

# Initialization for Idealized Cases

Bill Skamarock  
[skamaroc@ucar.edu](mailto:skamaroc@ucar.edu)

Why do we provide idealized cases?

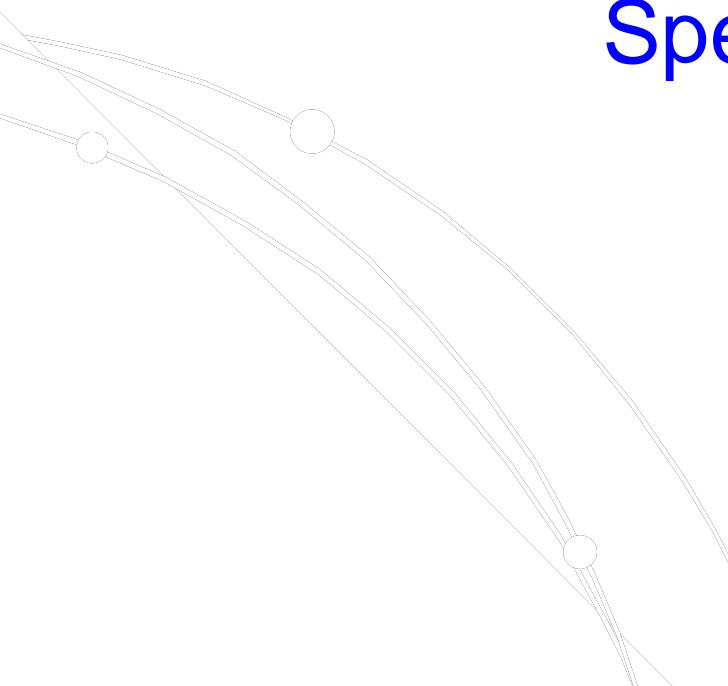
1. The cases provide simple tests of the dynamics solver for a broad range of space and time scale:  
LES -  $\Delta x$  meters,  $\Delta t <$  second;  
Baroclinic waves -  $\Delta x$  100 km,  $\Delta t = 30$  minutes.
2. The test cases reproduce known solutions  
(analytic, converged, or otherwise).
3. The cases provide a starting point for other idealized experiments.

