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4 **Convectively coupled equatorial waves within the MJO during**  
5 **CINDY/DYNAMO: Slow Kelvin waves as building blocks**  
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## Abstract

40  
41 This study examines the relationship between the MJO and convectively coupled equatorial  
42 waves (CCEWs) during the CINDY2011/ DYNAMO field campaign using satellite-borne  
43 infrared radiation data, in order to better understand the interaction between convection and  
44 the large-scale circulation. The spatio-temporal wavelet transform (STWT) enables us to  
45 document the convective signals within the MJO envelope in terms of CCEWs in great detail,  
46 through localization of space-time spectra at any given location and time. Three MJO events  
47 that occurred in October, November, and December 2011 are examined. It is, in general,  
48 difficult to find universal relationships between the MJO and CCEWs, implying that MJOs are  
49 diverse in terms of the types of disturbances that make up its convective envelope. However, it  
50 is found in all MJO events that the major convective body of the MJO is made up mainly by  
51 slow convectively coupled Kelvin waves. These Kelvin waves have relatively fast phase  
52 speeds of 10-13 m s<sup>-1</sup> outside of, and slow phase speeds of ~8-9 m s<sup>-1</sup> within the MJO.  
53 Sometimes even slower eastward propagating signals with 3-5 m s<sup>-1</sup> phase speed show up  
54 within the MJO, which, as well as the slow Kelvin waves, appear to comprise major building  
55 blocks of the MJO. It is also suggested that these eastward propagating waves often occur  
56 coincident with n=1 WIG waves, which is consistent with the schematic model from  
57 Nakazawa in 1988. Some practical aspects that facilitate use of the STWT are also elaborated  
58 upon and discussed.

59

## 60 **1. Introduction**

61 The Madden-Julian Oscillation (Madden and Julian 1971, 1972) is the predominant  
62 intraseasonal oscillation in the tropics and has a profound influence on a wide range of  
63 weather and climate phenomena (e.g., Lau and Waliser 2012, Zhang 2013). Despite extensive  
64 studies over the past several decades, our understanding of the dynamics and physics of the  
65 MJO remains incomplete (e.g., Majda and Stechmann 2012, Waliser 2012, Wang 2012) and  
66 our ability to simulate the MJO with fidelity even in state-of-the-art numerical models remains  
67 unsatisfactory (e.g., Hung et al. 2013, Kikuchi et al. 2016).

68         Of the key processes associated with the initiation and maintenance of the MJO, it  
69 seems obvious that the interplay between convection and the large-scale circulation must play  
70 a crucial role, although our knowledge of these interactions is perhaps the most uncertain of all.  
71 The MJO is usually viewed as a coupled system consisting of a rather ill-defined  
72 planetary-scale convective envelope and associated large-scale circulation that move eastward  
73 at an average phase speed of 5-6 m s<sup>-1</sup> in the Indo-Pacific region. On the other hand, individual  
74 convective elements within the MJO envelope occur on much smaller scales, many of which  
75 are highly organized mesoscale convective systems (MCSs; Chen et al. 1996, Mapes and  
76 Houze 1993, Nakazawa 1988). A substantial fraction of these MCSs tend to occur in  
77 association with synoptic-scale equatorially-trapped waves first identified theoretically by  
78 Matsuno (1966). These are frequently referred to as convectively coupled equatorial waves  
79 (CCEWs; e.g., Dias et al. 2012, Kiladis et al. 2009, Takayabu et al. 1996, Wheeler and Kiladis  
80 1999).

81         It stands to reason that for a complete understanding of the MJO, particularly in terms  
82 of the interaction between convection and large-scale circulation, it is of critical importance to

83 understand the relationship between the MJO and the organization of convection within its  
84 envelope. For example, previous studies have pointed out the existence of convectively  
85 coupled Kelvin waves (Dunkerton and Crum 1995, Masunaga et al. 2006, Nakazawa 1988,  
86 Roundy 2008) and westward inertio-gravity (WIG) waves within the MJO convective  
87 envelope (Chen et al. 1996, Haertel and Johnson 1998, Takayabu 1994, Takayabu et al. 1996).  
88 Nevertheless, in contrast to these case studies, recent attempts to statistically identify a  
89 systematic relationship between the MJO and CCEWs have proven elusive. In particular, using  
90 a correlation approach between MJO activity and space-time spectral variance, Dias et al.  
91 (2013) found that that there is no strong preferred scale of high frequency organization that is  
92 ubiquitous to the MJO.

93         The purpose of this study is to examine the relationship, from a morphological  
94 standpoint, between the MJO and CCEWs by exploiting data from the Cooperative Indian  
95 Ocean Experiment on Intraseasonal Variability in the Year 2011 (CINDY2011)/ Dynamics of  
96 the MJO (DYNAMO) (Yoneyama et al. 2013). The CINDY/DYNAMO field experiment was  
97 designed to advance our understanding of the initiation process of the MJO in the Indian  
98 Ocean (IO). Fortunately, robust MJO events were observed during the observing period,  
99 providing an invaluable opportunity for studying various aspects of the MJO<sup>1</sup> including  
100 large-scale circulation, cloud populations, and air-sea interaction, among others. The use of the  
101 spatio-temporal wavelet transform (STWT) is advantageous for this work. The STWT is an  
102 extension of the classical wavelet transform (WT) and is able to describe the space-time scales

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<sup>1</sup> A relatively comprehensive literature list can be found at  
<https://www.eol.ucar.edu/node/471/publications>.



103 of a space-time signal at a given location and time, enabling us to document the extent, or lack  
104 of, homogeneity and stationarity in a signal in great detail. Although the fundamental  
105 description of the STWT and initial results using the case study of Nakazawa (1988) were  
106 presented in Kikuchi and Wang (2010), some practical aspects of the STWT approach have not  
107 been rigorously addressed in the past. In addition to analyzing the CINDY/DYNAMO period  
108 in some detail, this study also considers issues such as the representation of the STWT spectra,  
109 sensitivity to STWT resolution, and their significance testing.

110

## 111 **2. Data**

112 The Cloud Archive User Service (CLAUS) brightness temperature (Tb) dataset (Hodges et al.  
113 2000) has been used to study CCEWs in many recent studies (e.g., Kiladis et al. 2009). The  
114 CLAUS dataset has 3-hourly temporal resolution and 0.5 degree spatial resolution covering  
115 the entire globe, extending from July 1983 through June 2009. For this study, the CLAUS data  
116 were extended in time using globally merged infrared radiation (Tb) data (Janowiak et al.  
117 2001). The original resolutions of these data are 30 min in time and 4 km in horizontal space.  
118 For convenience, we constructed 3-hourly Tb-merged data on a  $0.5^\circ \times 0.5^\circ$  horizontal  
119 resolution and calibrated these data to CLAUS by adjusting their means and variances to  
120 match at each grid point for the overlapping period. By applying a temporal linear  
121 interpolation, the dataset has no missing values within the tropics between  $30^\circ\text{S}$ - $30^\circ\text{N}$ . In this  
122 study we focus on the CINDY/DYNAMO observing period (October 2011 to March 2012) for  
123 comparison with many other studies of that period (e.g., Gottschalck et al. 2013, Johnson and  
124 Ciesielski 2013, Yoneyama et al. 2013).

125 In calculating space-time spectra, we followed steps taken in previous studies (e.g.,

126 Kikuchi 2014, Wheeler and Kiladis 1999). First we preprocess the data by removing the linear  
 127 trend, and the first three harmonics of the climatological annual cycle. The data were then  
 128 separated into equatorially symmetric and antisymmetric components about the equator.  
 129 Spectra were calculated at each latitude and averaged over 15°S and 15°N and the spectral  
 130 features are insensitive to the choice of latitudinal averaging (not shown). To minimize end  
 131 effects, STWT spectra were calculated using the data from July 2011 through June 2012.

132

### 133 **3. Spatio-temporal wavelet transform (STWT)**

134 The STWT was documented by Kikuchi and Wang (2010), although we present more  
 135 comprehensive and updated description of the method with additions or refinements including  
 136 considerations of zonal wavenumber 0 component, statistical significance assessment, and  
 137 energy conversion from STWT space to Fourier space (Appendix). The STWT was designed  
 138 to accurately deal with spatial propagation information. The STWT  $W$  of a signal  $g$  as a  
 139 function of space  $x$  and time  $t$  is defined as (e.g., Antoine et al. 2004)

$$\begin{aligned}
 W(b, \tau; a, c) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt g(x, t) \psi_{b, \tau; a, c}^*(x, t) \\
 &= a \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dk \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega \hat{g}(k, \omega) \hat{\psi}_{b, \tau; a, c}^*(k, \omega) e^{i(kb + \omega\tau)}
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{1}$$

140 where  $\psi_{b, \tau; a, c}^*(x, t) = a^{-1} \psi^*((x - b)/ac^{1/2}, (t - \tau)/ac^{-1/2})$  is the mother wavelet with a  
 141 scale parameter  $a \in \mathbb{R}^+$ , a speed tuning parameter  $c \in \mathbb{R}^+$ , and a translation parameter  
 142  $(b, \tau) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ , and  $*$  and  $\hat{\phantom{x}}$  denotes the complex conjugate and the Fourier transform (FT),  
 143 respectively. It is evident that  $\psi_{b, \tau; a, c}^*$  becomes singular as  $c \rightarrow \infty$  as the STWT is intended  
 144 to deal with translating signals. As for its application to tropical convection, however, we are  
 145 also interested in the limit  $c = \infty$  (i.e., zonal wavenumber  $k = 0$ ).

146

For  $c = \infty$ , we exploit the one dimensional version of the WT

$$\begin{aligned} W(\tau; a, \infty) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt G(t) \psi_{\tau; a}^*(t) \\ &= a^{1/2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega \hat{G}(\omega) \hat{\psi}^*(a\omega) e^{i\omega\tau} \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

147 where  $\psi_{\tau; a}^*(x, t) = a^{-1/2} \psi^*((t - \tau)/a)$  and  $G(t)$  is the zonal average of  $g(x, t)$  at time  $t$ .

148

Energy conservation is written as

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{1}{C_{\psi_{c \neq \infty}}} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{da}{a^3} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{dc}{c} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} db \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tau |W(b, \tau, a, c)|^2 \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{C_{\psi_{c = \infty}}} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{da}{a^2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tau |W(\tau, a, \infty)|^2 \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt |g(x, t)|^2 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dk \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega |\hat{g}(k, \omega)|^2 \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

149 where

$$C_{\psi_{c \neq \infty}} = (2\pi)^2 \int_0^{\infty} \frac{dk}{|k|} \int_0^{\infty} \frac{d\omega}{|\omega|} |\hat{\psi}_{c \neq \infty}^*(k, \omega)|^2 < \infty \quad (4)$$

$$C_{\psi_{c = \infty}} = 2\pi \int_0^{\infty} \frac{d\omega}{|\omega|} |\hat{\psi}_{c = \infty}^*(\omega)|^2 < \infty \quad (5)$$

150 It turns out that the energy conservation holds to within more than 99 % accuracy in the cases

151 considered in this study.

152 Because of the good correspondence between the wavelet scale and the Fourier scale

153 (Meyers et al. 1993), it is reasonable to choose the Morlet function (a complex sinusoid within

154 a Gaussian envelope) as the mother wavelet

$$\psi_{c \neq \infty}(x, t) = e^{i(k_0 x + \omega_0 t)} e^{-1/2(x^2 + t^2)} \quad (6)$$

$$\psi_{c=\infty}(t) = e^{i\omega_0 t} e^{-1/2t^2} \quad (7)$$

155 It is evident that  $k_0$  and  $\omega_0$  determines the properties (i.e., trade-off between time and  
 156 frequency resolutions) of the Morlet wavelet and  $|k_0|, |\omega_0| \geq 5$  should be chosen to  
 157 approximately satisfy the admissibility conditions ((4) and (5)) (see e.g., Kumar and  
 158 FofoulaGeorgiou 1997). Here we set  $|k_0| = \omega_0 = 6$ , which is a popular choice (e.g.,  
 159 Torrence and Compo 1998). Note that positive and negative  $k_0$  correspond to eastward and  
 160 westward moving patterns, respectively.

