Non-Gaussian statistics in global atmospheric dynamics with a 10240-member ensemble Kalman filter experiment using an intermediate AGCM

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In our previous work, we performed local ensemble transform Kalman filter (LETKF) experiments with 10240 ensemble members using an intermediate atmospheric general circulation model (AGCM) known as the SPEEDY (T30/L7) model. The previous study reported that the improvement in the tropics was relatively small by increasing the ensemble size up to 10240. We hypothesize that these small improvements be related to convectively dominated tropical dynamics. In this study, we found that the non-Gaussian probability density functions (PDFs) appeared in the regions with large analysis error, mainly in the tropics and storm track regions. The non-Gaussian PDFs are mainly generated by convective parametrization in the tropics and by the instability associated with advection in the storm track regions.

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