3 Kelvin-Type disturbances observed from October to December in 2006

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Background

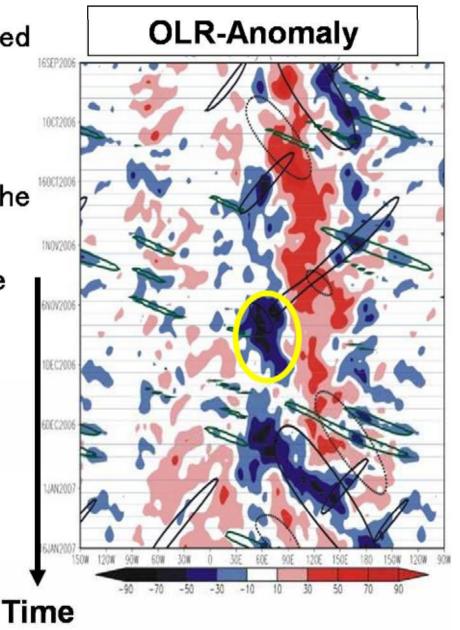
 MISMO: Field experiment conducted in the central equatorial Indian Ocean during October—December 2006

MJO onset was observed during the MISMO.

 Focus: Influence of the large scale motion

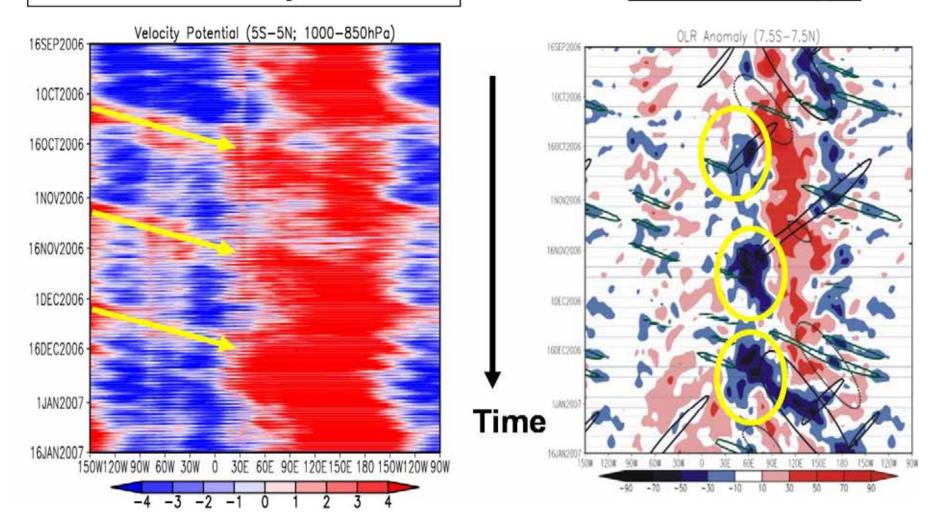
Data:

- Dynamical fields : JCDAS (Japan Meteorological Agency Climat Data Assimilation System)
- Precipitable water: SSM/I
- Cloud: OLR, Global-TBB



Low-level Velocity Potential

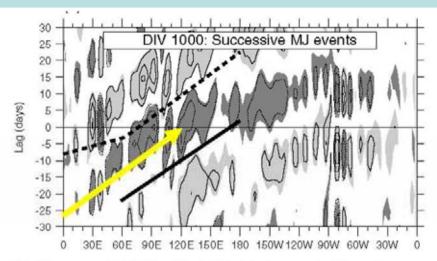
OLR-Anomaly



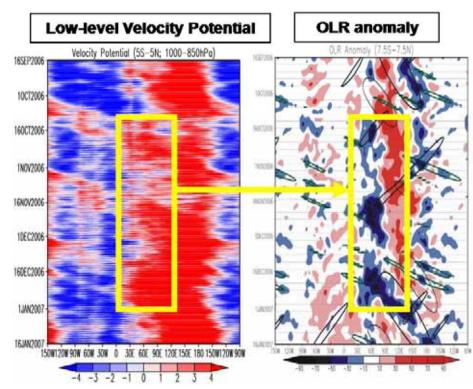
- VP shows clear eastward-propagating signal.
- Positive VP indicates the large-scale convergence.
- The positive VP propagates into the Indian Ocean 3 times.
- Convective activity is enhanced, when the positive VP arrives.