161 Figure 1a shows the space-time structure of the Morlet wavelet. It follows from (6) **Fig. 1**  
 162 that the amplitude of the envelope decreases to  $e^{-1}$  at a distance of  $\sqrt{2}$  in non-dimensional  
 163 space and time (e-folding scale). Within the e-folding scale, about 3 wavelengths are contained.  
 164 The heterogeneous treatment of space and time in the STWT enables it to handle phase  
 165 propagation accurately. Figure 1b illustrates how the Morlet wavelets for different scales and  
 166 speed tuning parameters are represented in Fourier space for the parameters  $|k_0| = \omega_0 = 6$ . It  
 167 is evident that each wavelet is aligned in a way that the energy is concentrated along a constant  
 168 phase speed, indicating sensitivity to the phase speed. Also evident is that the localization of  
 169 energy is stronger at larger scales due to Heisenberg's uncertainty principle (i.e., trade-off  
 170 between time localization and frequency localization, e.g., Addison 2002, Kumar and  
 171 FofoulaGeorgiou 1997).

172 In practice, the wavelet scale and speed tuning parameter are discretized as  
 173  $a_j = a_0 2^{j\delta_j}$ ,  $c_q = c_0 2^{q\delta_q}$ .  $j = 1, 2, \dots, J$  and  $q = 1, 2, \dots, Q$ . The values of  $a_0, c_0, J$ , and  $Q$   
 174 must be chosen to resolve the smallest and largest space-time scales of interest. The  
 175 performance of the STWT thus depends on the choices of  $\delta_j$  and  $\delta_q$  (scale and speed tuning

176 parameter resolutions). For simplicity, we consider several homogenous cases where  $\delta_j = \delta_q$   
 177 (Table 1). It is apparent that the magnitudes of  $J$  and  $Q$  are inversely proportional to the  
 178 values of  $\delta_j$  and  $\delta_q$ . The choice of  $\delta_j$  and  $\delta_q$  determines the trade-off between accuracy  
 179 and computational costs.

180 The STWT spectrum is computed using (1) and (2) by means of a fast FT (FFT). For  
 181 each discretized  $a$  and  $c$  the FFT is calculated, and thus the computational costs for the  
 182 STWT are roughly proportional to  $(2 \times J + 1) \times Q$ . For instance, at the lowest resolution  
 183 ( $\delta_j = \delta_q = 0.8$ ) about 600 times more computational costs are required than the FT and at the  
 184 highest resolution the computational cost compared to the FT is increased by about 110,000  
 185 times!

186 Another important practical aspect concerns how to assess the statistical significance  
 187 of spectral peaks. For a local STWT spectral peak, as in the FT, the degrees of freedom (DOF)  
 188 is expected to be 2 for each scale (or bin). For an averaged STWT spectrum over space and  
 189 time, in analogy with Torrence and Compo (1998), the effective DOF (EDOF)  $\nu$  can be  
 190 represented in the following form

$$\nu = 2 \sqrt{\left[1 + \left(\frac{n_t \delta t}{2\tau_e}\right)^2\right] \left[1 + \left(\frac{n_x \delta x}{2b_e}\right)^2\right]} \quad (8)$$

191 where  $\tau_e = \sqrt{2}ac^{-1/2}$  and  $b_e = \sqrt{2}ac^{1/2}$  are the e-folding time and space scales,  
 192 respectively. This estimate can be intuitively understood as follows:  $\nu$  should be proportional  
 193 to the number of wave packets in a period of time ( $\sim n_t \delta t / 2\tau_e$ ) as well as to the number of  
 194 wave packets in a length of space ( $\sim n_x \delta x / 2b_e$ ). In the limit  $n_t, n_x \rightarrow 1$  (i.e., no averaging),  
 195  $\nu$  should be 2. Similarly at  $k = 0$  the EDOF is estimated as

$$v = 2\sqrt{1 + (n_t \delta_t / 2\tau_{e,k=0})^2} \quad (9)$$

196 where the e-folding time scale  $\tau_{e,k=0} = \sqrt{2}a_{k=0}$ , and  $a_{k=0} = 2\pi/1.03\omega$ . It turns out that this  
 197 estimate is more conservative than that of Torrence and Compo (1998). The actual distribution  
 198 of the EDOF for the case of CINDY/DYNAMO is discussed in the next section.

199

#### 200 **4. CINDY/DYNAMO Overview**

201 Figure 2 shows an overview of the convective episodes that took place during the  
 202 CINDY/DYNAMO in terms of a Hovmöller diagram of Tb averaged over 7.5°S and 7.5°N. It  
 203 is evident that convection tends to be clustered on intraseasonal timescale over the warm pool  
 204 region. Contours of MJO-filtered Tb anomalies are obtained by filtering for eastward zonal  
 205 wavenumbers 1 through 6 and 25-90 day periods using a FT. These contours suggest that there  
 206 were four or five “MJO-like” events. Based on objective MJO indices including the all-season  
 207 Real-time Multivariate MJO (RMM) index (Wheeler and Hendon 2004), the all-season  
 208 OLR-based MJO index (OMI) (Kiladis et al. 2014), and the bimodal intraseasonal oscillation  
 209 (Bi-ISO) index (Kikuchi et al. 2012), the events that were initiated over the IO in October,  
 210 November, and February are viewed as relatively robust MJO events (labelled as MJO1,  
 211 MJO2, and MJO4, respectively), with amplitudes in all indices exceeding 1 for at least a  
 212 week<sup>2</sup>. The event that occurred in December (referred to here as MJO3 as in Yoneyama et al.,

**Fig. 2**

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<sup>2</sup> The time series of the RMM index can be found at

<http://poama.bom.gov.au/project/maproom/RMM/>, OMI indices are at

<http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/psd/mjo/mjindex/> and Bi-ISO index can be found at

213 2013 and as a “mini-MJO” by Gottschalck et al., (2013) is identified as a much weaker event  
214 by these criteria. The event that occurred in January was identified as a weak MJO by the OMI  
215 and Bi-ISO index, while not by the RMM index, and convection does not appear to be very  
216 organized over the central IO. It is implied, however, from Fig. 2 that the initiation of  
217 convection in MJO4 was rather ambiguous. In addition, many studies (e.g., Hannah et al. 2016,  
218 Johnson et al. 2015, Powell and Houze 2015b, Sobel et al. 2014) primarily focused on the  
219 MJO events that occurred in the intensive observing period (IOP), 1 October 2011–15 January  
220 2012. Given these considerations, we focus on three MJO events (MJO1, MJO2, and MJO3)  
221 and analyze them in more detail throughout the following discussion.

222         Although it is not customary to identify spectral peaks from shorter periods of data, it  
223 is instructive to examine the CINDY/DYNAMO period to understand the nature of the STWT  
224 spectra in comparison to the conventional FT approach, and to place the convective events  
225 during this period in historical context through comparisons with spectra based on long-term  
226 data. Figure 3 shows the FT and several different resolution STWT spectral estimates in linear **Fig. 3**  
227 space-time wavenumber and frequency plots (see Appendix for details), over the entire global  
228 longitude range for the DYNAMO period. The FT spectra were obtained in a conventional  
229 manner similar to the one developed by Wheeler and Kiladis (1999).

230         Overall the STWT spectra at different resolutions display a similar appearance to each  
231 other, while serrations due to insufficient sampling are evident at lower resolutions. These  
232 serrations are more evident at higher frequencies and/or larger wavenumbers due to the scale  
233 dependence of the STWT (Fig. 1b). At higher resolutions from 0.2 to 0.05 the detailed

234 structures are very similar to each other, and serrations are barely detectable at the highest  
235 resolution. Based on this result, we conclude that using a resolution higher than 0.2 is optimal.

236 The STWT spectra and FT spectra yield consistent results, whereas the STWT spectra  
237 are smoothed due to the uncertainty principle, in particular at higher frequencies and larger  
238 wavenumbers. A casual inspection of either the STWT or FT spectra suggests the presence of  
239 spectral peaks that correspond to several types of CCEWs predicted theoretically by Matsuno  
240 (1966), such as Kelvin, equatorial Rossby (ER),  $n=1$  westward inertio-gravity (WIG),  $n=0$   
241 eastward IG (EIG), and mixed Rossby-gravity (MRG) waves (Wheeler and Kiladis 1999). In  
242 addition, substantial power is concentrated in the MJO range (zonal wavenumbers of 1-5 and  
243 eastward frequencies of 0.03-0.01) in the symmetric component and at the diurnal and  
244 semidiurnal timescales in both the symmetric and antisymmetric components, which are much  
245 more apparent in the FT spectra. The absence of sharp spectral peaks in the STWT spectra is  
246 due to the smoothing nature of the method (Fig. 1b), leading to spectral peaks spread in  
247 frequency around the diurnal and semidiurnal cycles as opposed to peaks spread in  
248 wavenumber as in the FT spectra.

249 The prominence of CCEW peaks becomes more evident when the spectra are  
250 normalized by a background (Fig. 4). Although there is no consensus on the best approach to  
251 use in estimating the background spectrum (Hendon and Wheeler 2008, Kikuchi 2014,  
252 Masunaga et al. 2006), for the sake of comparison, we estimated the background spectrum in  
253 the manner following Wheeler and Kiladis (1999) based on the raw data during the  
254 CINDY/DYNAMO period. The FT and STWT spectra yield quite consistent results, although  
255 the FT spectra are much noisier. It is evident that several types of CCEWs were pronounced  
256 including the MJO, and Kelvin,  $n=1$  WIG, ER,  $n=0$  EIG, and MRG waves. The STWT spectra

**Fig. 4**



257 provide more coherent results at the expense of spectral resolution, which results in more  
258 smoothing when compared to the FT spectra. The FT spectra have  $\sim 4$  ( $\approx 2 \times 183/96$ ) EDOF  
259 at each scale (bin) based on the most conservative estimate (assuming each latitude is not  
260 independent from any others), whereas the averaged STWT spectra have more EDOF at most  
261 scales (Fig. 4e), as discussed in the previous section. In addition, Fig. 4f shows how the  
262 significance of a given ratio of a signal with respect to the background will vary with scale,  
263 unlike that in an FT spectrum where the EDOF is assumed to be constant for each bin. As a  
264 result, spectral peaks significant at the 90% level such as Kelvin, ER, WIG, and MRG-EIG  
265 waves are found in the STWT spectra, as shown by the crosses in Figs. 4c, and 4d.

266         Despite the fact that only 180 days were used, the appearance of the STWT spectra in  
267 particular bear a strong resemblance to global FT spectra based on long-term data (e.g., Fig. 1  
268 of Kiladis et al. 2009), with the exception of the lack of  $n=2$  WIG waves in Fig. 4d during  
269 CINDY/DYNAMO. In both spectra, significant peaks corresponding to Kelvin, ER,  $n=1$  WIG,  
270 and MRG/EIG exist with enhanced power concentrating in the range of the equivalent depth  
271 ( $h_e$ ) 12-50 m. One notable difference in the Kelvin wave peak concerns its apparent dispersion,  
272 as implied by a decrease of  $h_e$  with increasing wavenumber ( $k$ ) and frequency ( $f$ ). This is  
273 also often seen in localized FT spectra (Dias and Kiladis 2014). We address this issue further  
274 below. Also prominent are the diurnal peaks, which are primarily localized at wave -1 and -5  
275 in the STWT in the symmetric component but more spread out across all wavenumbers in the  
276 FT spectra.

