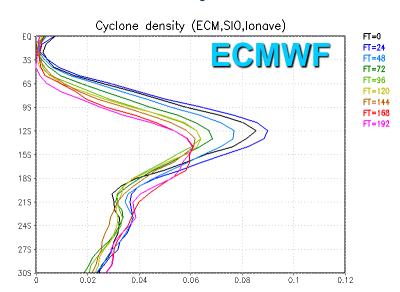


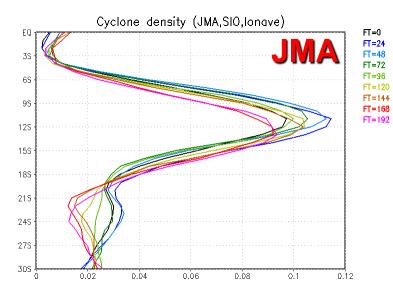


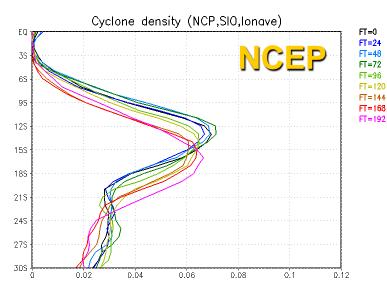
Cyclone density (CMA,SIO,FT=120)

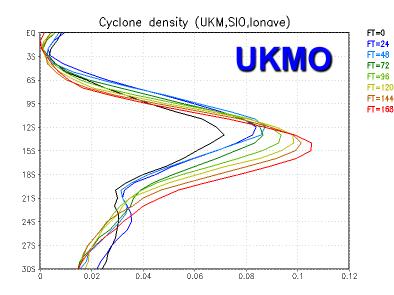
Cyclone density (BOM,SIO,FT=120)

