Simulation of transient waves in the Martian atmosphere using general circulation models

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Observations of the atmospheric temperature on Mars by MGS-TES reveal the existence of transient waves in the northern hemisphere during autumns and winters. These waves with the zonal wavenumber 1 have periods of ~ 20 Sols (Ls=240-260°) and ~ 6.5 Sols (Ls=280-300°) [*Wilson et al.*, 2002]. The former wave seems to be a manifestation of the Rossby wave associated with the inertially unstable region in low latitudes, while the latter, which is also seen in the analyses of Viking Lander data [*Barnes*, 1980, 1981], is apparently a baroclinic wave related to the strong meridional temperature gradient near the surface. We analyzed these waves using two newly developed Martian general circulation models (GCMs): MAOAM-GCM [*Hartogh et al.*, 2005] and CCSR/NIES GCM [*Kuroda et al.*, 2005]. Different scenarios for the dust opacity depending on the latitude and time to fit the observational data from MGS-TES and Viking spacecraft were utilized. In the presentation, the differences in the wave structure owing to the dust opacity variations and the comparison with the observations will be shown.