# Color Legend

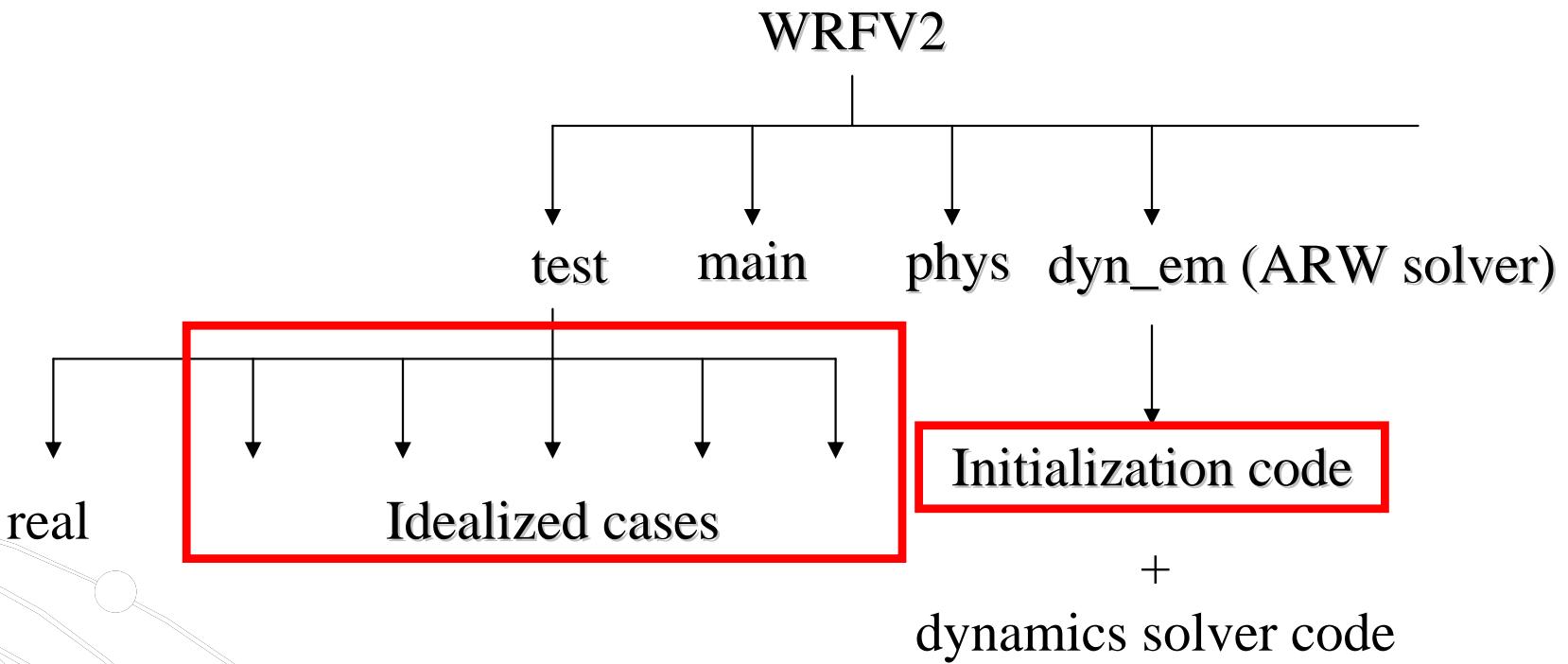
*Directories, Files*

*Commands, Executions*

Special Comments



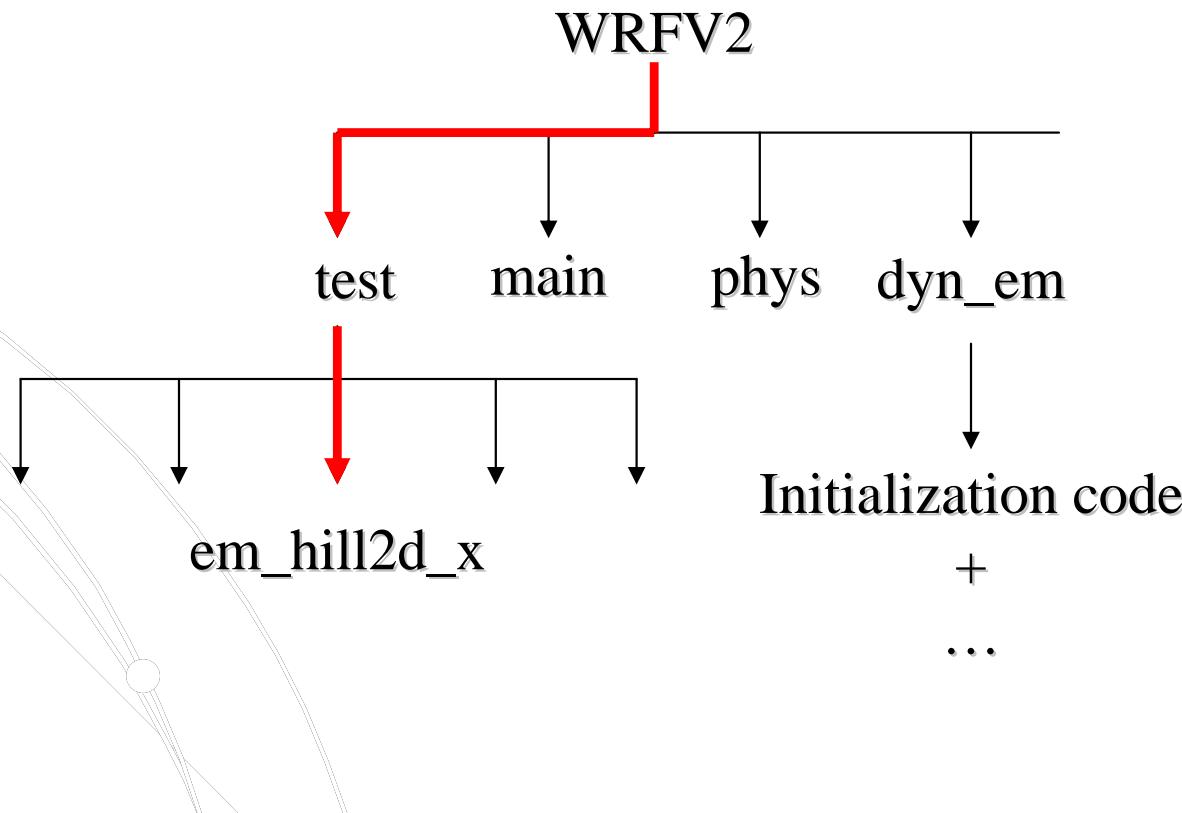
# WRF ARW code



# Test Cases for the WRF ARW Model

- 2D flow over a bell-shaped mountain

*WRFV2/test/em\_hill2d\_x*

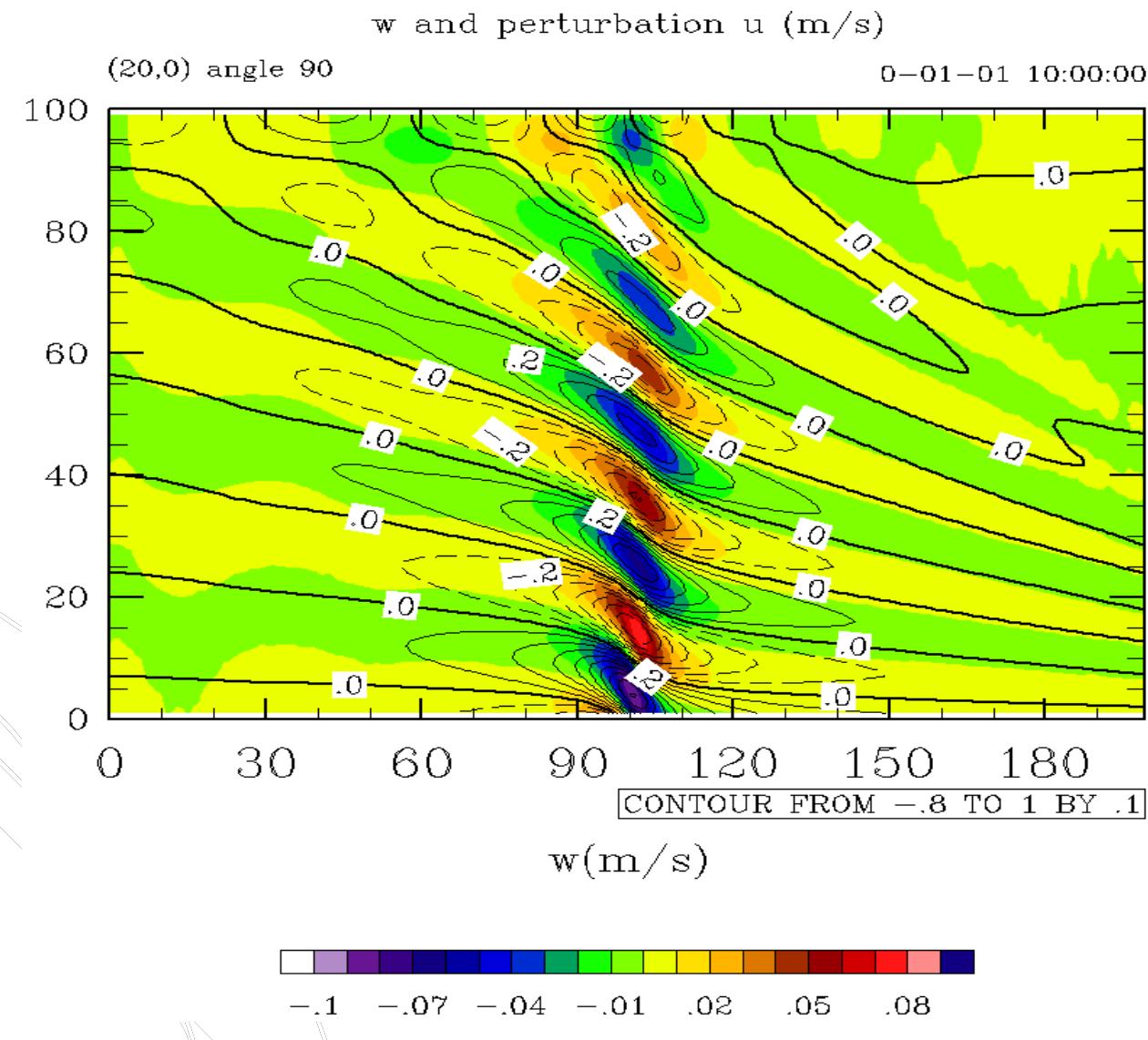


# Test Cases for the WRF ARW Model

- 2D flow over a bell-shaped mountain  
*WRFV2/test/em\_hill2d\_x*
- 2D squall line (x, z ; y, z)  
*WRFV2/test/em\_squall2d\_x*  
*WRFV2/test/em\_squall2d\_y*
- 3D quarter-circle shear supercell thunderstorm  
*WRFV2/test/em\_quarter\_ss*
- 3D baroclinic wave  
*WRFV2/test/em\_b\_wave*
- 2D gravity current  
*WRFV2/test/em\_grav2d\_x*

# 2D Flow Over a Bell-Shaped Mountain

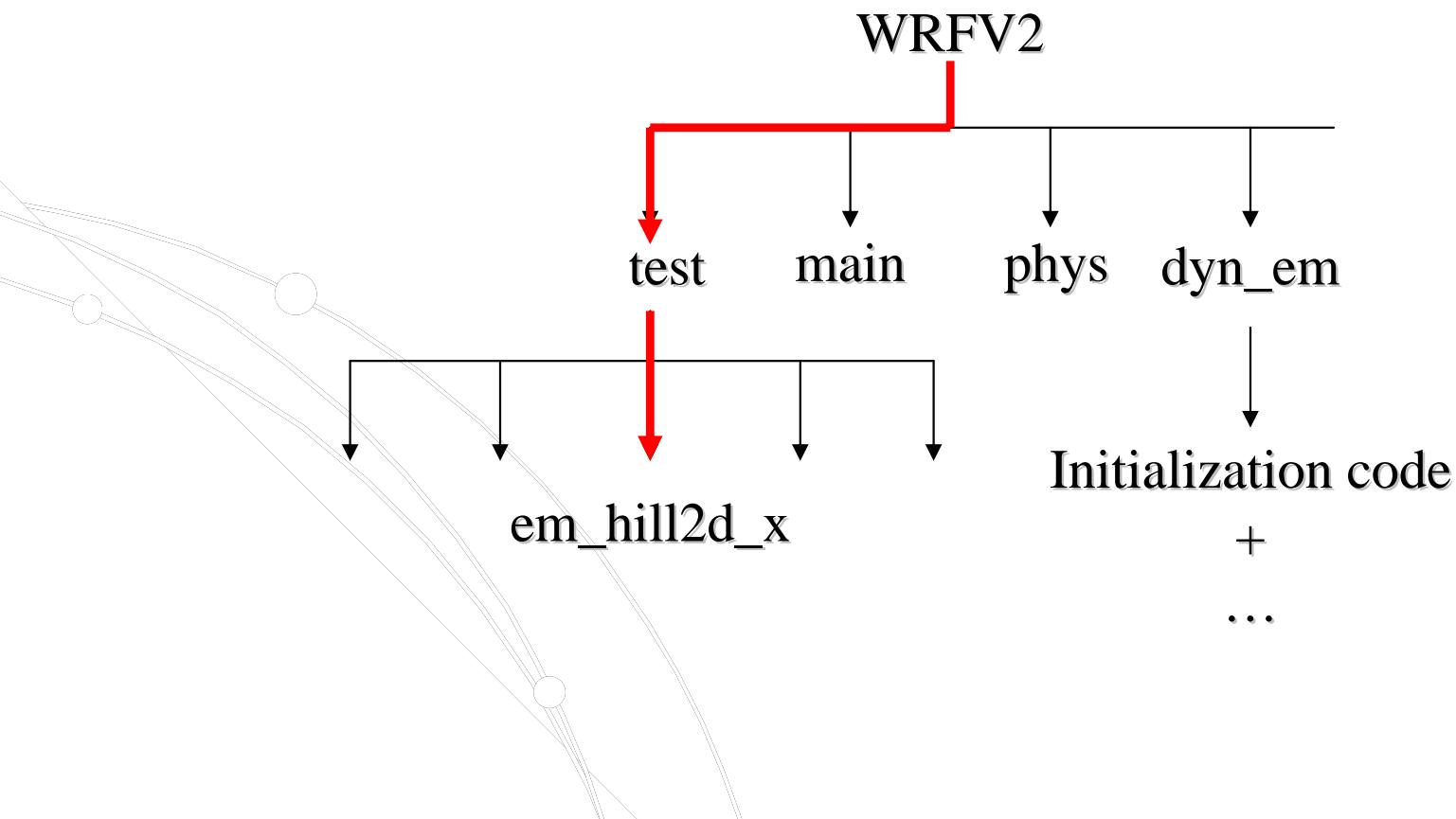
( $\text{dx} = 2 \text{ km}$ ,  $\text{dt} = 20 \text{ s}$ ,  $T=10 \text{ hr}$ )