## Comparison of 4 NWP centers (SIO)











FT=0

FT=24

FT=48

FT=72

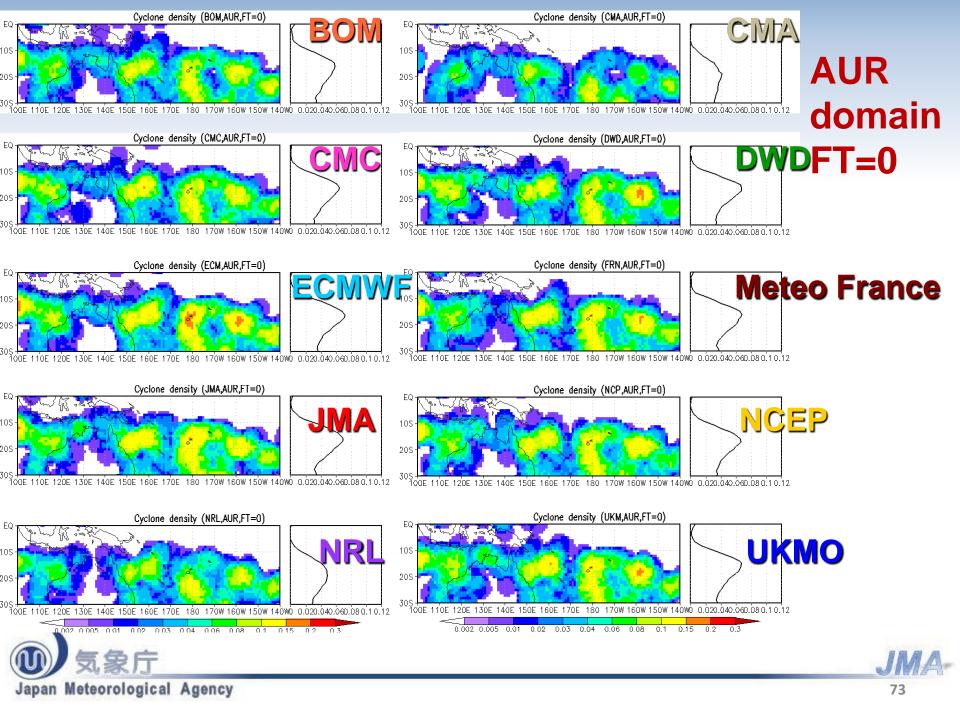
FT=96

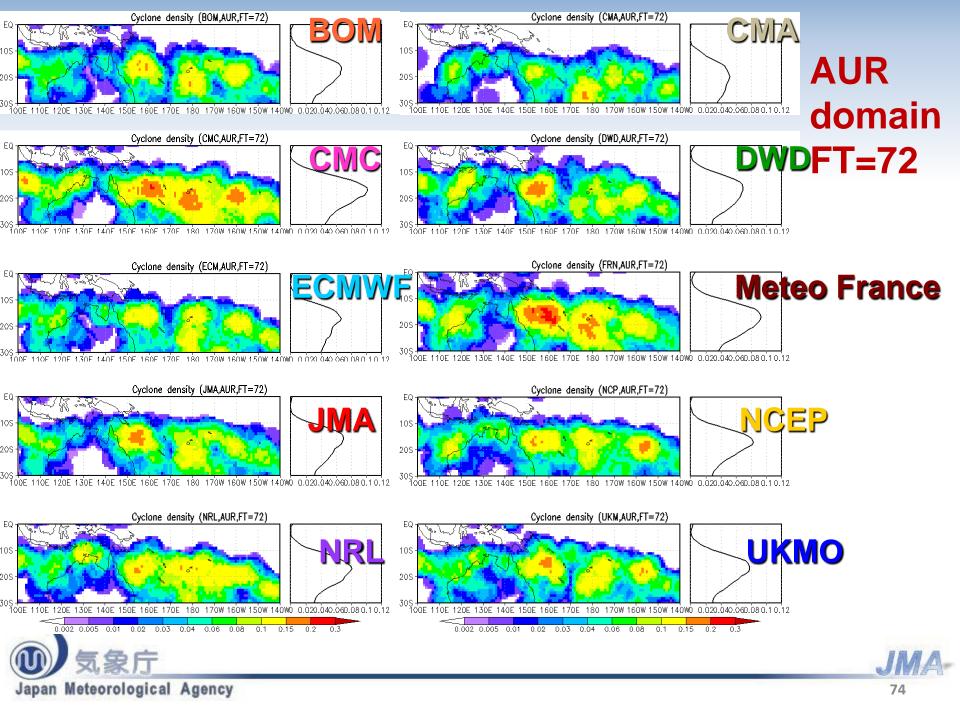
FT = 120

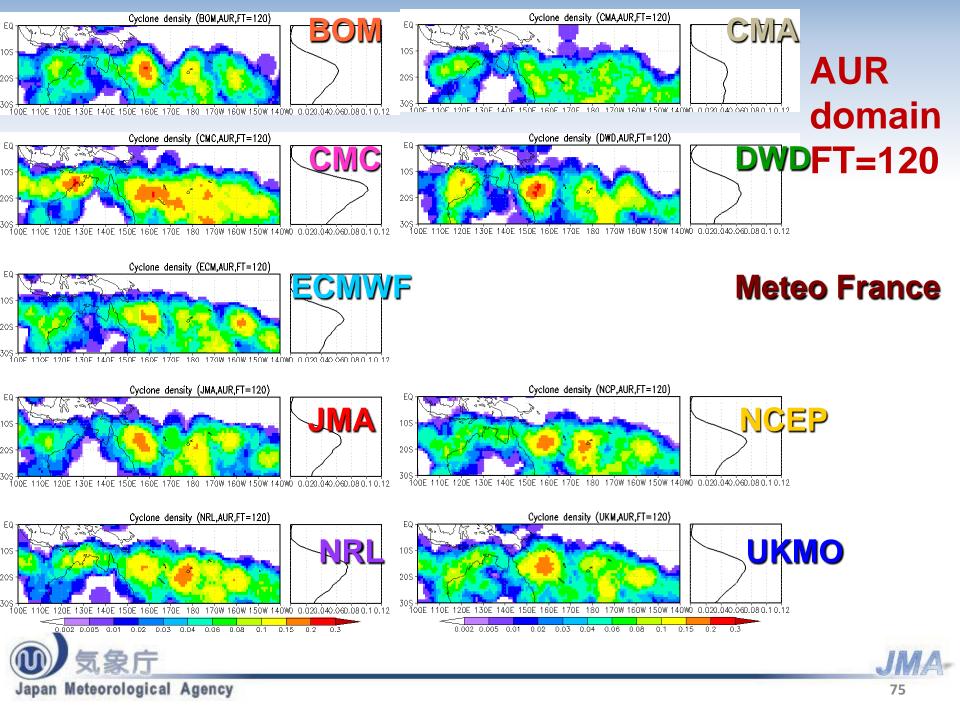
FT=144

FT=168