277

## 278 **5. MJO and CCEWs relationship revealed by STWT**

279 While the spectra discussed above were based on global data, an advantage of the STWT

280 approach is that it can efficiently localize spectral signals in space and time. This section  
281 concerns the individual MJO events observed during the CINDY/DYNAMO period with a  
282 primary focus on the IO, in particular at 75°E, where the observational network in the field  
283 was centered (e.g., Yoneyama et al. 2013), and 100°E, at the eastern edge of the IO.

284

### 285 **5.1. Average spectra**

286 We first show in Fig. 5 the time-averaged local STWT spectra centered on 75°E and 100°E  
287 over the entire CINDY/DYNAMO period, normalized by their local background spectra,  
288 respectively. The local background spectra were obtained in the same manner as the global  
289 background spectrum except the time-averaged (October 2011-March 2012) local spectrum  
290 centered at each longitude was used. Note that the overall structures of the spectra normalized  
291 by the global, instead of the local, background spectrum do not appear to be very different (not  
292 shown). In addition, the spectra normalized by the local background yield more conservative  
293 estimates of statistical significance, as this is a relatively convectively active longitude, so we  
294 advocate this approach over the use of a global background spectrum.

**Fig. 5**

295 The overall features of the spectra at 75°E and 100°E are similar to the global spectra  
296 (Fig. 4c and d). As in the global spectra, certain types of CCEWs stand out that include Kelvin,  
297 n=1 WIG, ER, and MRG/EIG waves. As for the Kelvin waves, the energy is more  
298 concentrated at a smaller  $h_e \sim 17$  m, which is consistent with the localized climatological FT  
299 spectra for the IO sector of Dias and Kiladis (2014). Again we see that the Kelvin wave peaks  
300 are shifted toward smaller  $h_e$  at higher wavenumbers and frequencies. This dispersive  
301 behavior is stronger for Kelvin waves at 75°E than at 100°E. It should be also noted that the  
302 n=1 WIG waves contain a strong diurnal cycle peak at these locations. This peak is more

303 pronounced at 100°E due to its proximity to the Maritime Continent where pronounced  
304 off-shore moving diurnal gravity waves tend to be generated to the west of Sumatra (e.g.,  
305 Kikuchi and Wang 2008, Kubota et al. 2015, Mori et al. 2004, Yang and Slingo 2001).

306

## 307 **5.2. Individual MJO events**

308 To examine how CCEWs are associated with individual MJO events during  
309 CINDY/DYNAMO, Figs. 6-8 show localized STWT spectra at 75°E and 100°E in conjunction  
310 with Hovmöller diagrams centered in time on the three MJO events identified above. From  
311 now on we focus on the symmetric component, because the antisymmetric component does  
312 not have very prominent spectral peaks, consistent with the relative lack of convectively  
313 coupled MRG/EIG activity over the IO as compared to the Pacific sector (Dias and Kiladis  
314 2014, Kiladis et al. 2016).

315 The MJO envelope is defined here as filtered Tb anomalies of less than -6 K that  
316 retain eastward propagating zonal wavenumbers 1-6 and periods between 25 and 96 days  
317 (denoted by thick black curves). Instead of presenting space-time filtered field (except for  
318 some eastward propagating components as discussed later), as is usually the case in previous  
319 studies, we show the phase lines in conjunction with the envelope for a particular Morlet  
320 wavelet to demonstrate more clearly how the STWT is effective in elucidating the anatomy of  
321 the MJO convection in terms of propagating features. Color dashed lines in the top two panels  
322 from the left represent the constant phase of the sinusoidal wave embedded within the wave  
323 packet (see Fig. 1a) for a particular wavenumber and frequency denoted by corresponding  
324 color dots in the STWT spectra (bottom panels). The length of each line represents the  
325 e-folding scale in time and space for a particular scale corresponding to the dot of the same

326 color in the spectrum. The white circles in the top panels correspond to the point at which the  
327 local STWT spectra is calculated. The time upon which the spectra are centered was chosen  
328 subjectively from the Hovmöller diagrams to correspond to the peak time of the major MJO  
329 convective episode at each longitude. In effect, each time appears to correspond to  
330 precipitation peaks associated with certain types of CCEWs, as we now describe.

331

### 332 a. MJO1

333 Overall, much of the deep convection on synoptic time scales displays either eastward or  
334 westward propagation, suggesting the predominance of CCEWs. However, close inspection  
335 suggests that the space-time scales of these disturbances vary greatly in space and time.  
336 Considering MJO1 (Fig. 6), the Hovmöller diagrams show that there was initially active  
337 diurnal convective activity to the east of the MJO envelope due to westward propagating  
338 convectively coupled gravity waves propagating off of Sumatra (e.g., Johnson and Ciesielski  
339 2013, Kubota et al. 2015). The spectral signal of these disturbances appears as a strong peak at  
340 1 cpd centered on westward wavenumber 18 in Fig. 6b (magenta dot and phase lines). Later in  
341 November these westward waves are no longer significant. Instead, weaker smaller scale  
342 quasi-diurnal (magenta dot and phase lines in Fig. 6c, d) as well as 2 day disturbances (green  
343 dot and lines in Fig. 6c, d) become significant, where the latter is reminiscent of the n=1 WIG  
344 waves also observed during TOGA COARE (e.g., Chen et al. 1996, Haertel and Johnson 1998,  
345 Haertel and Kiladis 2004, Takayabu et al. 1996). While diurnal waves show up at both  
346 locations, overall the earlier phase of MJO1 (Fig. 6b) is made up of much more coherent  
347 synoptic disturbances than at its latter phase (Fig. 6d) where significant spectral peaks are  
348 much weaker.

**Fig. 6**

349 The commencement of MJO1 is associated with a series of eastward propagating

350 disturbances in middle October, which themselves appear to modulate the westward  
351 propagating disturbances within them, reminiscent of Nakazawa's (1988) hypothesis. In this  
352 period, the atmosphere became more and more moist (e.g., Johnson and Ciesielski 2013,  
353 Nasuno et al. 2015, Powell and Houze 2013, 2015a), perhaps setting up the stage for the  
354 development of the vigorous deep convection that occurred later (i.e., the so-called  
355 preconditioning stage, e.g., Benedict and Randall 2007, Kikuchi and Takayabu 2004, Kiladis  
356 et al. 2005).

357         The behavior of CCEWs drastically changes over time within the MJO1 envelope. As  
358 in the preconditioning stage, the typical Kelvin wave is seen at both locations that had  
359 eastward phase speeds of 10-12 m s<sup>-1</sup> corresponding to the yellow phase lines in Figs. 6a,c and  
360 yellow dot in Fig. 6b,d, while slower eastward propagating signals were also present as  
361 represented by the red and blue eastward symbols. These slow eastward propagating signals  
362 appear to be the major building blocks of the envelope. The wide range in scales of the  
363 eastward propagating features represent examples of the “zonally-narrow” components of the  
364 MJO as documented by Roundy (2014). Enhancement of planetary-scale, fast Kelvin waves  
365 with zonal wavenumber 2 was also seen in the spectra at both locations (Fig. 6b, in particular),  
366 which also appears as a distinct spectral peak in the time-averaged spectra (Fig. 5a, c).

367         The difference in the role of these eastward propagating signals in the MJO  
368 convection may become more apparent in terms of space-time filtered anomalies. Based on  
369 previous studies and results in this study, we define two types of filters. The one is a typical  
370 Kelvin wave filter (denoted by the green box in Fig. 6b) that corresponds to the one defined in  
371 Kiladis et al. (2009) for convectively coupled Kelvin waves. The other filter isolates more  
372 slowly eastward propagating signals (denoted by the red box in Fig. 6b), referred here to

373 conveniently as the slow Kelvin wave filter. The filter design for the slow Kelvin waves is  
374 somewhat similar to the zonally narrow MJO band defined by Roundy (2014), although our  
375 filter includes much higher wavenumbers and cuts lower frequencies ( $<0.06$  cpd). Sensitivity  
376 tests indicate that exclusion of relatively small wavenumbers up to 10 (i.e., overlapped area  
377 with the zonally narrow MJO band) does not significantly change the results, albeit with  
378 weaker amplitudes (not shown), suggesting that the term slow Kelvin wave used here may be  
379 reasonable. It is evident from Fig. 6e that the typical Kelvin wave component passes through  
380 the MJO envelope, if any, and does not seem to play a central role in the development of the  
381 major convective events within the envelope, whereas the slow Kelvin wave component  
382 represents the major convective events of the MJO remarkably well.

383         As in the preconditioning stage, these eastward propagating disturbances appear to  
384 conspire with westward propagating waves to cause deep convection to occur, with two  
385 different spatio-temporal scales of westward waves (magenta circles in Fig. 6b, 6d) evident at  
386 both locations (Kikuchi and Wang 2010). As mentioned above, the diurnal waves at  $75^{\circ}\text{E}$  seem  
387 to originate in the Maritime Continent region where the diurnal cycle and its off-coast  
388 propagation is usually pronounced. It is suggested from the mean spectra (Fig. 5a, c) that these  
389 diurnal waves were frequently observed at both locations during DYNAMO.

390         Besides convectively coupled diurnal and  $n=1$  WIG waves, another scale of slower  
391 westward propagation is seen centered at wave 22 with a frequency of  $0.4$  cpd (orange color in  
392 Fig. 6a, b), or a bit longer period than 2 days. While this falls within the range of “TD-type”  
393 disturbances (e.g., Serra et al. 2008, Takayabu and Nitta 1993) we will show below that the  
394 scales of these slower waves vary significantly between MJO events, and are likely not related  
395 to true easterly waves, but to off-equatorial “Rossby gyres” as discussed by Kerns and Chen

396 (2014a, b).

397

### 398 **b. MJO2**

399 In contrast to MJO1, the MJO2 envelope is confined mainly to the IO in terms of MJO-filtered  
400 Tb, although a faster convective envelope subsequently extends well into the Pacific during  
401 December (Fig. 7), highlighting the nature of the MJO-Kelvin continuum (Roundy 2012,  
402 2014). As in MJO1, there was a preconditioning stage prior to the development of the major  
403 MJO convection starting around November 16 characterized by the passage of westward  
404 propagating convective activity embedded within eastward moving envelopes (Fig. 7a, b).

**Fig. 7**

405 Starting around November 21 the MJO envelope was characterized by two  
406 well-defined distinctive Kelvin waves (referred to as “double barrel Kelvin waves” by  
407 Gottschalck et al. 2013). The local spectra (Fig. 7b, d) reveal that the Kelvin waves were  
408 composed mainly of two distinctive components. A relatively fast component (yellow) had a  
409 phase speed of  $\sim 12 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ , as is typical of Kelvin waves in this region (e.g., Kiladis et al. 2009,  
410 Roundy 2008, 2012, 2014, Yang et al. 2009). In contrast, an even slower component (red) had  
411 phase speeds of  $\sim 8\text{-}9 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ , and this was especially pronounced within the second Kelvin pulse,  
412 especially towards the end of the event (Figs. 7c,d). As in MJO1, these Kelvin waves appeared  
413 to modulate westward propagating disturbances that include  $n=1$  WIG waves with  $\sim 1.5$  day  
414 periodicity at  $75^\circ\text{E}$  (green), with the diurnal cycle at  $100^\circ\text{E}$ , and a slower westward disturbance  
415 at  $75^\circ\text{E}$  that had closer to a 3 day period (orange in Fig. 7a, b). Given that the phase-speed of  
416 the slow Kelvin waves is around the boundary of the two Kelvin wave filters, the two Kelvin  
417 wave components overlap with each other to some extent (Fig. 7e). In contrast to MJO1, the  
418 eastward moving disturbances embedded in MJO during its earlier versus latter stage remain  
419 similar.