# Run - 2D Flow Over a Bell-Shaped Mountain

From **WRFV2** - *compile em\_hill2d\_x* ;

From **WRFV2/test/em\_hill2d\_x** – run *ideal.exe*, run *wrf.exe*



# Run 2D Flow Over a Bell-Shaped Mountain

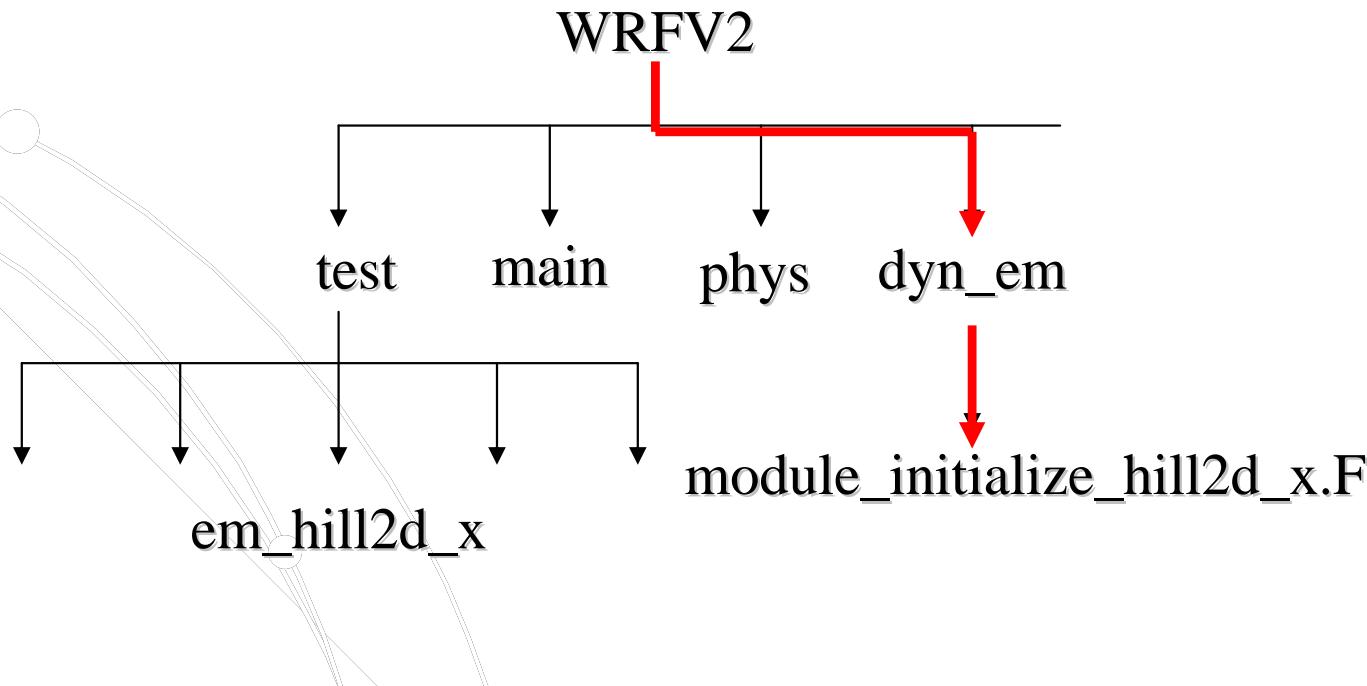
From **WRFV2** - *compile em\_hill2d\_x* ;

From **WRFV2/test/em\_hill2d\_x** – run *ideal.exe*, run *wrf.exe*

Initialization code is in

***WRFV2/dyn\_em/module\_initialize\_hill2d\_x.F***

The terrain profile is set in the initialization code.



# Run 2D Flow Over a Bell-Shaped Mountain

From **WRFV2** - *compile em\_hill2d\_x* ;

From **WRFV2/test/em\_hill2d\_x** – run *ideal.exe*, run *wrf.exe*

Initialization code is in

**WRFV2/dyn\_em/module\_initialize\_hill2d\_x.F**

The terrain profile is set in the initialization code.

The thermodynamic sounding and the initial wind field  
is read from the ascii file

**WRFV2/test/em\_hill2d\_x/input\_sounding**

The 2D solution is computed by integrating the 3D model  
with 3 points in periodic direction y; without an initial  
perturbation in y the solution remains y-independent.

# Setting the terrain heights

In *WRFV2/dyn\_em/module\_initialize\_hill2d\_x.F*

```
SUBROUTINE init_domain_rk ( grid, &  
  
...  
    hm = 100.      ← mountain height and half-width  
    xa = 5.0  
  
    icm = ide/2 ← mountain position in domain  
...  
    (central gridpoint in x)  
  
    DO j=jts,jte  
    DO i=its,ite ! flat surface  
        ! ht(i,j) = 0.  
        ! ht(i,j) = hm/(1.+float(i-icm)/xa)**2  
        ! ht(i,j) = hm1*exp(-(( float(i-icm)/xa1)**2)) &  
        !             *( (cos(pi*float(i-icm)/xall))**2 )  
        phb(i,1,j) = g*ht(i,j)  
        php(i,1,j) = 0. ← lower boundary condition  
        ph0(i,1,j) = phb(i,1,j)  
    ENDDO  
    ENDDO
```

Set height  
field →

# Setting the Initial Condition

In *WRFV2/dyn\_em/module\_initialize\_hill2d\_x.F*

```
SUBROUTINE init_domain_rk ( grid, &  
  
...  
!  get the sounding from the ascii sounding file, first get dry sounding and  
!  calculate base state  
  
write(6,*), ' getting dry sounding for base state '          Base state  
dry_sounding = .true.           ← Dry sounding  
CALL get_sounding( zk, p_in, pd_in, theta, rho, u, v, qv, dry_sounding, &  
                  nl_max, nl_in, .true.)  
  
...  
  
!  calculate full state for each column - this includes moisture.  
  
write(6,*), ' getting moist sounding for full state '        Full state  
dry_sounding = .false.           ← Moist sounding  
CALL get_sounding( zk, p_in, pd_in, theta, rho, u, v, qv, dry_sounding, &  
                  nl_max, nl_in, .false. )  
...
```