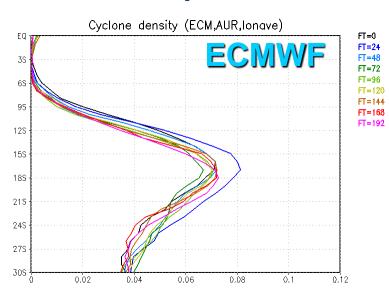
FT=192

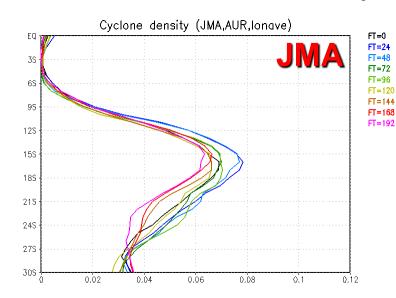


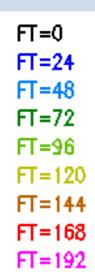


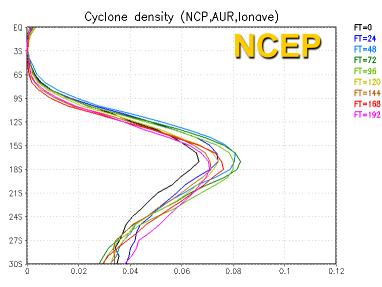


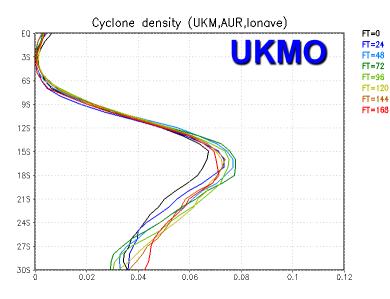
#### Comparison of 4 NWP centers (AUR)











