Polar Meteorology Group, Byrd Polar Research Center, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

Polar-Optimized WRF*

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 Polar Modeling Lessons from Polar MM5 work

 WRF development simulations for Greenland
Test vs. AWS and Polar MM5
December 2002 (winter)
Jure 2001 (summer)

WRF development in the Arctic SHEBA 1997/98

Work with Polar MM5

- 1. Polar work began with MM4
- 2. MM5 was also adapted for polar applications
 - (1) Real-time forecasting/Operational uses
 - (2) Synoptic studies
 - (3) Regional Climate studies
 - (4) Paleoclimate studies

3. Polar Optimizations to MM5 physics

- (1) Revised cloud / radiation interaction
- (2) Modified explicit ice phase microphysics
- (3) Optimized turbulence (boundary layer) parameterization
- (4) Implementation of a sea ice surface type
- (5) Improved treatment of heat transfer through snow/ice surfaces
- (6) Improved upper boundary treatment

North Atlantic Grids for Greenland Polar WRF Simulations



8th WRF User's Workshop

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Summary of Greenland Simulations

- Following the path of development for Polar MM5, WRF is being optimized for polar applications beginning with Greenland domains.
- Best results for WRF are achieved with the Noah LSM, the MYJ PBL, and the WRF-single moment 5-class microphysics.
- Polar WRF is at least as successful as Polar MM5 for simulations of the Greenland winter surface layer.
- Polar WRF simulations of the Greenland summer surface layer are comparable to those of Polar MM5 when verified with AWS observations, and surface energy balance for Polar WRF is better.

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Noah LSM + YSU PBL + Thompson et al. microphysics

Western Arctic Domain for Comparison with SHEBA observations



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Good Results for January 1998





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Needs for Polar WRF

- Test for Arctic land surfaces
- Test fractional sea ice treatment
- More tests needed for cloud microphysics
- Testing and improvements for subsurface treatment
- Testing with AMPS Antarctic forecasts