420

### 421 c. MJO3

422 Many aspects of MJO3 are in sharp contrast to MJO1 and MJO2. For example, the MJO  
423 filtered convective envelope developed well to the east of both MJO1 and MJO2 and was  
424 much shorter in duration. In addition, the earlier stage of MJO3 is made up by much weaker  
425 Kelvin waves particularly when compared to the pronounced  $n=1$  ER waves (e.g., Gottschalck  
426 et al. 2013), with a relatively small scale of 2,000-4,000 km (magenta in Fig. 8a, b). Another  
427 contrast between MJO3 and MJO1/MJO2 is the absence of small scale diurnal and  $n=1$  WIG  
428 disturbances.

**Fig. 8**

429 While signals are weaker in MJO3, convection appeared to be related to a series of  
430 Kelvin waves that had a slower phase speed of  $\sim 9 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  (red in Fig. 8a, b). As these slow  
431 Kelvin waves passed through the MJO envelope (Fig. 8c, e), even slower eastward  
432 propagating signals that moved in line with the envelope (blue color in Fig. 8c, d and red  
433 contours in Fig. 8e) developed within the envelope. Throughout MJO3, larger scale  $n=1$  WIG  
434 waves relative to MJO1/2 were pronounced (green color in Fig.8).

435

### 436 5.3. Composite STWT spectra

437 So far we have examined the multiscale structure of individual MJO events in a rather  
438 subjective manner with particular focus on two locations. In this subsection we take a more  
439 objective approach in an attempt to draw more robust conclusions concerning the makeup of  
440 the MJO during CINDY/DYNAMO. As in defining the MJO envelope, the MJO convective  
441 centers are objectively defined based on the MJO-filtered  $T_b$  anomalies as follows: the  
442  $7.5^{\circ}\text{S}-7.5^{\circ}\text{N}$  averaged  $T_b$  anomalies are minima in longitude and have less than  $-8 \text{ K}$ . The MJO  
443 center locations for MJO1, MJO2, and MJO3 are indicated by the red curves in Fig. 2.

**Fig. 9**



444 The STWT spectra are composited with respect to the three MJO centers. As in the  
445 previous subsection, the STWT spectra are normalized by their local background spectra prior  
446 to making the composite. We assume that EDOF follows (8), where  $n_t$  is the total number of  
447 times used to construct the composite (i.e., ignoring the independence between individual  
448 MJO events), which would provide a more conservative estimate.

449 The composite STWT spectra are shown in Fig. 9. An enhanced signal of slow Kelvin  
450 waves is evident. Besides the MJO peak, there exist four distinctive eastward wave peaks with  
451 different equivalent depths: two around 50 m ( $22 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ ), one at 15 m ( $12 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ ), and just below  
452 8 m ( $9 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ ). It is of interest to note the appearance of another significant peak that  
453 corresponds to very slow eastward propagation with  $k \sim 20\text{-}30$  and  $f \sim 0.16$  cpd  
454 (corresponding to  $\sim 3 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  phase speed). This signal was most apparent in MJO1 at  $75^\circ\text{E}$  (Fig.  
455 6b, d) and was also seen in MJO2 at  $75^\circ\text{E}$  (Fig. 7b). Whether these waves can be understood in  
456 the framework of Kelvin wave dynamics or not is an open question (Roundy 2012, 2014). The  
457 separation of scales in the spectral peaks illustrate the broad diversity seen within MJO events  
458 during the CINDY/DYNAMO period.

459 Significant westward propagating signals are also identified. As in the case studies in  
460 the previous subsection, westward convectively coupled waves appear to have a wide range of  
461 space-time scales that include the strong planetary-scale diurnal peak, the roughly 3 day peak  
462 centered on wave -20, relatively small scale  $n=1$  ER waves, and overall enhancement of power  
463 within the  $n=1$  WIG range that includes a pronounced diurnal peak at wave -20 and quasi  
464 2-day peaks over a range of spatial scales. Again these spectral peaks are dominant at different  
465 times, as shown in the case studies in the previous subsection.

466

## 467 **6. Summary and discussion**

468 We investigated the relationship between the MJO and CCEWs during CINDY/DYNAMO  
469 field campaign taking advantage of the STWT, which is able to isolate localized space-time  
470 spectra at any given location and time. To facilitate use of the STWT, we elaborated upon  
471 some practical aspects such as spectral representation and sensitivity to STWT resolution, and  
472 also discussed our method of significance testing. The global time-averaged STWT spectral  
473 estimates over the CINDY/DYNAMO period yield consistent results with the conventional FT  
474 counterparts, with much smoother features in the STWT spectra, suggesting that a local STWT  
475 spectral estimate provides a reasonable snapshot. The smoothing nature inherent in the STWT  
476 increases the credibility of detecting systematic, significant spectral peaks in an averaged  
477 spectrum at the expense of spectral resolution, a big advantage particularly when dealing with  
478 short-term data like this study.

479 The averaged CINDY/DYNAMO spectra show an overall good correspondence with  
480 long-term averaged (i.e., climatological) spectra, implying that the occurrence of CCEWs  
481 during CINDY/DYNAMO were not unusual. The manner in which CCEWs were distributed  
482 within the MJO was examined exploiting the STWT for three MJO events with particular  
483 focus on the IO region. It is, in general, difficult to find universal relationships between the  
484 MJO and CCEWs in zonal-wavenumber spectral space, indicative of a broad range in “MJO  
485 diversity”, which is in agreement with the conclusion of the statistical study of Dias et al.  
486 (2013) based on a windowed FT approach.

487 However, upon close inspection, it is found in all MJO events that a variety of  
488 eastward propagating waves appeared to be the major building blocks of the main body of the  
489 MJO convection. It is suggested that each MJO event was initially associated with Kelvin

490 waves that had space-time scales typical for the IO with a phase speed of  $\sim 12 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ . Some of  
491 the Kelvin waves observed in the latter stages of the MJO, however, tend to have slower phase  
492 speeds of  $\sim 8\text{-}9 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ . This progression was also seen in MJO4 during February-March 2012  
493 (not shown). Sometimes even more slowly eastward propagating disturbances ( $3\text{-}5 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ ) were  
494 locally observed. These eastward propagating signals appeared to be associated closely with  
495 the most vigorous convection that made up the MJO.

496 The above mentioned case study results are well supported by the composite result  
497 (Fig. 9). Several Kelvin wave peaks are identified, corresponding to fast ( $\sim 23 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ ), moderate  
498 ( $\sim 12 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ ), and slow ( $\sim 8 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ ) phase speeds. The presence of the faster two peaks is expected  
499 from the local time-averaged spectra (Fig. 5a and c). However, the slow Kelvin wave peak  
500 does not appear in the local time-averaged spectra, indicating that they existed only within the  
501 MJO during the study period. Also the signal of the even slower disturbance shows up in the  
502 composite spectrum. At this stage it is not clear whether these disturbances can be classified as  
503 Kelvin waves or not.

504 These eastward propagating disturbances alone, however, do not seem to be  
505 responsible for the development of the major convective systems of the MJO. They often  
506 interact with westward propagating disturbances, most of which can be classified as a wide  
507 space-time scale range of  $n=1$  WIG waves, reminiscent of the schematic summary of  
508 Nakazawa (1988) that described the hierarchical structure of the MJO: a number of eastward  
509 propagating super cloud clusters embedded in the MJO envelope, each of which being  
510 composed of westward propagating cloud clusters. The STWT signals isolated here for the  
511 DYNAMO period were also shown to be valid for the cases studied by Nakazawa (Kikuchi  
512 and Wang 2010). In addition to  $n=1$  WIG waves, other westward disturbances appear at times,

513 although these are not necessarily classifiable as CCEWs.

514           So far we have documented a limited number of MJO cases using the STWT  
515 approach, however preliminary results from a larger sample indicates that eastward  
516 propagating signals are the norm with the MJO convective envelope. Yet individual MJOs  
517 differ widely from each other as well (Dias et al. 2016). This raises many open questions for  
518 future studies. First, under what conditions do Kelvin waves develop and subsequently slow  
519 down within the MJO? The background in which Kelvin waves are embedded varies with the  
520 MJO and, as a result, affects the properties of the Kelvin waves through dynamical (e.g., Dias  
521 and Kiladis 2014, Han and Khouider 2010) and thermodynamical (e.g., Dias and Pauluis  
522 2011) effects. Of them, the effect of moisture probably plays a central role. The slow Kelvin  
523 waves tend to appear at the peak of the MJO convection at which time the entire troposphere  
524 tends to be humid (e.g., Hannah et al. 2016, Johnson and Ciesielski 2013, Nasuno et al. 2015,  
525 Yokoi and Sobel 2015), which is consistent with the view that convectively coupled waves  
526 move slowly under moist conditions because convection effectively reduces the effective static  
527 stability (Emanuel et al. 1994).

528           Our findings are consistent with recent statistical analysis of observational data.  
529 Roundy (2012) showed that Kelvin waves tend to have structures more similar to those of the  
530 MJO as phase speed decreases with little dependence on the zonal scale. Yasunaga and Mapes  
531 (2012) showed that slower Kelvin waves tend to involve more stratiform rain than faster  
532 Kelvin waves. Given the similarity in the dynamical fields between the slow Kelvin waves and  
533 the MJO, perhaps the emergence of slow Kelvin waves put an end to the convective active  
534 phase of the MJO due to the drying by bringing relatively dry subtropical air into the tropics  
535 associated with large-scale Rossby gyres behind the MJO (e.g., Benedict and Randall 2007,

536 Kerns and Chen 2014a, b, Kiladis et al. 2005, Maloney and Hartmann 1998, Yamada et al.  
537 2010).

538 Another issue has to do with characterizing MJO diversity from the viewpoint of  
539 multiscale interaction. In some cases, a wide range of  $n=1$  WIG waves as well as Kelvin  
540 waves appear to be the major building blocks of the MJO, but in other cases a wide array of  
541 other convectively coupled waves are seen to be involved. In addition to these rather frequent  
542 players, other types of convective organization may come into play from time to time. For  
543 example, Judt and Chen (2014) documented the development of explosive MCSs within  
544 MJO2 envelope that occurred in association with MRG-like circulations. As seen in Fig. 8, the  
545 initiation of MJO3 appeared to be greatly influenced by the moist phase of ER waves. It turns  
546 out that, on average, while the variance of CCEWs and MCSs is enhanced within the MJO, the  
547 average statistical distribution of these various disturbances does not vary much between  
548 active and inactive MJOs, even though individual MJOs can vary greatly from one to another  
549 (Dias et al. 2016).

550 Of course, other, more stationary factors are responsible for the diversity of the MJO  
551 as well as of its multiscale structure, such as the seasonal and geographical settings. It has  
552 been shown that the behavior of both CCEWs (e.g., Dias and Kiladis 2014, Kikuchi 2014,  
553 Masunaga 2007, Roundy and Frank 2004) and the MJO (e.g., Kikuchi et al. 2012, Kiladis et al.  
554 2014, Zhang 2005) are strongly affected by those factors. It is readily expected from the  
555 pronounced annual cycle in the MJO that the multiscale structure of the MJO during boreal  
556 summer, which displays a strong asymmetric structure about the equator, is different from  
557 what we saw in this study. Perhaps antisymmetric CCEW components that little attention was  
558 paid in this study come into play. Also it is likely that the geographical settings affect the

559 multiscale structure, and thus the multiscale interaction, of the MJO. Of the different regions,  
560 the Maritime Continent perhaps provides the most complex situation in which each wave  
561 component undergoes a complicated interaction with the mountainous terrain (Hsu and Lee  
562 2005, Ridout and Flatau 2011, Wu and Hsu 2009) and the pronounced diurnal cycle come  
563 more into play (e.g., Fujita et al. 2011, Ichikawa and Yasunari 2007, 2008, Oh et al. 2012,  
564 Peatman et al. 2014, Rauniyar and Walsh 2011). The near-future international field campaign  
565 effort, Year of the Maritime Continent (YMC), will provide an unprecedented opportunity to  
566 investigate the complex interactions in great detail.