#### JMA (2013)

0.02

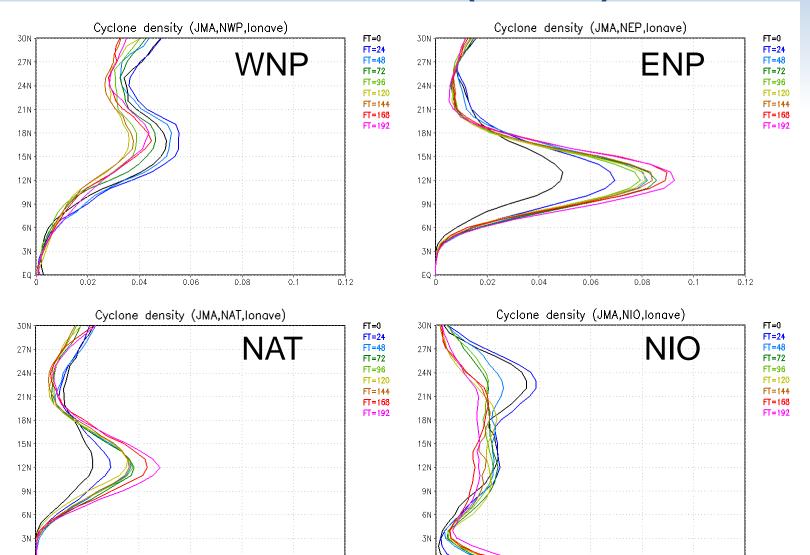
0.04

0.06

0.08

0.1

0.12



0.04

0.06

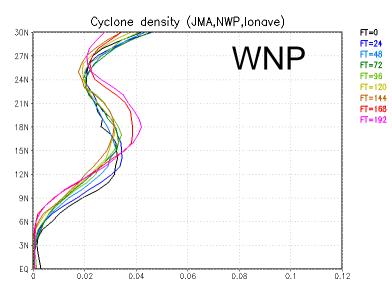
0.08

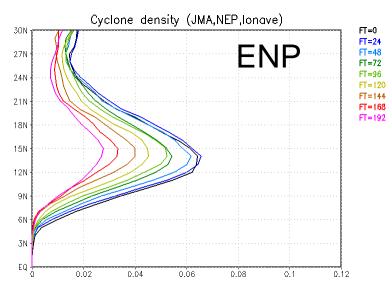
0.1

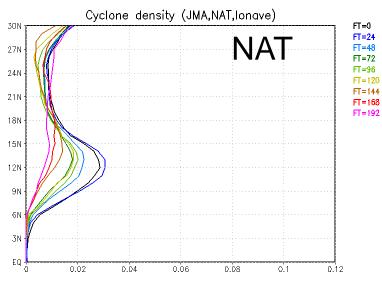
0.12

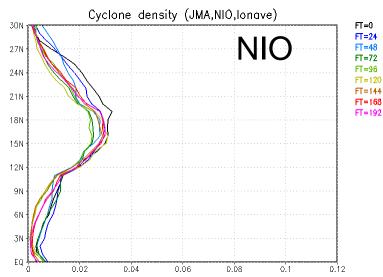
