WISH lunch: 11 December 2014

Kristen Corbosiero

The structure and intensity change of tropical cyclones













Forecast track errors have been cut in HALF

http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/verification/



Forecast intensity errors have NOT improved

http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/verification/

Why does this discrepancy exist between tropical cyclone track and intensity forecasting?

~ The intensity of a tropical cyclone is controlled by both the large scale environment (the intrusion of dry air, vertical wind shear) and internal storm dynamics



Images courtesy NOAA HRD and UWisc-Madison



Air Force Reserve C-130









Corbosiero et al. (2005, 2006)



Secondary eyewall formation & contraction Hurricane Rita (2005)







Terwey and Montgomery (2008)