# Sounding File Format

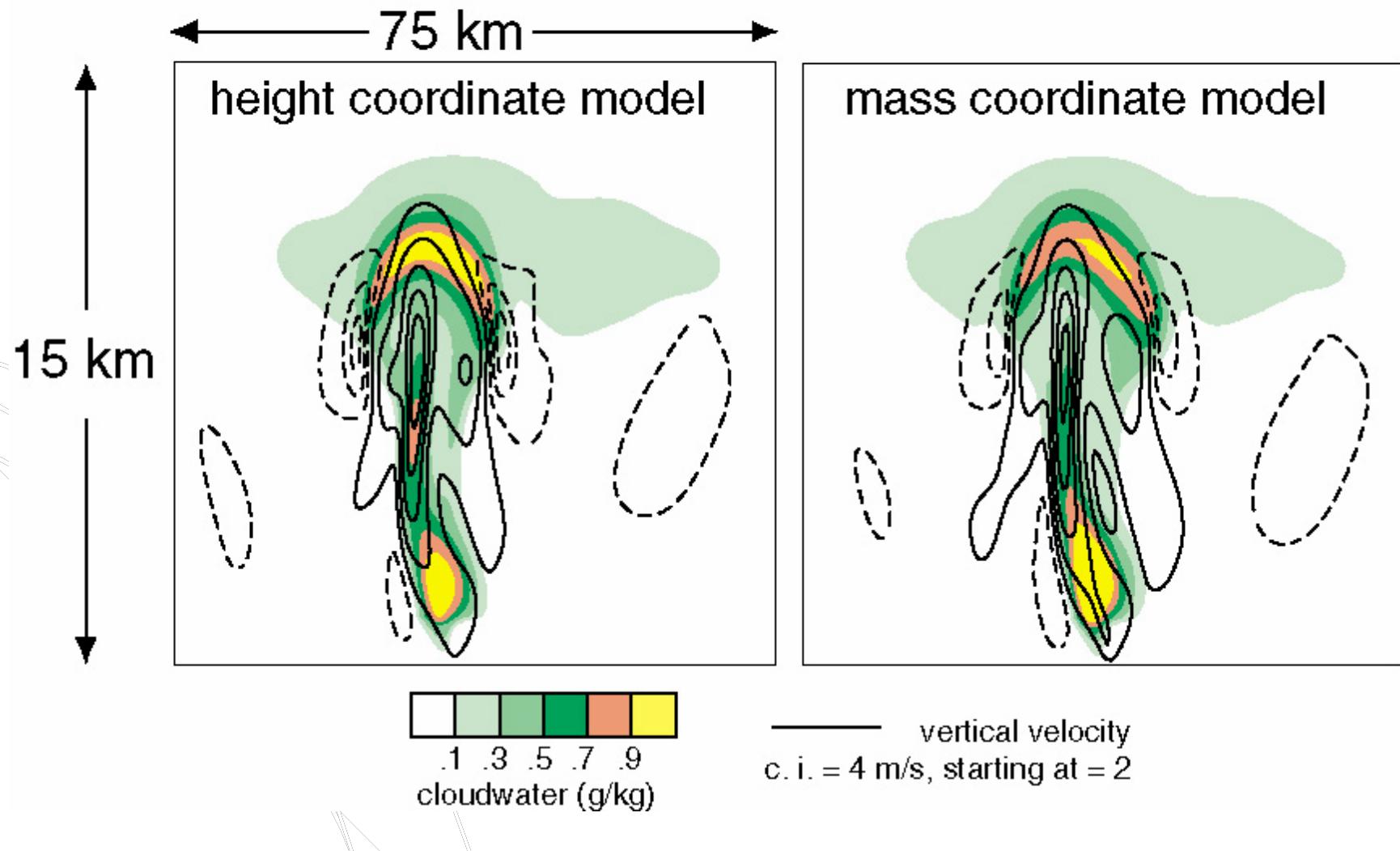
File: *WRFV2/test/em\_quarter\_ss/input\_sounding*

	surface Pressure (mb)	surface potential Temperature (K)	Surface vapor mixing ratio (g/kg)		
line 1 →	1000.00	300.00	14.00		
each successive line is a point in the sounding	250.00	300.45	14.00	-7.88	-3.58
	750.00	301.25	14.00	-6.94	-0.89
	1250.00	302.47	13.50	-5.17	1.33
	1750.00	303.93	11.10	-2.76	2.84
	2250.00	305.31	9.06	0.01	3.47
	2750.00	306.81	7.36	2.87	3.49
	3250.00	308.46	5.95	5.73	3.49
	3750.00	310.03	4.78	8.58	3.49
	4250.00	311.74	3.82	11.44	3.49
	4750.00	313.48	3.01	14.30	3.49
height (m)		potential temperature (K)	vapor mixing ratio (g/kg)	U (west-east) velocity (m/s)	V (south-north) velocity (m/s)

# 2D squall line simulation

Squall-Line Simulations,  $T = 3600$  s

$$dx = dz = 250 \text{ m}, v = 300 \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$$



# Run 2D squall line simulation

*squall2d\_x* is (x,z), *squall2d\_y* is (y,z); both produce the same solution.

From *WRFV2* – *compile em\_squall2d\_x* ;

From *WRFV2/test/em\_squall2d\_x* – run *ideal.exe*, run *wrf.exe*

Initialization code is in

*WRFV2/dyn\_em/module\_initialize\_squall2d\_x.F*

This code also introduces the initial perturbation.

The thermodynamic sounding and hodograph  
is in the ascii input file

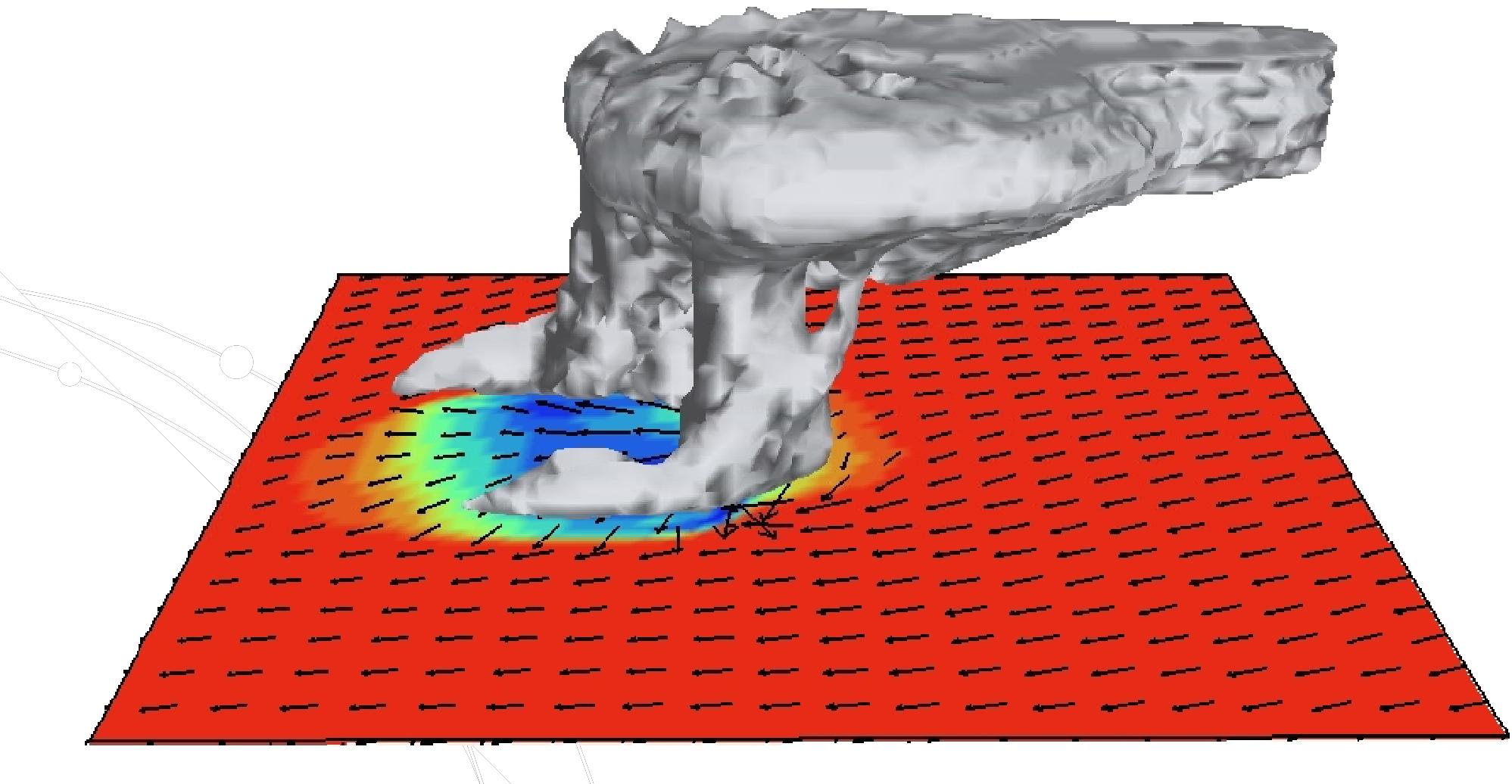
*WRFV2/test/em\_squall2d\_x/input\_sounding*

# 3D supercell simulation

**Height coordinate model**

**( $dx = dy = 2 \text{ km}$ ,  $dz = 500 \text{ m}$ ,  $dt = 12 \text{ s}$ ,  $160 \times 160 \times 20 \text{ km domain}$  )**

**Surface temperature, surface winds and cloud field at 2 hours**



# Run 3D supercell simulation

From **WRFV2** – *compile em\_quarter\_ss* ;

From **WRFV2/test/em\_quarter\_ss** – run *ideal.exe*, run *wrf.exe*

Initialization code is in

**WRFV2/dyn\_em/module\_initialize\_quarter\_ss.F**

The thermodynamic sounding and hodograph is read  
from the ascii input file

**WRFV2/test/em\_quarter\_ss/input\_sounding**

The initial perturbation (warm bubble) is hardwired  
in the initialization code.

