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Super-parameterization: progress and prospects

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This presentation will discuss the super-parameterization - a novel approach to represent small-scale and mesoscale processes in contemporary climate models. The idea is to apply a two-dimensional cloud-resolving model in each column of a climate model and to include all physical processes (such as radiative transfer, surface exchange, etc) into the cloud-resolving model framework. A climate model with superparameterization is two to three orders of magnitude more costly than traditional climate models, but at the same time is about three orders of magnitude less expensive than a global cloud-system-resolving model. Results from idealized climate simulations applying this approach, relevant to the mechanisms behind the tropical intraseasonal oscillations, will be presented. In particular, the impact of free-tropospheric humidity - the moisture-convection feedback, and the atmosphere-ocean interactions the convection-SST feedback, will be discussed. Recent developments to facilitate application of the super-parameterization over land and in midlatitudes will be also presented.