0.02

# JMA (2014)

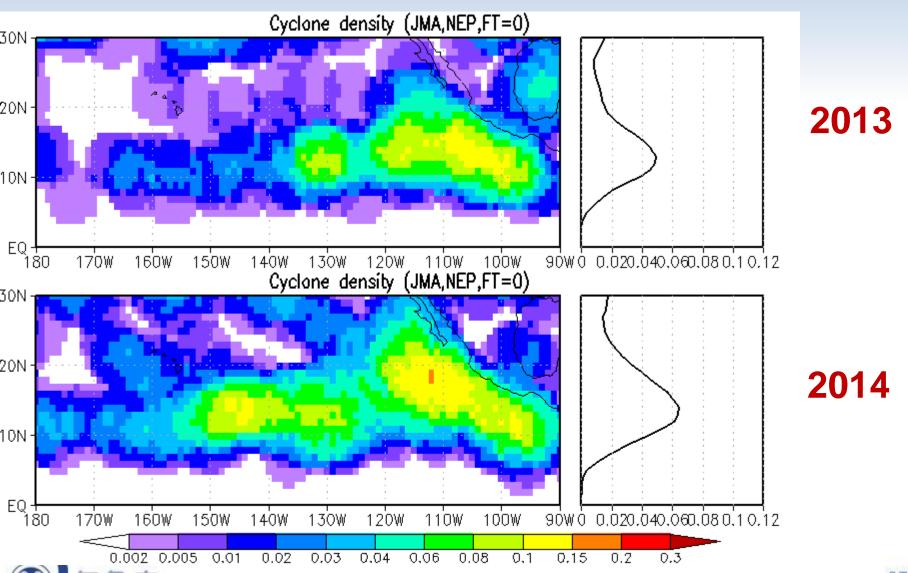




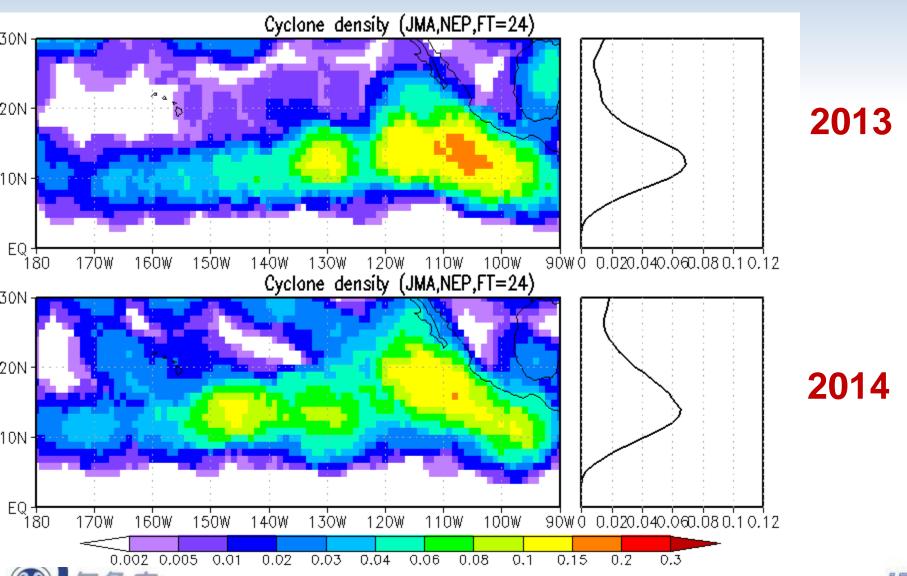




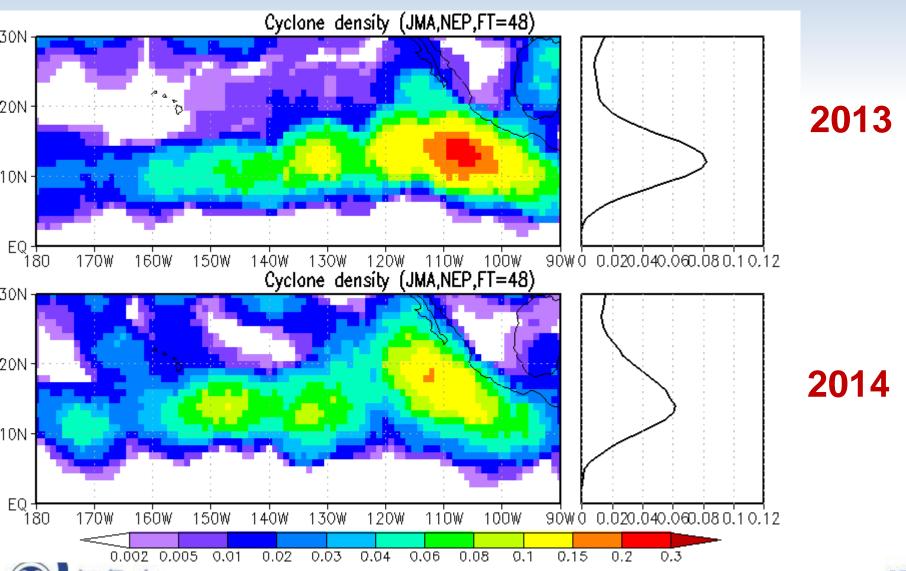
# JMA (ENP, 2013 VS 2014, FT=0)



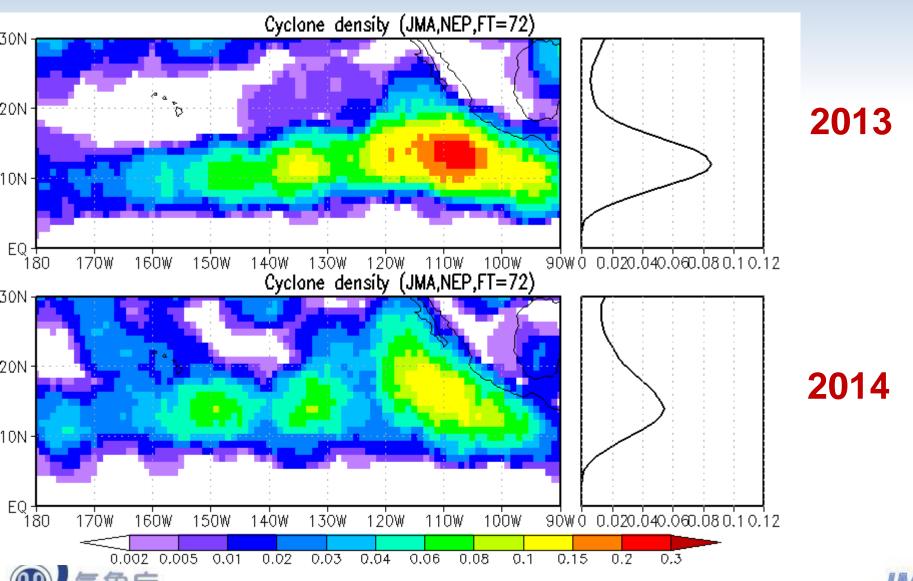
#### JMA (ENP, 2013 VS 2014, FT=24)