# Setting the initial perturbation

In *WRFV2/dyn\_em/module\_initialize\_quarter\_ss.F*

```
SUBROUTINE init_domain_rk ( grid, &
...
! thermal perturbation to kick off convection
...
DO J = jts, min(jde-1,jte)
    yrad = dy*float(j-nyc)/10000.
! yrad = 0.
    DO I = its, min(ide-1,ite)
        xrad = dx*float(i-nxc)/10000.
! xrad = 0.
        DO K = 1, kte-1

! put in perturbation theta (bubble) and recalc density. note,
! the mass in the column is not changing, so when theta changes,
! we recompute density and geopotential

        zrad = 0.5*(ph_1(i,k,j)+ph_1(i,k+1,j)  &
                     +phb(i,k,j)+phb(i,k+1,j))/g
        zrad = (zrad-1500.)/1500.
        RAD=SQRT(xrad*xrad+yrad*yrad+zrad*zrad)
        IF(RAD <= 1.) THEN
            T_1(i,k,j)=T_1(i,k,j)+delt*COS(.5*PI*RAD)**2
            T_2(i,k,j)=T_1(i,k,j)
            qvf = 1. + 1.61*moist_1(i,k,j,P_QV)
            alt(i,k,j) = (r_d/p1000mb)*(t_1(i,k,j)+t0)*qvf* &
                         (((p(i,k,j)+pb(i,k,j))/p1000mb)**cvpm)
            al(i,k,j) = alt(i,k,j) - alb(i,k,j)
        ENDIF
    ENDDO
```

horizontal radius of the perturbation is 10 km, centered at (x,y) gridpoints (nxc, nyc)

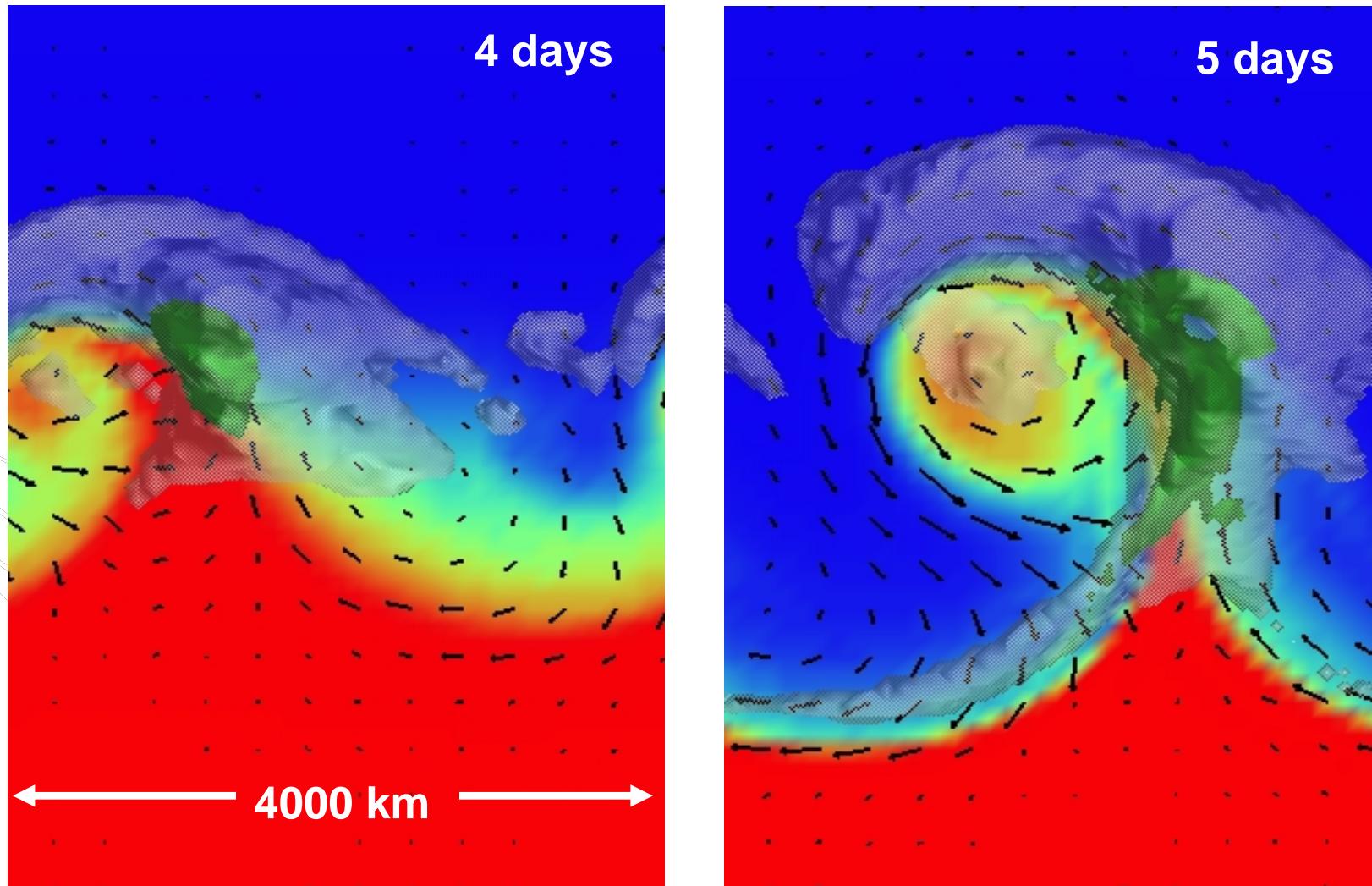
vertical radius of the perturbation is 1500 m

maximum amplitude of the perturbation

perturbation added to initial theta field

# Moist Baroclinic Wave Simulation

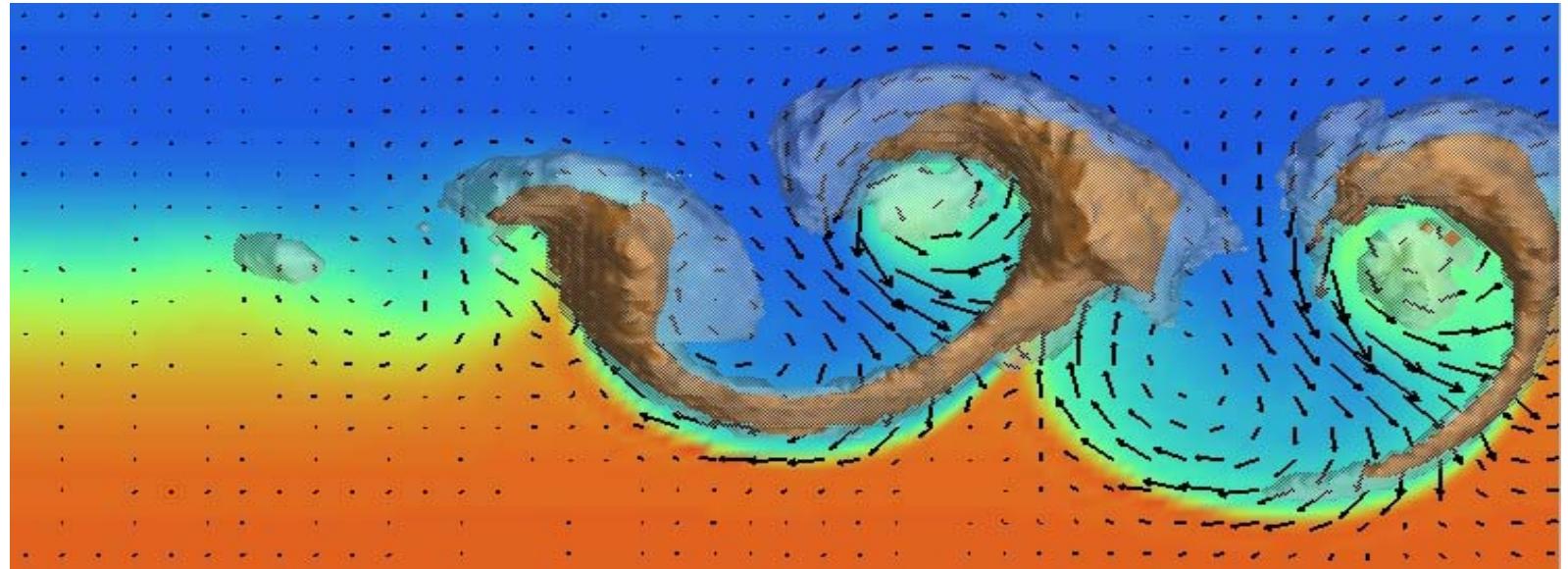
Height coordinate model ( $dx = 100$  km,  $dz = 250$  m,  $dt = 600$  s)  
Surface temperature, surface winds, cloud and rain water