Motivation

- Several investigations point out that eastward-propagating low-level convergence is critical to start a MJO.
- MJO did not necessarily develop, although the arrival of the positive VP promotes the development of cloud cluster over the Indian ocean.
- Question
 - What is the further requirement to MJO onset and development?
- The comparison among the 3 case will give us an insight into MJOonset and development over the Indian Ocean.
- The phase relationship and vertical structure indicate that the eastwardpropagating VPs are associated with the Kelvin-type disturbance.



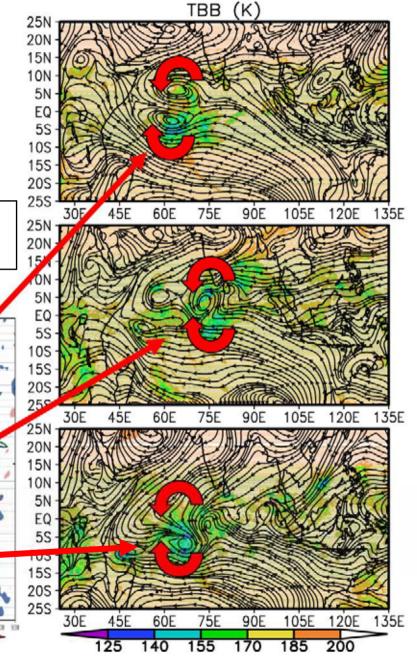
Matthews (2008, Q.J.R. Meteorol. Soc.)



Rossby-wave-type disturbances

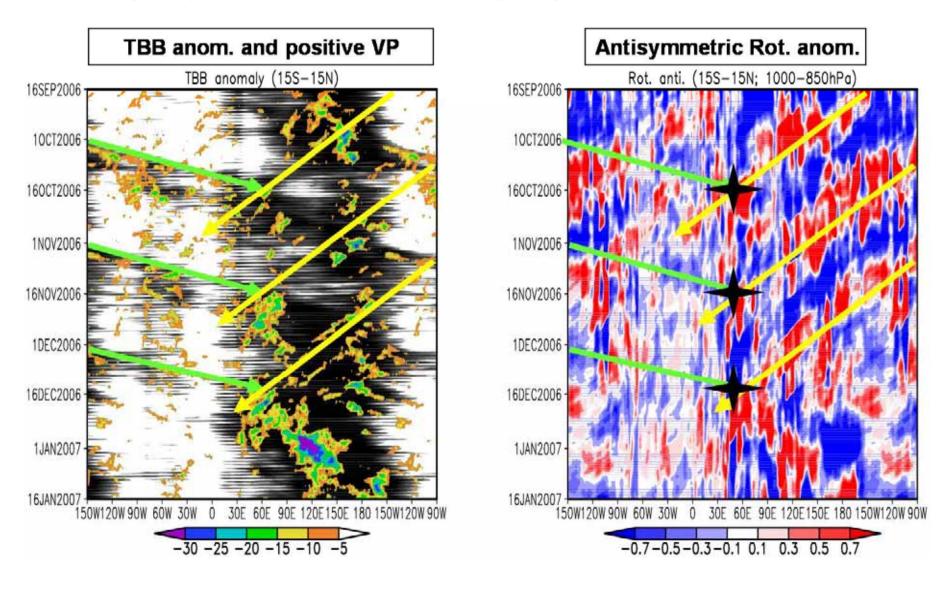
- In the all 3 cases, twin vortex developed over the western Indian Ocean.
- The vortex propagated or broke out over the Indian Ocean?