567 This is a pilot study that demonstrates the ability of the STWT to elucidate the  
568 localized multiscale structure of the MJO during CINDY/DYNAMO. Applying the same type  
569 of approach, we are conducting more robust, statistical analysis based on long-term data  
570 intending to address some of the aforementioned issues. One goal of this work will be to  
571 determine whether MJOs can be grouped by the types of disturbances that reside within them.  
572 Results obtained from this morphological-based approach would provide fundamental  
573 implications about the interaction between the MJO and CCEWs, which is a basis for further  
574 process-oriented analysis in terms of heat, momentum, and moisture (e.g., Kiranmayi and  
575 Maloney 2011, Majda and Stechmann 2012, Miyakawa et al. 2012, Nasuno et al. 2015, Zhao  
576 et al. 2013).

577

## 578 **Appendix: Energy conversion from STWT space to Fourier space**

579 Presenting the calculated STWT spectra in its native space (as a function of scale and speed  
580 tuning parameter) makes the STWT difficult to compare with popular FT approaches and  
581 hinders interpretation. In order to fill the gap in representation, we developed a method to

582 convert the STWT spectra in terms of zonal wavenumber and frequency. By considering how  
 583 a sinusoidal wave can be represented in the STWT and FT,  $a$  and  $c$  can be associated with  
 584  $k$  and  $\omega$  as follows (Kikuchi and Wang 2010):

$$\begin{aligned} a &= 1/2(k_M \omega_M / k \omega)^{1/2} \\ c &= k_M \omega / k \omega_M \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A1})$$

585 where  $k_M = k_0 + (k_0^2 + 2)^{1/2}$ ,  $\omega_M = \omega_0 + (\omega_0^2 + 2)^{1/2}$ .

586 In light of the energy conservation (3), the discretized STWT spectrum  $\tilde{W}_{i,n}$  in Fourier  
 587 space at zonal wavenumber  $k_i$  and frequency  $f_n$  can be estimated using the computed  
 588 STWT spectrum  $W_{j,q}$  at  $a_j$  and  $c_q$  as

$$|\tilde{W}_{i,n}| = \frac{1}{C_{\psi_{c \neq 0}}} \sum_{j=1}^J \sum_{q=1}^Q \frac{(\log 2)^2}{a_j^2} |W_{j,q}|^2 \alpha_{i,n;j,q} / \Delta k \Delta \omega \quad (\text{A2})$$

589 where  $\alpha_{i,n;j,q}$  is the coefficient that measures the ratio of the area of the segment  $(j, q)$   
 590 enclosed by the curves  $P'_1, P'_2, P'_3, P'_4$  to the total area of the segment  $(j, q)$  (Fig. A1),  
 591 and  $\Delta k$  and  $\Delta f$  are the desired zonal wavenumber and frequency resolutions of the  $\tilde{W}_{i,n}$   
 592 spectrum in the Fourier space.

**Fig. A1**

593

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602



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816

817 **Figure captions**

818 **Table 1** Summary of computational costs.

819 **Fig. 1** Characteristics of the Morlet wavelet used in this study. (a) Space-time structure of the

820 real part of the Morlet wavelet ( $\psi(x, t) = e^{i(k_0x + \omega_0t)} e^{-(x^2 + t^2)}$ ) and (b) schematic

821 showing how each STWT wave component is represented in the Fourier space.

822 Shading represents the amplitude of the normalized Morlet wavelet ( $a\hat{\psi}_{a,c}^* =$

823  $e^{-1/2(ac^{1/2}k - k_0)^2} e^{-1/2(ac^{-1/2}(\omega - \omega_0)^2)}$ ).

824 **Fig. 2** Longitude-time section of Tb along the equator averaged over 7.5°S and 7.5°N during

825 CINDY/DYNAMO period (October, 2011-31March, 2012). Contours denote

826 MJO-filtered (zonal wavenumbers 1-6 and frequencies 1/96-1/25 cpd) OLR anomalies

827 with interval 4 W m<sup>-1</sup> and only negative values are drawn. Regions denoted by dashed

828 boxes are shown in greater detail in Figs. 6-9. Red curves indicate MJO convective

829 centers for the major three MJO events (see Section 5.3 for details).

830 **Fig. 3** Zonal wavenumber-frequency spectral estimates for the CINDY/DYNAMO period

831 (October, 2011-March, 2012) based on the FFT (top), and the STWT (lower panels) for

832 the symmetric (left) and antisymmetric (right) components. The base-10 logarithm is

833 taken. The STWT spectra are averaged spectra over the entire longitude and IOP

834 period. The resolution ( $\delta_j = \delta_q$ ) of the STWT spectra vary from 0.8 to 0.05.

835 Dispersion curves for Kelvin, n=1 equatorial Rossby, n=1 and 2 inertio gravity, n=0

836 eastward inertio gravity and mixed Rossby gravity waves with equivalent depth of 25

837 m are shown by solid curves for reference.

838 **Fig. 4** Normalized zonal wavenumber-frequency spectra based on the (top) FFT, and (b) the

839 STWT (lower panels) for the symmetric (left) and antisymmetric (right) components in

840 conjunction with, for the STWT spectra, (e) the effective degrees of freedom according  
841 to (10) and (f) the corresponding significance level at which normalized spectral peak  
842 of value 1.2 passes. The resolution in the calculation of the STWT spectra is 0.05. The  
843 background spectra used to normalize the spectra was obtained by applying the same  
844 method as in Wheeler and Kiladis (1999) to the raw spectra shown in Fig. 3. As in Fig.  
845 3, the STWT spectra are the average ones over space and time. The resolution of the  
846 STWT spectra is 0.05. Dispersion curves for various equatorial waves with equivalent  
847 depths of 8, 12, 25, 50, and 90 m are shown by solid curves. Cross in (c) and (d)  
848 indicates where the spectral peak is statistically significant at the 90 % level.

849 **Fig. 5** Same as Fig. 4c and d except for averaged local STWT spectra at (top) 75°E and  
850 (bottom) 100°E over the CINDY/DYNAMO period for (left) the symmetric component  
851 and (right) the antisymmetric component. The spectra are normalized by their local  
852 background spectra, respectively.

853 **Fig. 6** Hovmöller diagrams of IR and local STWT spectra for MJO1. (Top) Average IR over  
854 7.5°S-7.5°N and (bottom) the normalized symmetric STWT spectra, for (left) October  
855 27, 2011 at 75°E and (right) November 2, 2011 at 100°E, by the local background  
856 spectrum. Color dashed lines in (a) and (c) represent wave troughs of the wave packets  
857 for a particular wavenumber and frequency denoted by color dots in the bottom panels.  
858 The length of each lines indicate e-folding scale. The white circles in (a) and (c)  
859 correspond to the point at which the local STWT spectra are shown. Significance  
860 levels at 90, 95, and 99% are 2.3, 3.0, and 4.6, respectively, assuming 2 DOF and  
861 shading in the bottom panels indicates where the spectral peak is statistically  
862 significant at the 90 % level. Heavy solid boxes in (b) represent regions of wave

863 number-frequency filtering for the MJO (blue), typical Kelvin waves (green), and slow  
 864 Kelvin waves (red). Thick solid black lines in the top panels represent the MJO-filtered  
 865 IR anomalies with contour level of -6 K. Thick solid blue and green lines in (e)  
 866 represent the typical and slow Kelvin-filtered anomalies with contour level of -5 K,  
 867 respectively.

868 **Fig. 7** Same as Fig. 6 except for MJO2.

869 **Fig. 8** Same as Fig. 6 except for MJO3.

870 **Fig. 9** Composite symmetric STWT spectra along the MJO phase lines in Fig. 2. Prior to  
 871 making the composite, the STWT spectra are normalized by their local background  
 872 spectra. Shading indicates that the spectra are statistically significant at the 90% level.

873 **Fig. A1** Schematic illustrating how the STWT spectra are represented in terms of the Fourier  
 874 space. (a) Spectrum at zonal wavenumber  $k$  and frequency  $f$  represents the energy  
 875 contained in a rectangular defined by

876  $P_1(k - \Delta k/2, f - \Delta f/2), P_2(k + \Delta k/2, f - \Delta f/2), P_3(k +$

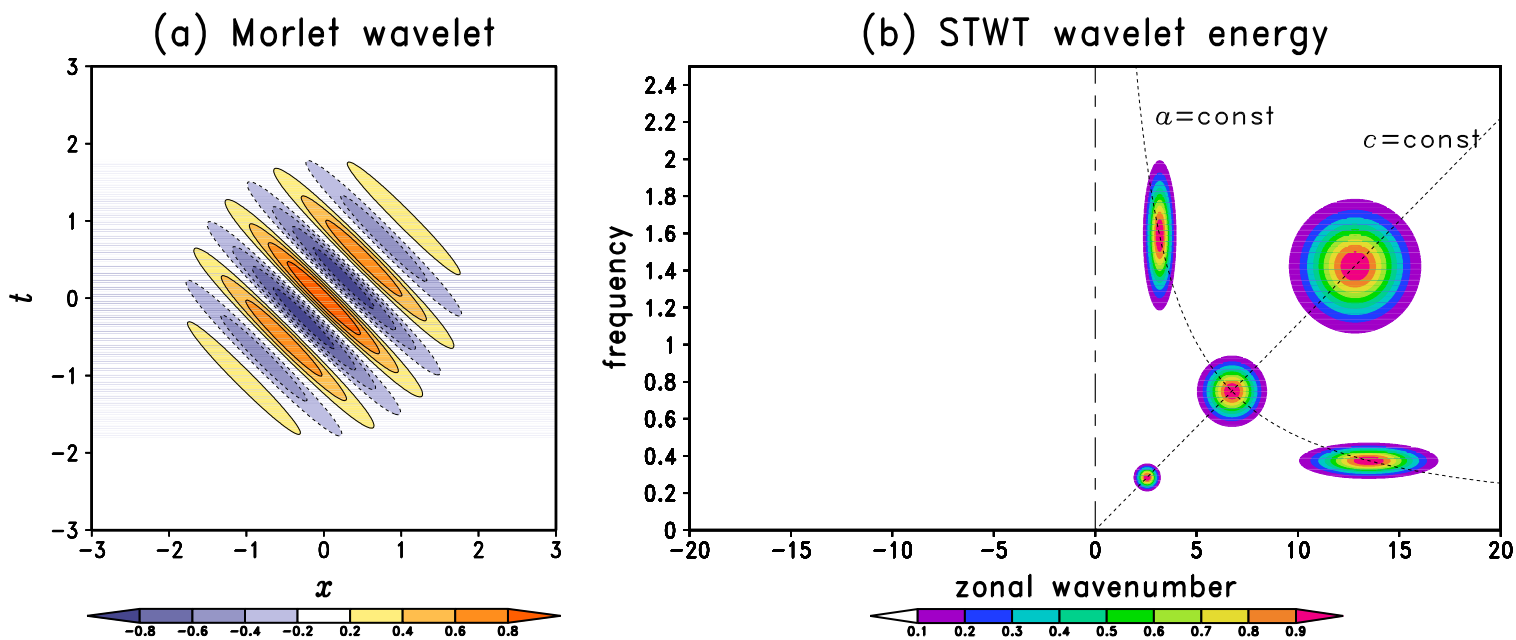
877  $\Delta k/2, f + \Delta f/2), P_4(k - \Delta k/2, f + \Delta f/2)$  and (b) the corresponding energy

878 represented in the wavelet domain. The curves  $P_1', P_2', P_3', P_4'$  are obtained by  
 879 means of (A1).