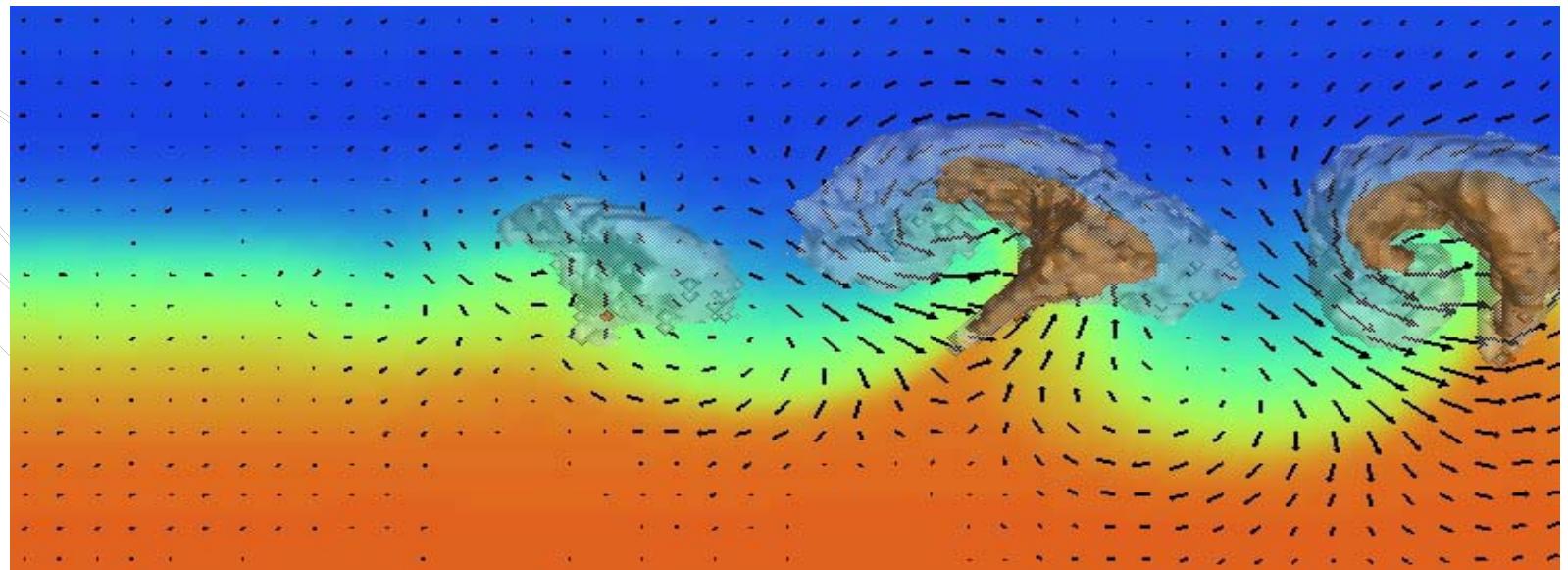
# Open Channel Baroclinic Wave Simulation

**Day 5, dt = 600 s, dx = dy = 100 km, 14000 x 8000 km**

**Free Slip  
Warm Rain**



**MRF PBL - land  
KF Conv. Param.  
Ice Microphysics**



# Run Moist Baroclinic Wave Simulation

From *WRFV2 – compile em\_b\_wave* ;

From *WRFV2/test/em\_b\_wave* – run *ideal.exe*, run *wrf.exe*

Initialization code is in

*WRFV2/dyn\_em/module\_initialize\_b\_wave.F*

The initial jet (y,z) is read from the binary input file

*WRFV2/test/em\_b\_wave/input\_jet*

The initial perturbation is hardwired in the initialization code.

# Moist Baroclinic Wave Simulation

Default configuration in

*WRFV2/test/em\_b\_wave/namelist.input*

runs the dry jet in a periodic channel with dimension  
(4000 x 8000 x 16 km) (x,y,z).

Turning on any microphysics

(mp\_physics > 0 in namelist.input) puts moisture  
into the basic state.

Switching from periodic to open boundary conditions  
along with lengthening the channel produces  
a baroclinic wave train.

The initial jet only works for dy = 100 km and  
81 grid points in the y (south-north) direction.

# Gravity Current Simulation

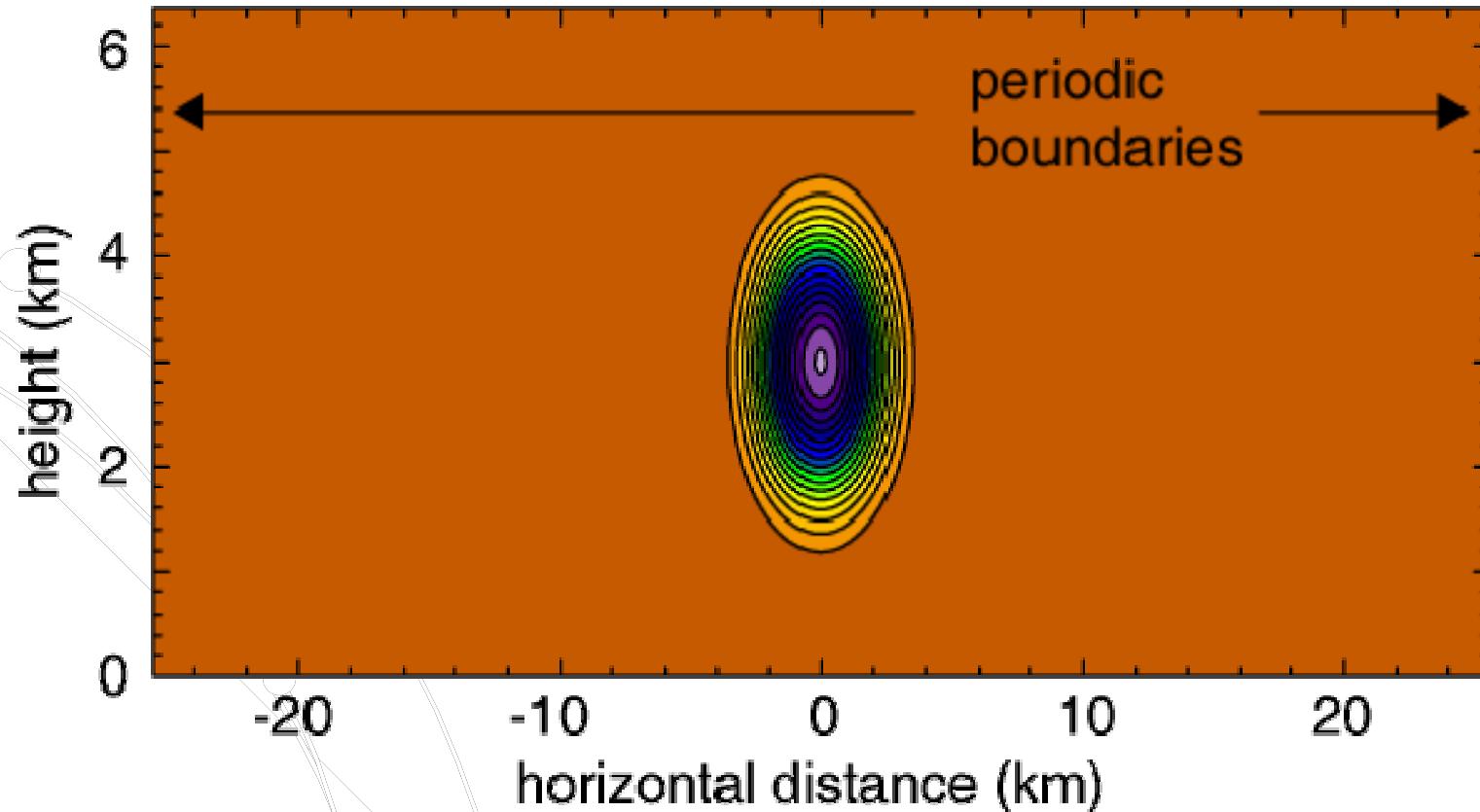
(Straka et al, IJNMF, 1993)