Snapshot of the cloud cluster in the each case



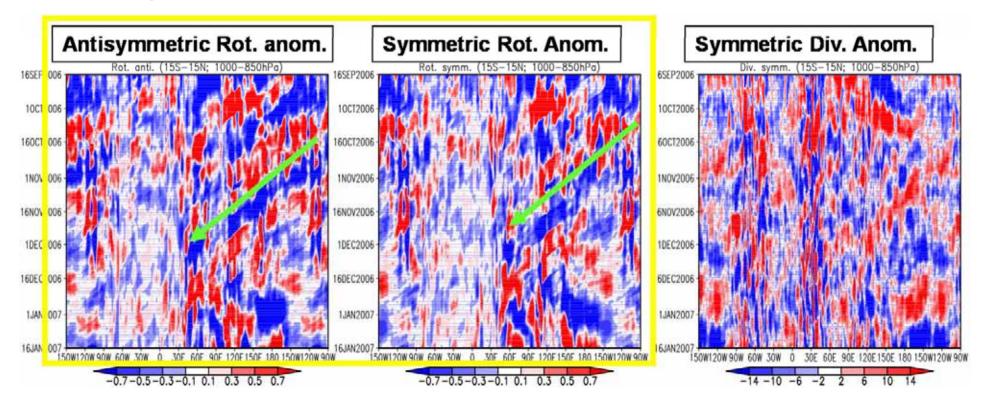
Westward-propagating signal of vorticity

- Vorticity shows the clear westward-propagating signal.
- Cloud clusters developed at the intersection of the eastwardpropagating VP and westward-propagating Vor.



W.-P. Vor. is associated with the Equatorial Rossby wave?

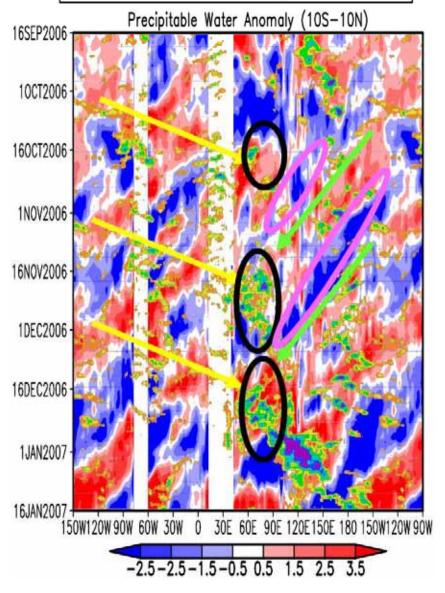
- Westward-propagating signal is clearer in the rotation field than the divergence field.
- Westward-propagating signal is more distinct in the symmetric field than the antisymmetric field.
- Propagation speeds is about 5 degrees per day.
- The signal is associated with the equatorial Rossby wave?



Westward-propagating signal of PW

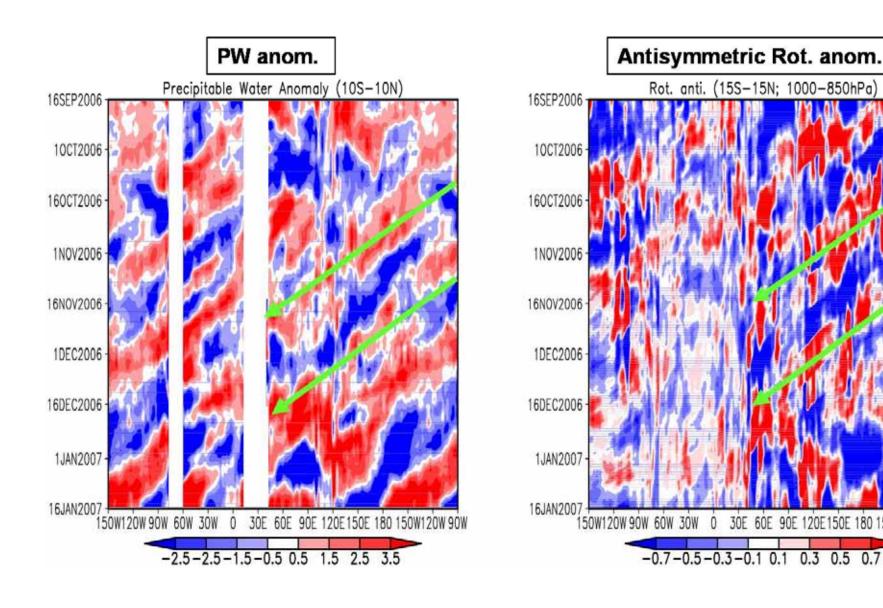
- Water vapor is one of the important factors to the convection activity.
- Associated with the positive VP, PW propagates eastward in the western hemisphere.
- Westward propagating signal is clear in the eastern hemisphere.
- Positive PW coincides with the convectively active area.
- The westward-propagating PWs precondition the MJOs in Nov and Dec, and enhance the convection at the intersection.
- There is no preconditioning signal in Oct.
- Negative PW inhibits the convection and stop the MJO around the maritimecontinent in Nov.

