



Abstract Details

[AOGS 1st Annual Meeting](#) > [Ocean and Atmospheres](#) > **Role of the Tibetan Plateau Thermal Mechanical Forcing in the Summer Climate Patterns over subtropical Asia >**

Corresponding Author : Dr. Anmin Duan (amduan@lasg.iap.ac.cn)

Organization: Institute of atmospheric physics

Category: Ocean and Atmospheres

Paper ID: 57-OOA-A1117

Title: Role of the Tibetan Plateau Thermal and Mechanical Forcing in the Summer Climate Patterns over subtropical Asia

Abstract:

Numerical simulations by using IAP/LASG GOALS climate model and data analysis are carried out to investigate how the Tibetan Plateau (TP) orography, sensible heating, as well as latent heating affect the summer circulation and climate patterns over the subtropical Asia. It is shown that the TP thermal effect, which is mainly depended on the monsoon precipitation induced latent heat release, is dominant in summer season. The combination of the surface sensible heating and upper-level latent heating results in air flows toward the midst of the TP and converges there, thus generates a low-level cyclonic circulation around the TP and an anticyclonic circulation above it. However, comparing to the thermal aspect, the mechanical forcing of the orography plays a reversed role in the circulation pattern over the TP. According to the steady barotropic vorticity equation, at large-scale, airflows must converge in the low layers and diverge in the high layers over the east side of TP. However, the west side of TP is characterized by a reversed structure, i.e., divergence in low layers but convergence in high layers. Hence pumping and sucking processes result in upward and downward movement over the east and west side of TP, respectively. Moreover, in lower layers, Sverdrup vorticity balance implies equatorward flow in the descent region and poleward flow in the ascent region. The opposition of circulation and vertical motion induced by the heating over the TP therefore generate the basic climate pattern, which is characterized by wet in east flank but droughty in west flank of the plateau, in summer over subtropical Asia. Such configurations are modified to some extent by diabatic heating and orography.

Presentation Mode: Oral

Keywords: Tibetan Plateau, thermal forcing, mechanical forcing, circulation and climate, numerical simulation

Status: Pending.

Co-Authors

No.	Title	First Name	Family Name	Organization
1	Prof.	Guoxiong	Wu	Institute of Atmospheric Physics