2D channel ( $x, z$  ;  $51.2 \times 6.4$  km)

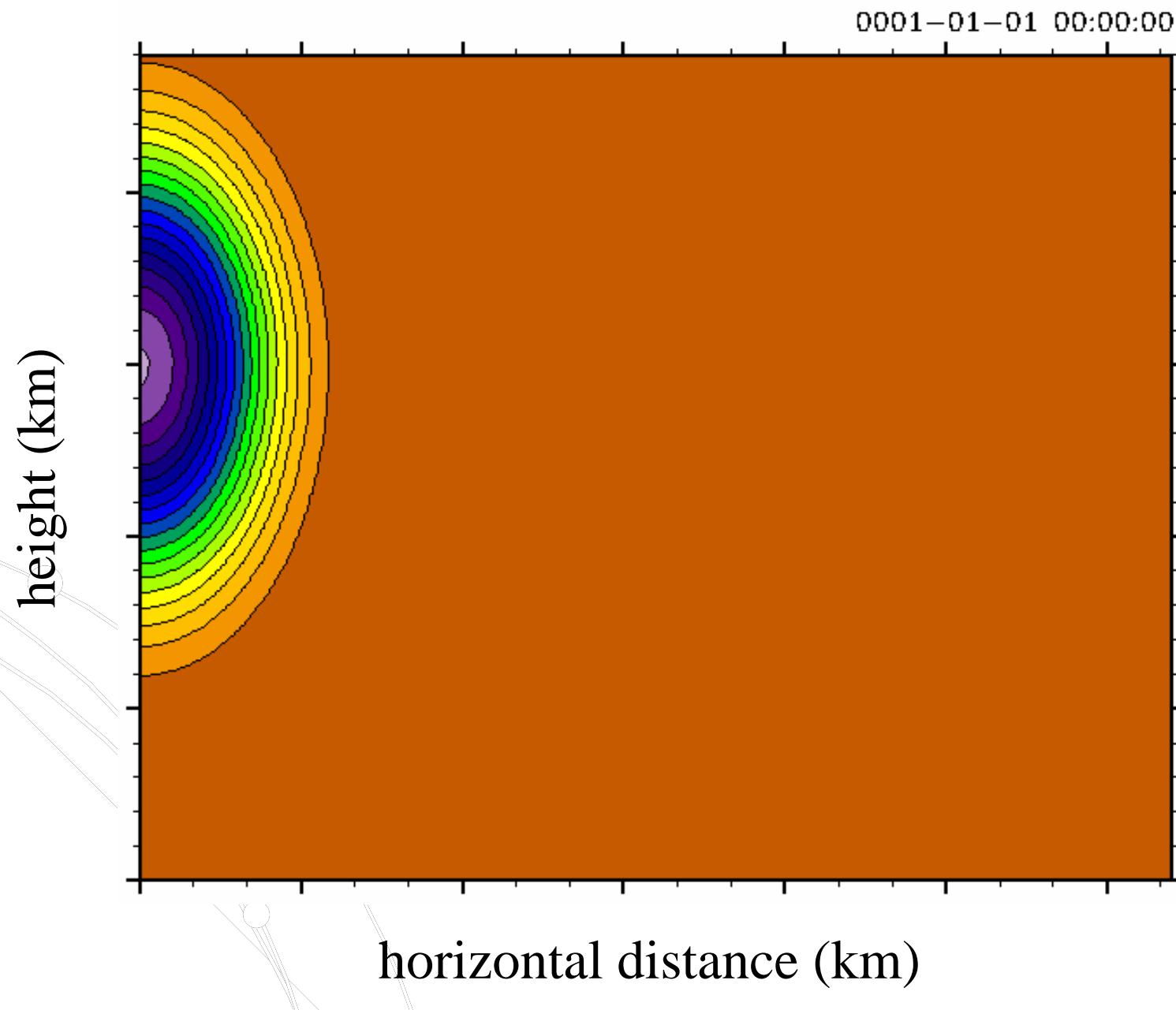
Initial state:  $\theta = 300$  K (neutral) + perturbation (max = 16.2 K)

Eddy viscosity =  $75 \text{ m}^{**2}/\text{s}^{**2}$  (constant)

Initial state, potential temperature (c.i. = 1 K)



# Gravity Current Simulation

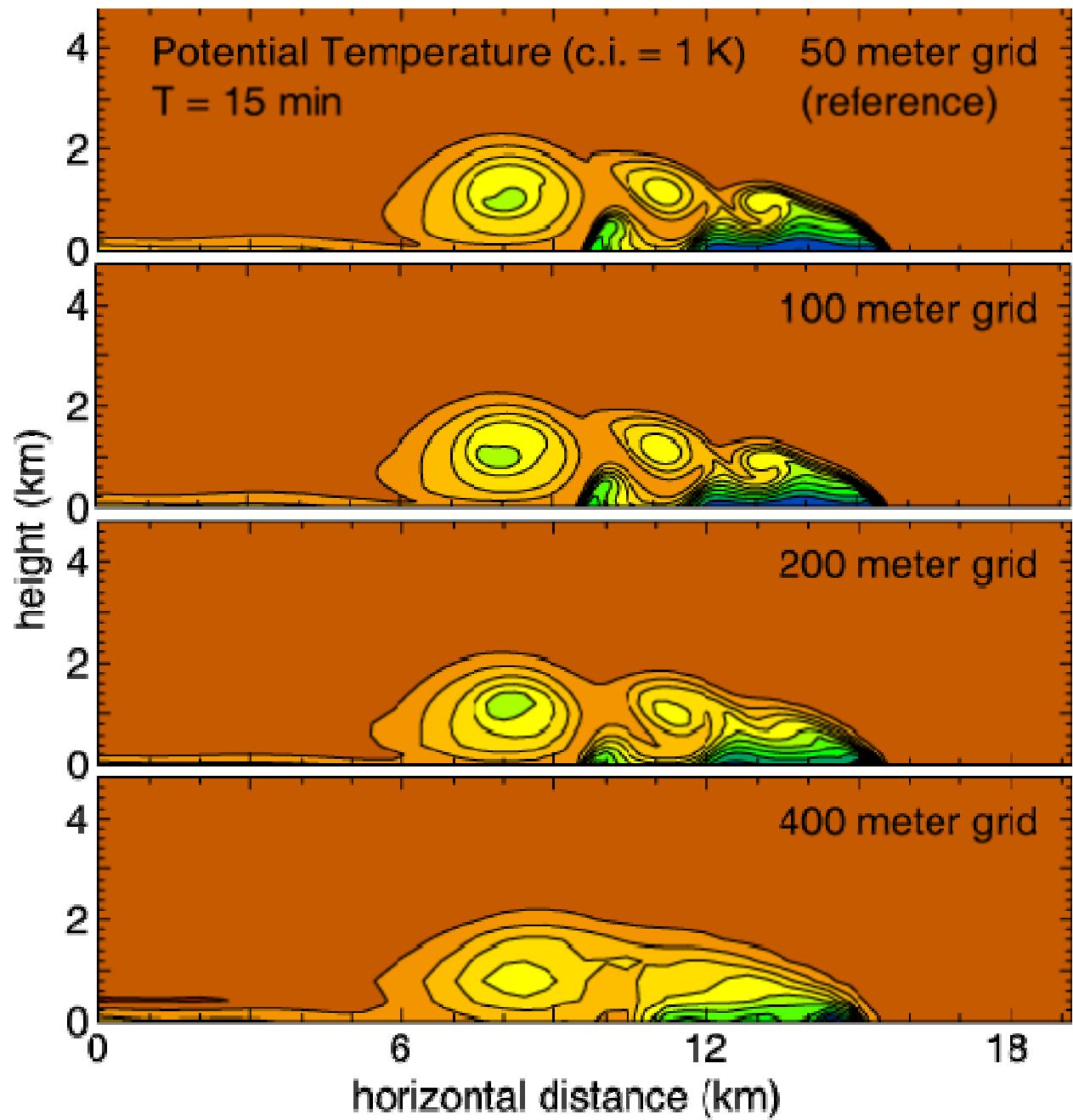


# Gravity Current Simulation

Default case,  $dx = 100$  m,  
5<sup>th</sup> order upwind advection,  
uses namelist.input.100m