#### JMA (ENP, 2013 VS 2014, FT=48)

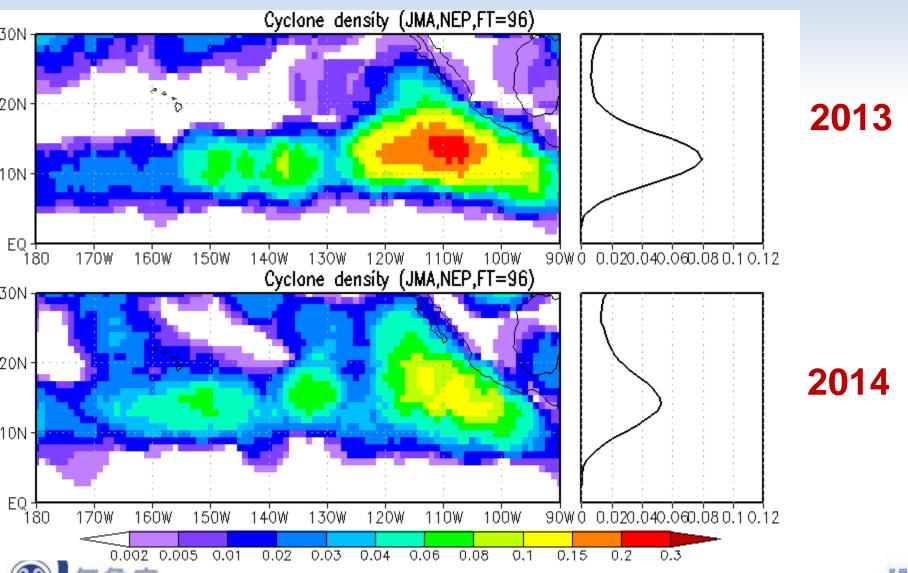


# JMA (ENP, 2013 VS 2014, FT=72)

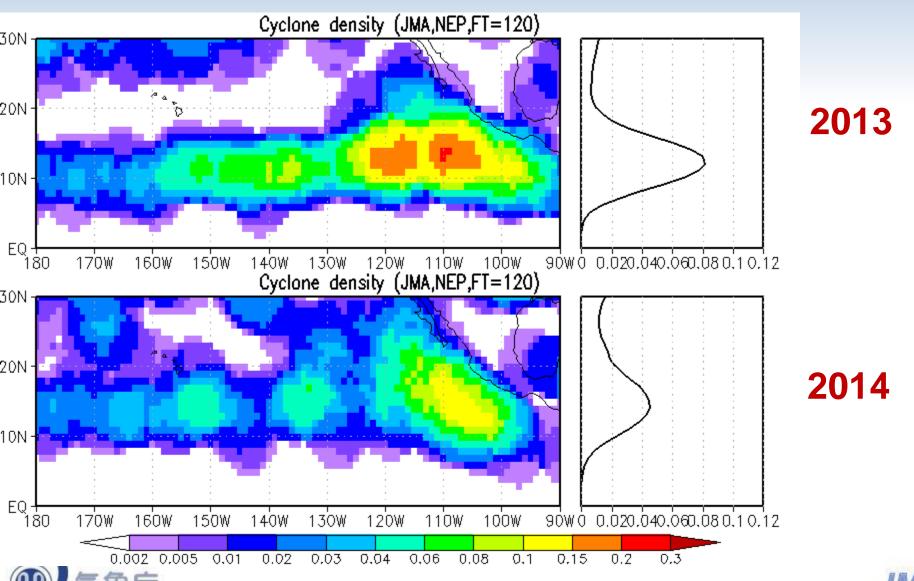


Japan Meteorological Agency

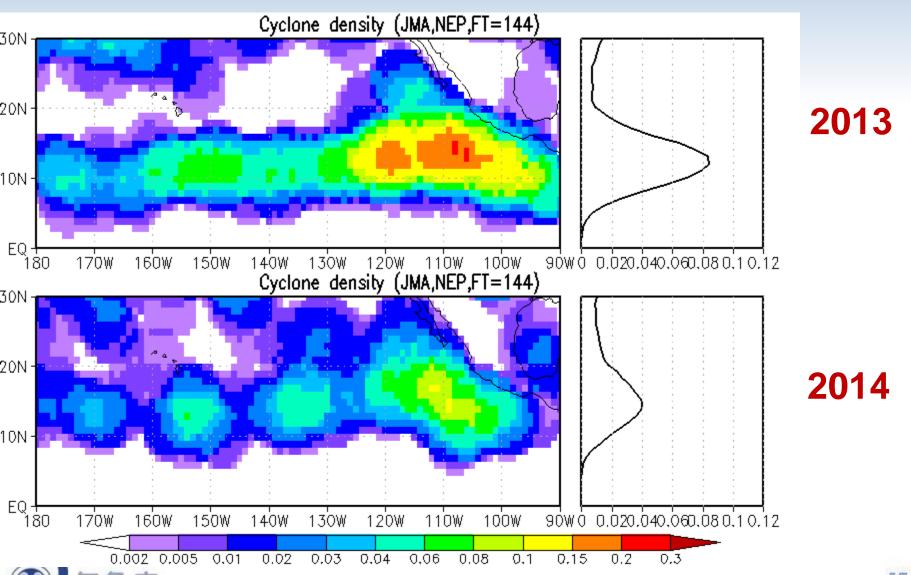