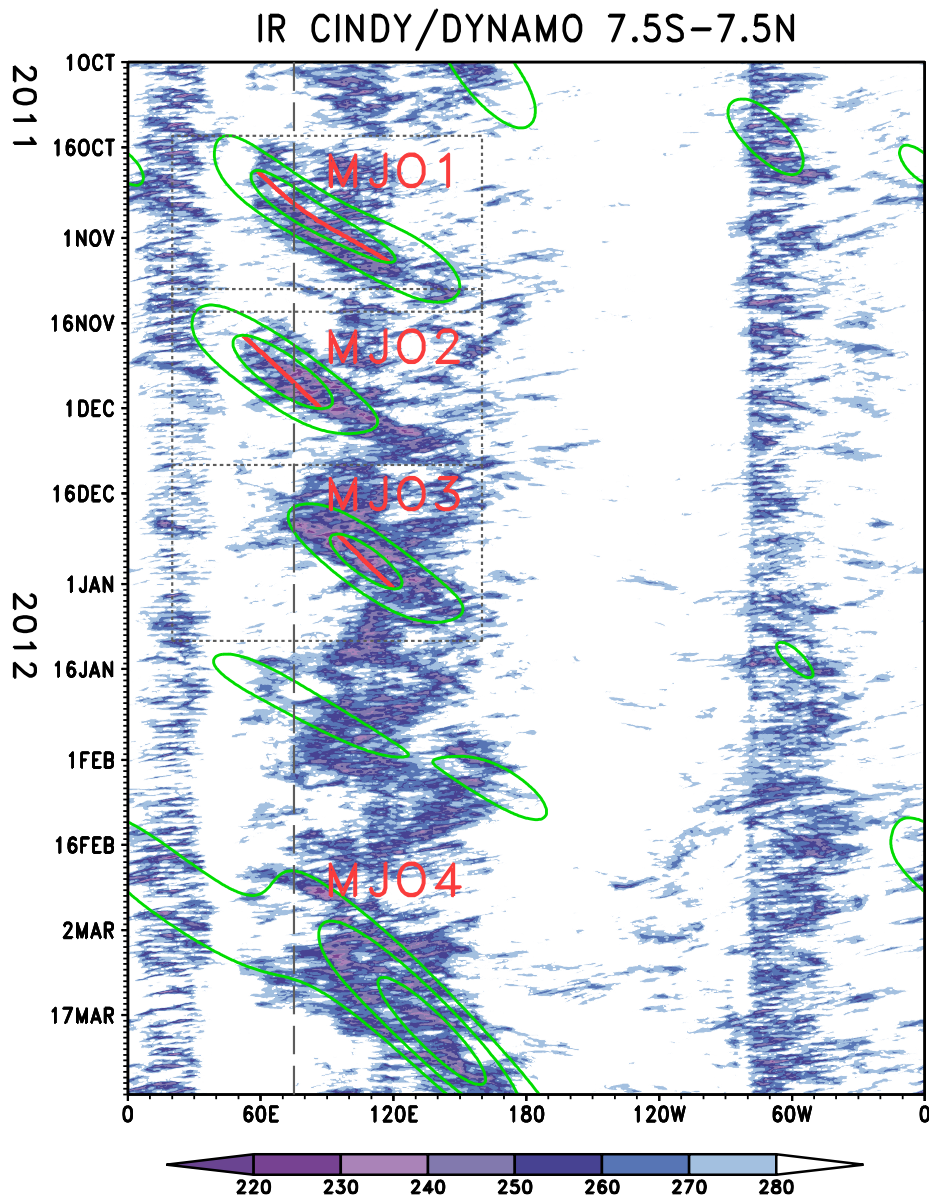
880

Table 1 Summary of computational costs

$\Delta j, \Delta q$	0.05	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.8	Fourier
Approximate number of points $((2 \times Q + 1) \times J)$	110,000	30,000	7,000	1,000	600	1

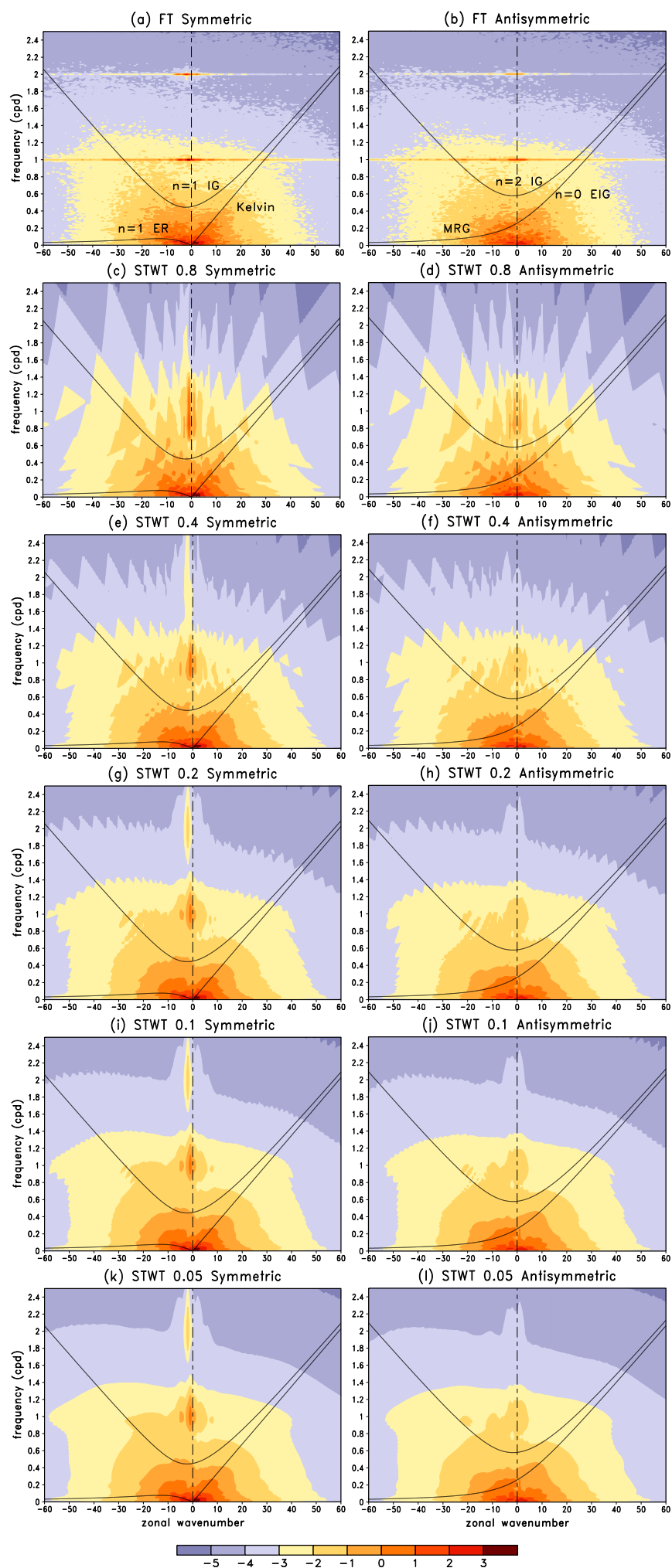


**Fig. 1** Characteristics of the Morlet wavelet used in this study. (a) Space-time structure of the real part of the Morlet wavelet ( $\psi(x, t) = e^{i(k_0x + \omega_0t)} e^{-1/2(x^2 + t^2)}$ ) and (b) schematic showing how each STWT wave component is represented in the Fourier space. Shading represents the amplitude of the normalized Morlet wavelet ( $a\psi_{a,c}^* = e^{-1/2(ac^{-1/2}k - k_0)^2} e^{-1/2(ac^{-1/2}\omega - \omega_0)^2}$ ).

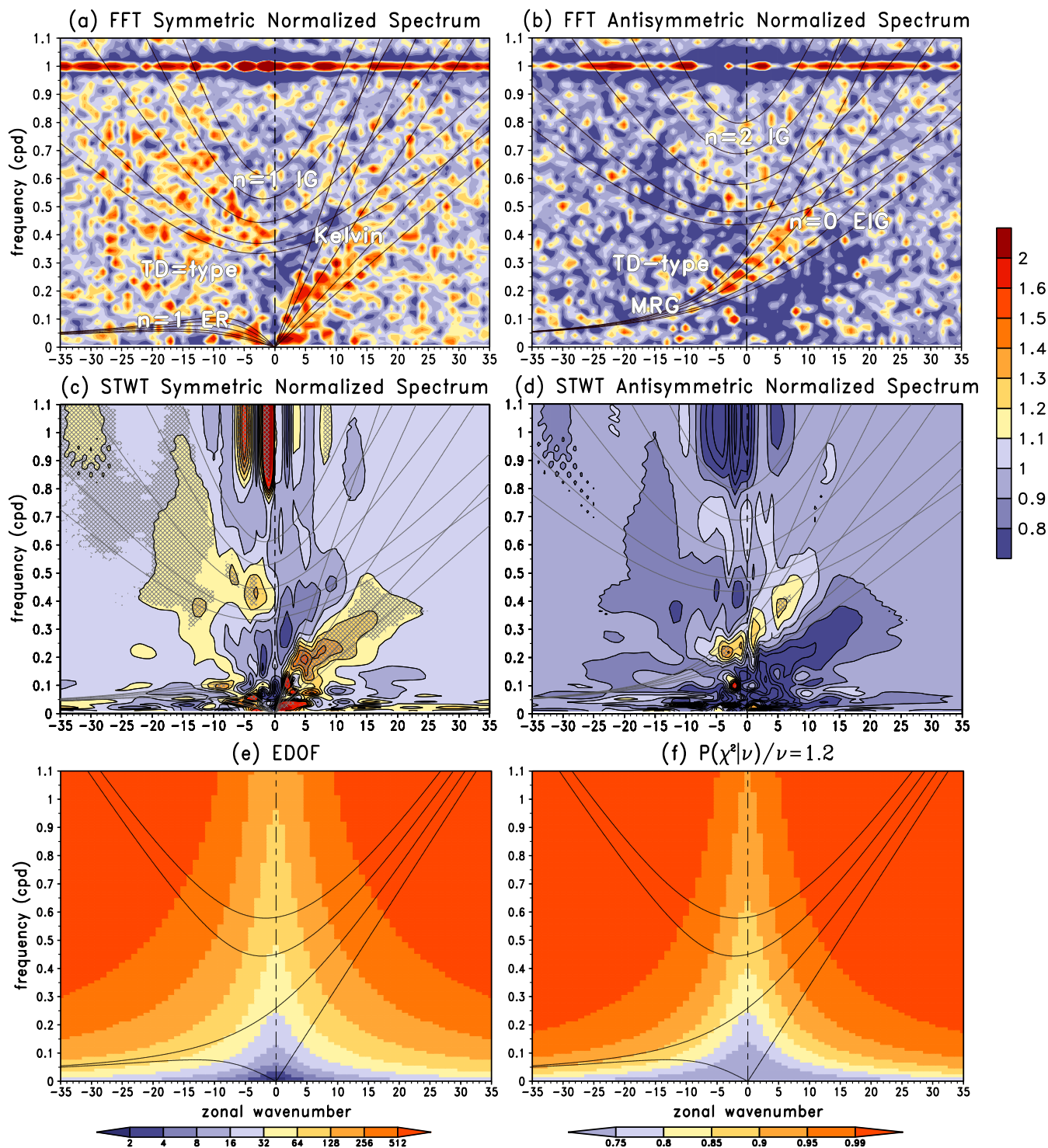


**Fig. 2** Longitude-time section of IR along the equator averaged over 7.5°S and 7.5°N during CINDY/DYNAMO period (October, 2011-31March, 2012). Contours denote MJO-filtered (zonal wavenumbers 1-6 and frequencies 1/96-1/25 cpd) IR anomalies with interval 4 K and only negative values are drawn. Regions denoted by dotted boxes are shown in greater detail in Figs. 6-9. Red curves indicate MJO convective centers for the major three MJO events (see Section 5.3 for details). The dashed line is drawn along 75°E where the observing network was formed.