$dx = 200$  m,  
5<sup>th</sup> order upwind advection,  
use namelist.input.200m

$dx = 400$  m,  
5<sup>th</sup> order upwind advection,  
use namelist.input.400m

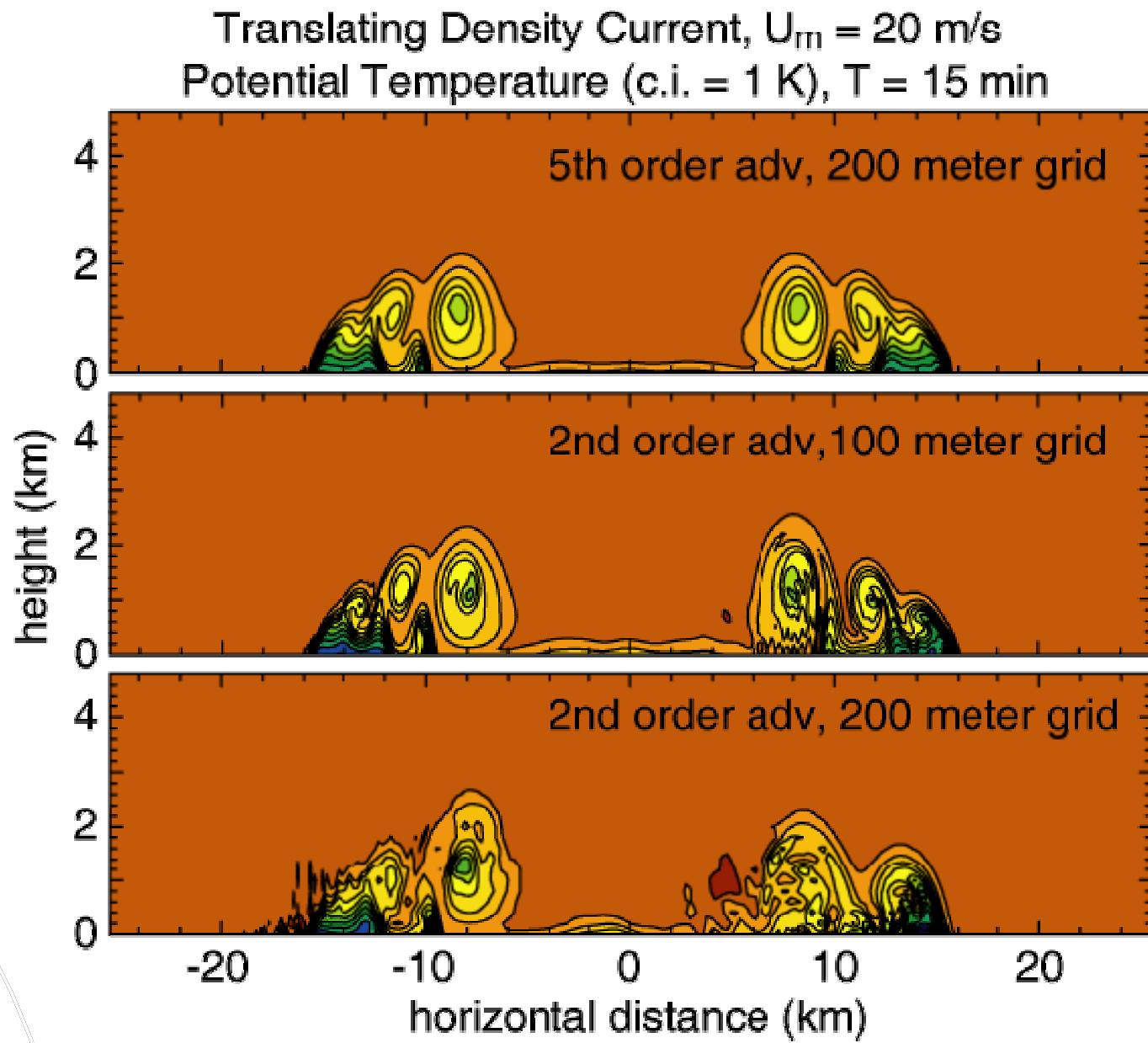


# Gravity Current Simulation

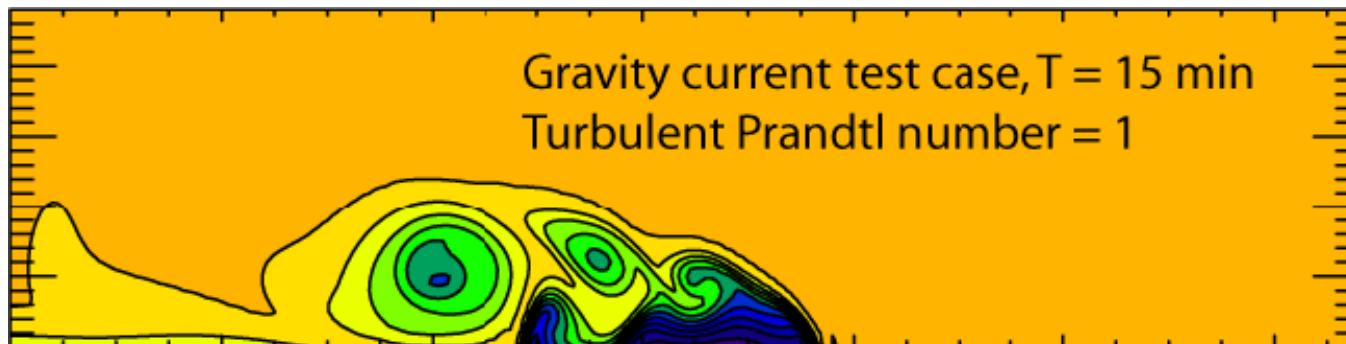
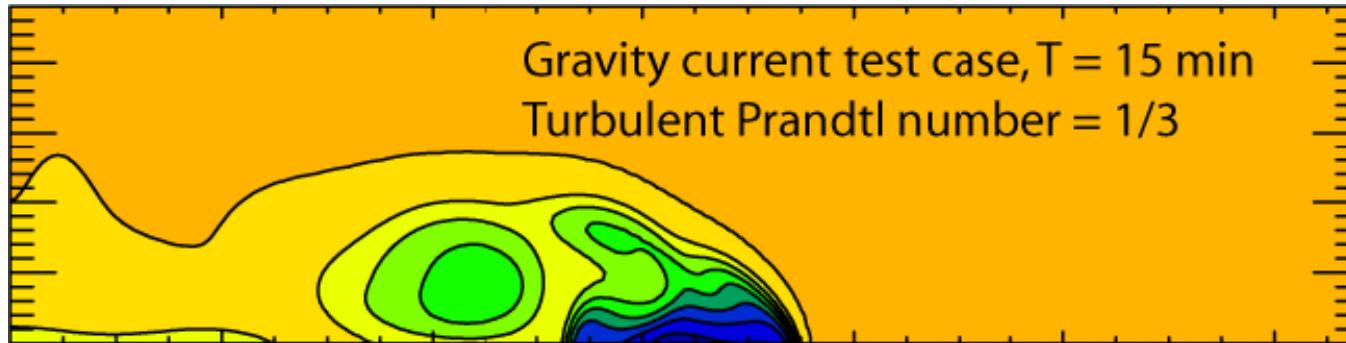
5<sup>th</sup> order upwind advection,  
use namelist.input.200m  
and input\_sounding.um=20

use namelist.input.100m  
with 2<sup>nd</sup> order advection  
and input\_sounding.um=20

use namelist.input.200m  
with 2<sup>nd</sup> order advection  
and input\_sounding.um=20



# Gravity Current Simulation



The turbulent Prandtl number in WRF 1/3,  
So the default WRF test case will give this solution.

To recover the Straka et al (1993) solution,  
change the parameter *Prandtl* to 1 (from 1/3) in  
*WRFV2/share/module\_model\_constants.F*  
*WRFV2/share/module\_diffusion\_em.F*, *module\_big\_step\_utilities.F*

# Run Gravity Current Simulation

From *WRFV2 – compile em\_grav2d\_x* ;

From *WRFV2/test/em\_grav2d\_x* – run *ideal.exe*, run *wrf.exe*

Initialization code is in

*WRFV2/dyn\_em/module\_initialize\_grav2d\_x.F*

The initial cold bubble is hardwired in the  
initialization code.