#### JMA (ENP, 2013 VS 2014, FT=96)



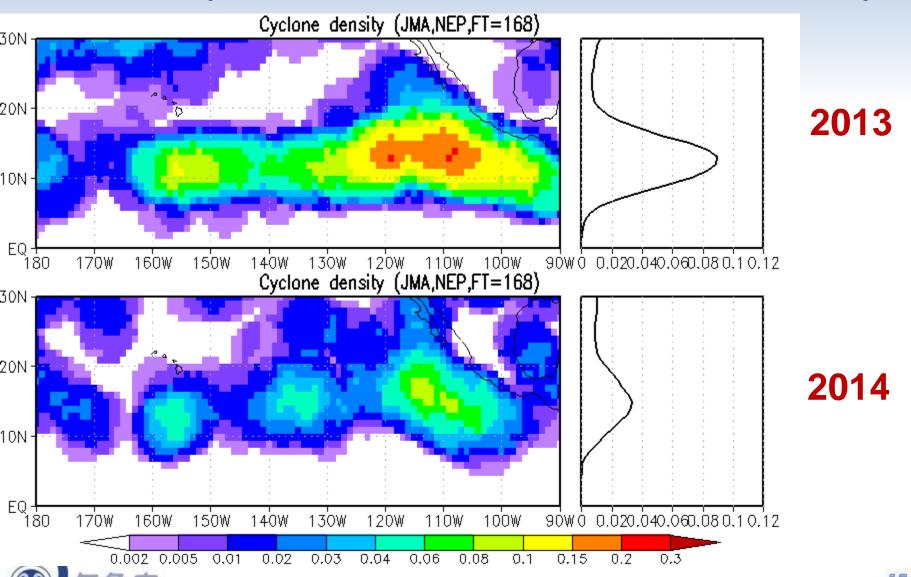
# JMA (ENP, 2013 VS 2014, FT=120)



# JMA (ENP, 2013 VS 2014, FT=144)



#### JMA (ENP, 2013 VS 2014, FT=168)



# JMA (ENP, 2013 VS 2014, FT=192)