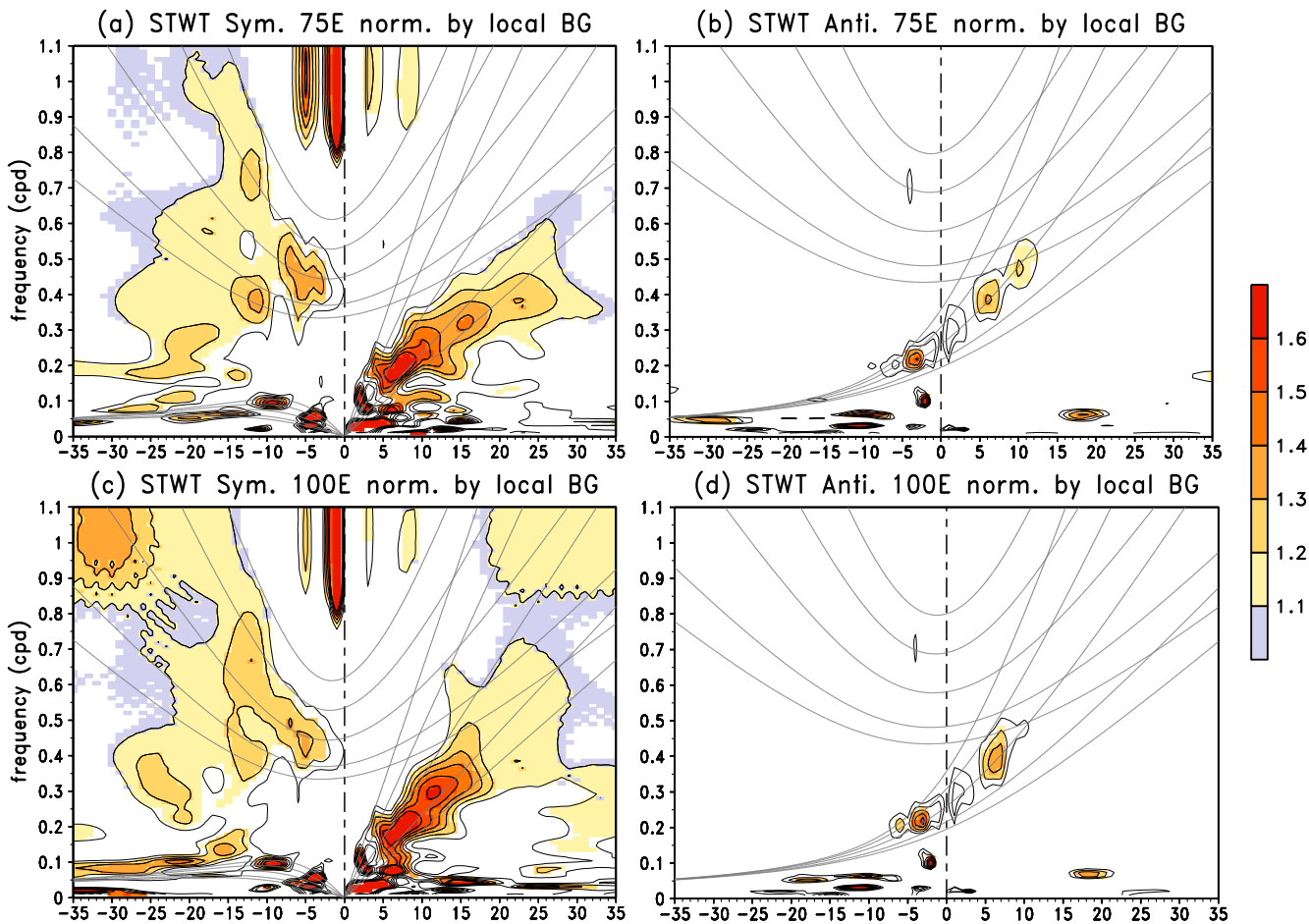


**Fig. 3**

**Fig. 3** Zonal wavenumber-frequency spectral estimates for the CINDY/DYNAMO period (October, 2011-March, 2012) based on the FFT (top), and the STWT (lower panels) for the symmetric (left) and antisymmetric (right) components. The base-10 logarithm is taken. The STWT spectra are averaged spectra over the entire longitude and IOP period. The resolution ( $\delta_j = \delta_q$ ) of the STWT spectra vary from 0.8 to 0.05. Dispersion curves for Kelvin, n=1 equatorial Rossby, n=1 and 2 inertio gravity, n=0 eastward inertio gravity and mixed Rossby gravity waves with equivalent depth of 25 m are shown by solid curves for reference.



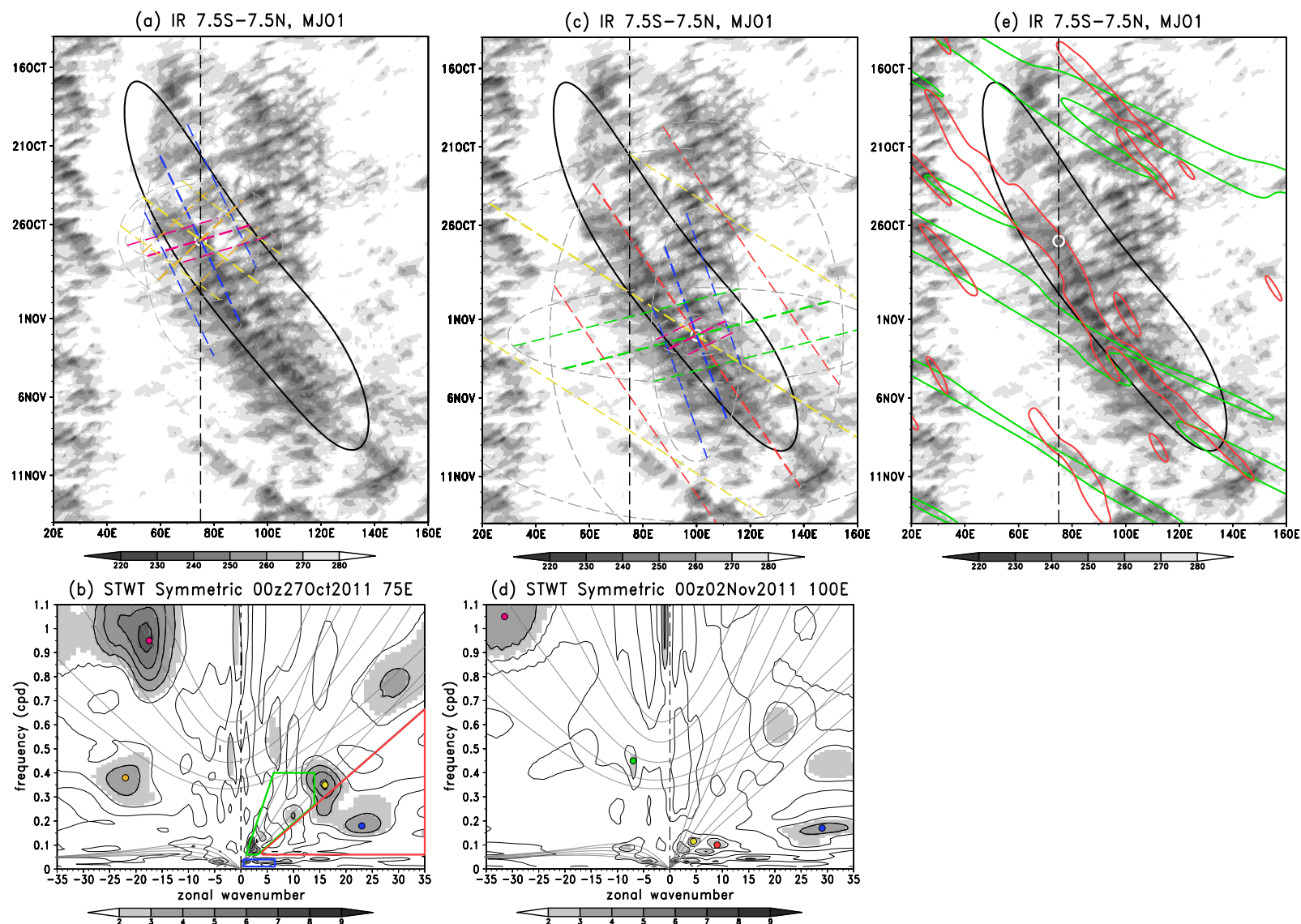
**Fig. 4** Normalized zonal wavenumber-frequency spectra based on the (top) FFT, and (b) the STWT (lower panels) for the symmetric (left) and antisymmetric (right) components in conjunction with, for the STWT spectra, (e) the effective degrees of freedom according to (10) and (f) the corresponding significance level at which normalized spectral peak of value 1.2 passes. The resolution in the calculation of the STWT spectra is 0.05. The background spectra used to normalize the spectra was obtained by applying the same method as in Wheeler and Kiladis (1999) to the raw spectra shown in Fig. 3. As in Fig. 3, the STWT spectra are the average ones over space and time. The resolution of the STWT spectra is 0.05. Dispersion curves for various equatorial waves with equivalent depths of 8, 12, 25, 50, and 90 m are shown by solid curves. Cross in (c) and (d) indicates where the spectral peak is statistically significant at the 90 % level.



**Fig. 5** Same as Fig. 4c and d except for averaged local STWT spectra at (top) 75°E and (bottom) 100°E over the CINDY/DYNAMO period for (left) the symmetric component and (right) the antisymmetric component. The spectra are normalized by their local background spectra, respectively.

