



ATOC COLLOQUIUM

Welcome!

Please join us for the next ATOC Colloquium on **Friday, Feb. 6** from **11:00 AM–12:00 PM**, which will be held in **SEEC S228** and simulcast over Zoom. This week's colloquium features **Dr. Brandon Wolding (NOAA PSL)**. Please join us for conversation beginning at 10:45 AM and stay for lunch afterwards.

Campfire Stories of Tropical Convection

In the first part of this talk, I will be sharing some of my favorite short stories of tropical convection, which will hopefully illustrate some of the historical events that have helped to shape our current understanding and still influence our theoretical approaches and perspectives. These stories include the founding of the Institute of Tropical Meteorology (ITM) in Puerto Rico during World War II, and discuss one of the seminal publications of ITM instructors, Herbert Riehl and Joanne (Malkus) Simpson. I will talk about how nuclear testing in the Pacific provided the observations necessary for the discovery of the Quasi-Biennial Oscillation, which in turn set off a race to find equatorial waves whose existence was predicted by simple theory. And about how a correct theory on the role of tropical convection in the general circulation and global energy budget would help perpetuate an incorrect understanding of tropical convective clouds that would persist for decades. I will then briefly discuss a few personal highlights from my own research into tropical convection in 2025, and try to put these findings in their correct historical context. I hope that you find this talk fun and enjoyable, and walk away with a greater appreciation of and passion for tropical atmospheric science.

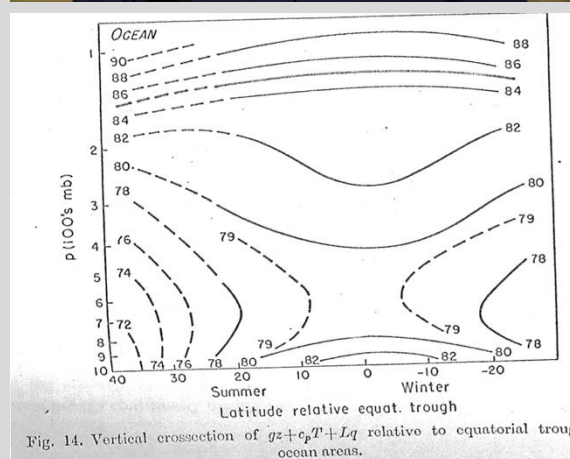


Fig. 14. Vertical cross-section of $g_2 + c_p T + Lq$ relative to equatorial trough ocean areas.

Zoom: <https://cuboulder.zoom.us/j/4713174822>

Passcode: ATOC

About the ATOC Colloquium

The Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences (ATOC) Colloquium is typically held **every other Friday** from **11:00 AM–Noon**. Colloquia alternate between the following formats: (A) Full-length talk by a faculty member or invited speaker, (B) Three conference-length talks by graduate students. If you would like to nominate a speaker (including self), please email the ATOC Colloquium Committee Chair, Prof. Jianghanyang (Ben) Li (Jianghanyang.li@colorado.edu). Please visit www.colorado.edu/atoc/colloquium for further details.