Precipitable Water (PW) Anomaly



Relationship between PW and antisymmetric Vor.

- Propagation speed of the PW is approximately equal to that of the vorticity.
- Both fields are controlled by the same wave ?

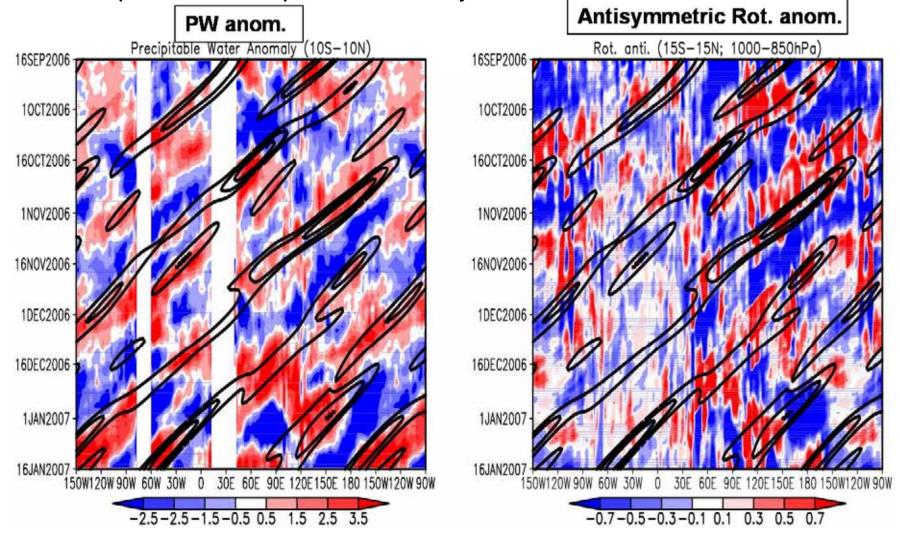


Mode-filtered OLR anomaly

 OLR anomaly associated with the equatorial Rossby wave agree with the positive signals of PW and rotation.

This result also supports that the westward-propagating signals

correspond to the equatorial Rossby wave.



Summary

- The positive VP propagates into the Indian Ocean 3 times.
- Convective activity is enhanced, when the positive VP arrives.
- MJO did not necessarily develop, although the arrival of the positive VP promotes the development of cloud cluster over the Indian ocean.
- 1st arrival of positive VP

The cloud cluster (Not MJO) developed at the intersection of the positive Vor. and VP.

No preconditioning by the westward-propagating wave

2nd arrival of positive VP

The cloud cluster (MJO) developed at the intersection of the positive Vor. and VP.

Preconditioning by the westward-propagating wave

Negative PW anomaly and MJO meet around the maritime-continent, and MJO stops there.

3rd arrival of positive VP

The cloud cluster (MJO) developed at the intersection of the positive Vor. and VP.

Preconditioning by the westward-propagating wave

Negative PW anomaly and MJO do not meet until the MJO propagates around the date line.

 PW and vorticity associated with the equatorial Rossy wave are important to the MJO onset and development.