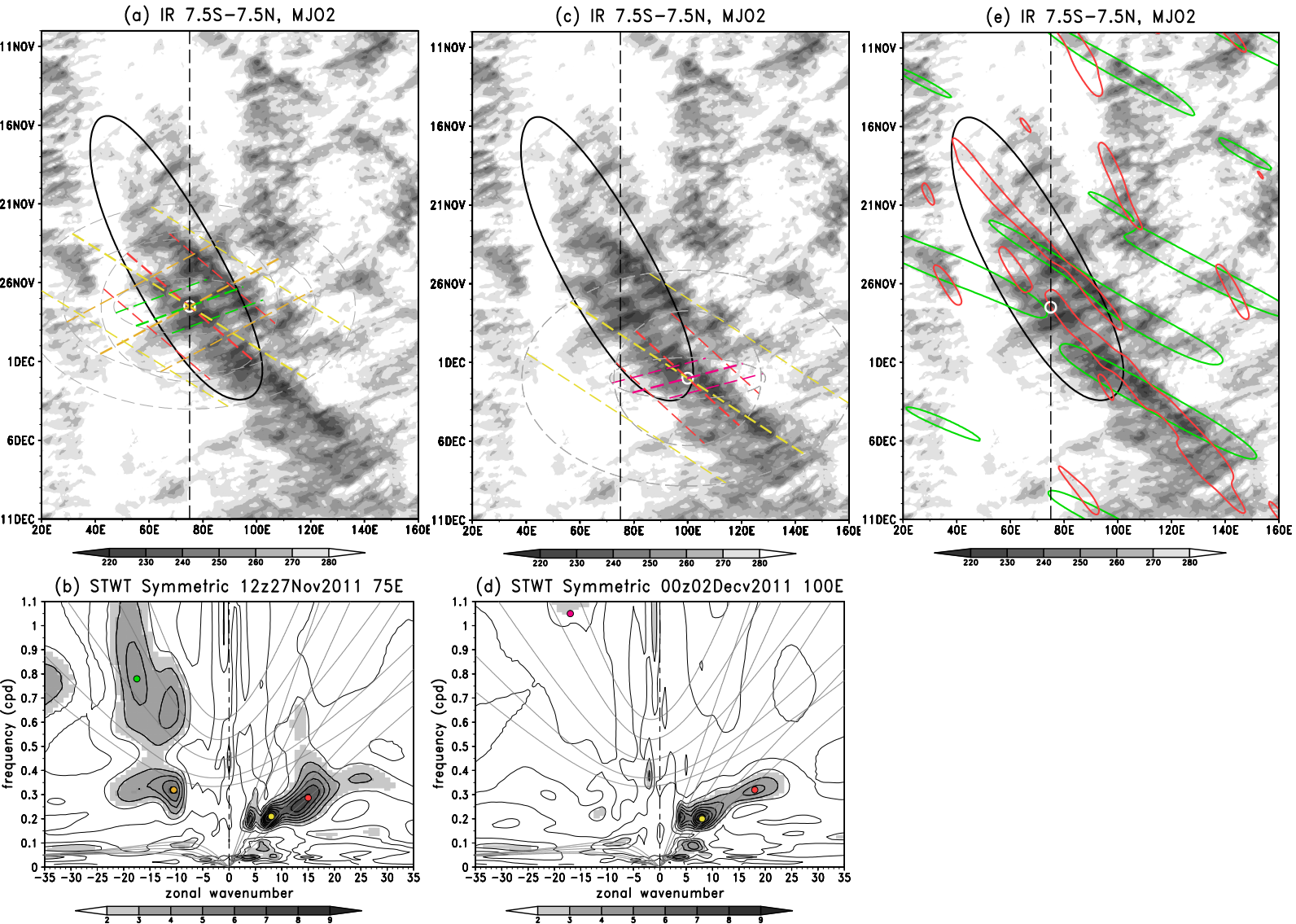


**Fig. 6**



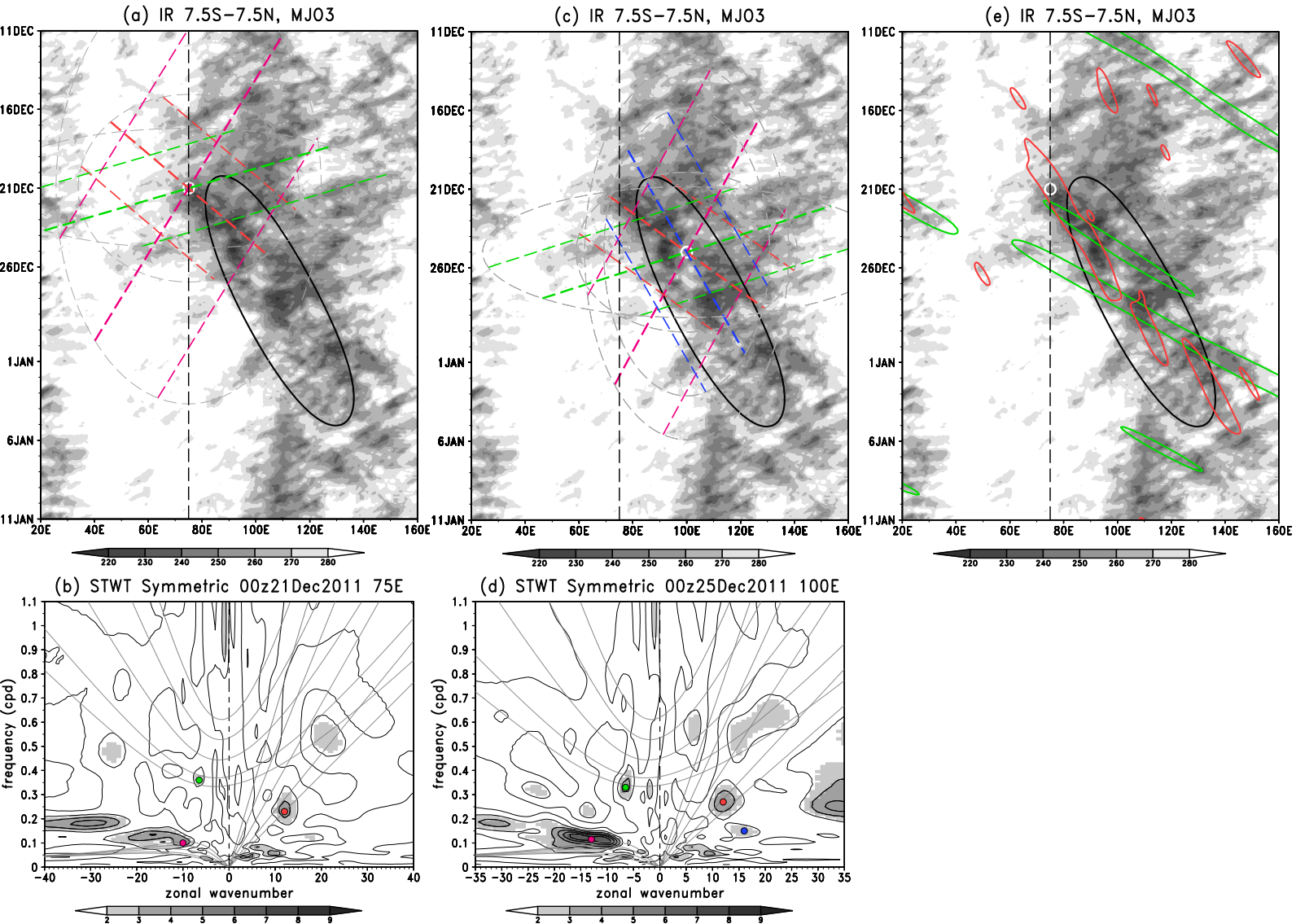
**Fig. 6** Hovmöller diagrams of IR and local STWT spectra for MJO1. (Top) Average IR over 7.5°S-7.5°N and (bottom) the normalized symmetric STWT spectra, for (left) October 27, 2011 at 75°E and (right) November 2, 2011 at 100°E, by the local background spectrum. Color dashed lines in (a) and (c) represent wave troughs of the wave packets for a particular wavenumber and frequency denoted by color dots in the bottom panels. The length of each lines indicate e-folding scale. The white circles in (a) and (c) correspond to the point at which the local STWT spectra are shown. Significance levels at 90, 95, and 99% are 2.3, 3.0, and 4.6, respectively, assuming 2 DOF and shading in the bottom panels indicates where the spectral peak is statistically significant at the 90 % level. Heavy solid boxes in (b) represent regions of wave number-frequency filtering for the MJO (blue), typical Kelvin waves (green), and slow Kelvin waves (red). Thick solid black lines in the top panels represent the MJO-filtered IR anomalies with contour level of -6 K. Thick solid blue and green lines in (e) represent the typical and slow Kelvin-filtered anomalies with contour level of -5 K, respectively.

**Fig. 7**

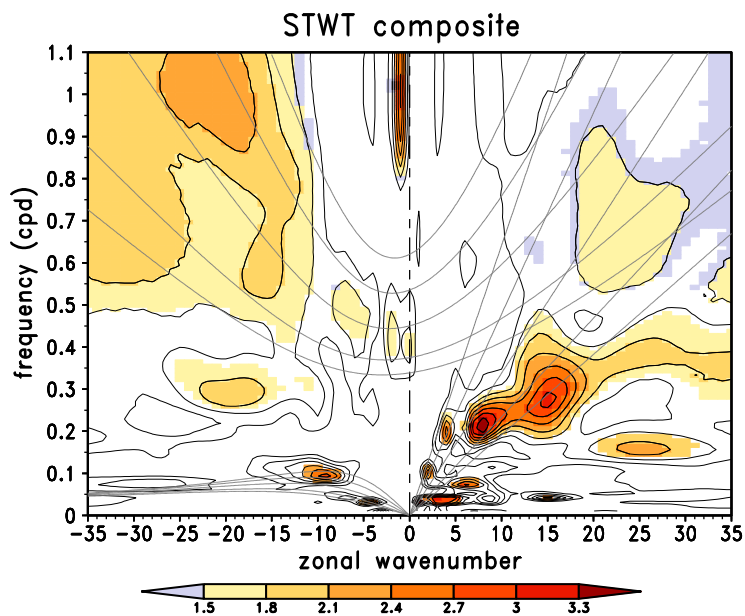


**Fig. 7** Same as Fig. 6 except for MJO2.

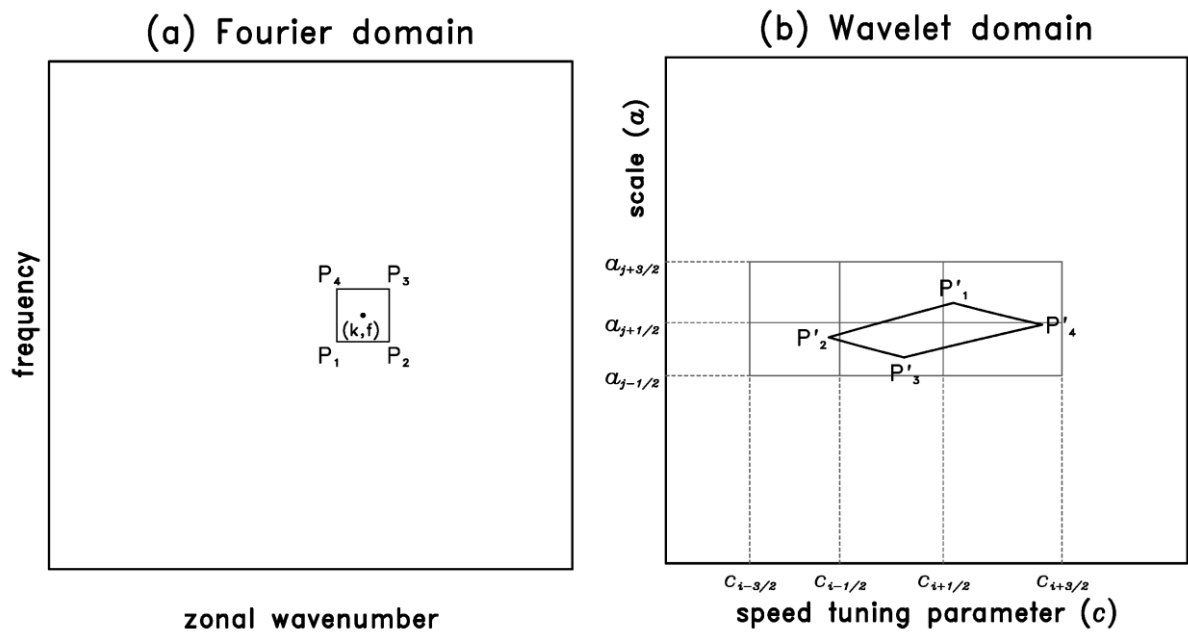
**Fig. 8**



**Fig. 8** Same as Fig. 6 except for MJO3.



**Fig. 9** Composite symmetric STWT spectra along the MJO phase lines in Fig. 2. Prior to making the composite, the STWT spectra are normalized by their local background spectra. Shading indicates that the spectra are statistically significant at the 90% level.



**Fig. A1** Schematic illustrating how the STWT spectra are represented in terms of the Fourier space. (a) Spectrum at zonal wavenumber  $k$  and frequency  $f$  represents the energy contained in a rectangular defined by  $P_1(k - \Delta k / 2, f - \Delta f / 2)$ ,  $P_2(k + \Delta k / 2, f - \Delta f / 2)$ ,  $P_3(k + \Delta k / 2, f + \Delta f / 2)$ ,  $P_4(k - \Delta k / 2, f + \Delta f / 2)$  and (b) the corresponding energy represented in the wavelet domain. The curves  $P'_1, P'_2, P'_3, P'_4$  are obtained by means of (8).