

Mechanisms of **Orographically Enhanced Precipitation** Associated with **Typhoon** Meari (2011) over Mt. Da-Tun

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Introduction



Fig. The horizontal distribution of the maximum rainfall accumulation (contours; mm) from rain gauges associated with typhoons influencing Taiwan from 1897 to 1996. (Yu and Cheng 2014) Typhoon-induced heaviest rainfall in Taiwan has been concentrated over the mountainous region. (Wu et al. 2002; Lee et al. 2008; Yang et al. 2008)

Hot spots: Mt. Da-Tun Snow Mountain Range Central Mountain Range

A local rainfall max over Mt.Da-Tun

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Introduction

Previous studies demonstrated a crucial role of orographic lifting in contributing to precipitation enhancement over windward side of the mountains.

(Lin et al. 2002; Wu et al. 2002; Yu and Cheng 2008; Huang et al. 2014)

Precipitation enhancement in the typhoon environment was also related to the seeder—feeder mechanism.
 (Smith et al. 2009b; Yu and Cheng 2013; Yu and Cheng 2014)



Seeder-feeder mechanism :

- First proposed by Bergeron in 1965
- Microphysical interaction between typhoon background precipitation/ rainbands and the precipitation produced by orographic lifting.



Motivation

In the typhoon environment, upslope lifting is inadequate to explain the distribution and intensity of precipitation over mountains, limited studies had quantified the orographic enhancement.

Using observational data, this study attempts to explore the possible physical mechanisms of rainfall enhancement and to quantify it.

Data & Methods



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Case study-Overview



Typhoon Meari (2011):

- Moving northwesterly passing by northeast sea area of Taiwan
- Outer circulations of the typhoon persistently passed over northern area

③ Studying period:
 6/24 17UTC- 6/25 03UTC





- Embedded-cell stage: convective cells passed by
 Stratiform stage: background precipitation is more stratiform
- Radar reflectivity max @ near and downstream of the crest
- Stronger enhanced rainfall over mountain while cross barrier flow getting stronger

Case study – Upstream conditions



Saturated Brunt–Vaisala frequency $N_m = 4.6 \times 10^{-3}$ Wind speed at 1 km (dual-Doppler): 20~23m/s Fr number (U/N_mH)= <u>4.3-5</u> Large Fr flow regime

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Using horizontal/vertical wind and terminal velocity(computed from reflectivity) to track hydrometeors from Mt. Da-Tun(sea) at 1km to represent orographically enhanced precipitation, R_{DT} (background precipitation, R_{bg}).

Backtrack interval : 30s Trajectory interval : 10-20 min





Mean R_{DT} , R_{bg} and ΔR in the period of analysis time

Shading highlights the range of \pm one standard deviation





Enhanced rainfall is 2-3 times greater than the background rainfall

Greater background rainfall -> Stronger enhancement

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Diagnostic model of orographic precipitation (Sinclair 1994; Cheng 2015)

 $\bigotimes \frac{dq_s}{dt} = -\lambda(p)F(p)\omega(p)\left(\frac{Kg/Kg}{s}\right)$ q_s : Saturation mixing ratio $\begin{cases} \lambda(p) = (\frac{RH(p) - 0.6}{0.4})^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ F(p) = \frac{q_s T_s}{P_s} (\frac{LR - C_p R_V T_s}{C_p R_V T_s^2 + q_s L^2}) \\ \omega(p) = \omega_s (\frac{P - P_t}{P_s - P_t})^{\tan(\frac{\gamma \pi}{4})} \\ \gamma = 1.5 \end{cases}$



 $W = V_h *$

Diagnostic model of orographic precipitation

(Sinclair 1994; Cheng 2015)



Model setting :

- ① Domain: 60x60 km²
- ② Horizontal resolution: 1km
- ③ Vertical resolution: 100 m
- ④ Time step : 10s



Input data :

- ① Sounding : Interpolate Banciao sounding into hourly data
- ② Upstream wind : mean dual- Doppler derived wind



Model output :

- ① Rainfall rate (mm/hr)
- ⁽²⁾ Liquid water content M_f (g/kg)

Observation

Model

Vertical velocity



Original

Revised

Liquid water content



Particles remove cloud droplets by accretion at a rate : (Passarelli and Boehme 1983; Yu and Cheng 2013)

D: diameter (mm) V_t : terminal velocity(m/s) N : number concentration M_f : liquid water content (g/m³)

Rainfall rate (R_{bg}) : $\frac{\pi}{6} D^3 V_t N \rho_W$ $D = 9.6578947^* 10^{-2} R_{bg}^{0.14}$ (Sekhon and Srivastava 1971)

$$\frac{dR}{dz} = \frac{3R_{bg}M_f}{2\rho_w D}$$

Assumption:

- Background precipitation is monodisperse with perfect collection
- ② Diameter and terminal velocity of the feeder cloud droplets are neglected



 $\Delta R_{seeder-feeder}$: integrate rainfall rate from 3km to

 $\Delta R_{upslope lifting}$ rainfall generated by upslope lifting from model



RMSE (mm/hr)	Upslope lifting	Seeder- feeder
Embedded-cell stage	14.6	10.1
Stratiform stage	9.4	6.8
Total	12.4	8.7



Cell 1 -5 5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 55 60 0 Radar Reflectivity (dBZ) 30 20 10 Terrain Height(m) Y (km) 0 900 -10700 500 -20 300 -30 -30 - 100 -20-1010 20 0 30 X (km) 06/24 18:50 UTC

Moving speed : 18.9 m/s Moving direction : 165.7°

Cell 1

Contour : vertical velocity (interval : 0.5 m/s)



Cell

Contour : vertical velocity (interval : 0.5 m/s)



Cel

Contour : vertical velocity (interval : 0.5 m/s)



Summary



The layer of orographic enhancement of precipitation was primarily confined to the lowest 3 km, with most pronounced enhancement below 2 km.



The orographic enhanced rainfall is **2-3 times** greater than the background rainfall, which is comparable to previous studies.



Theoretical calculation of seeder-feeder process can better quantify the rainfall enhancement than upslope lifting.



In the embedded-cell stage, the error of seeder-feeder calculation is larger than the stratiform stage.



When convective cells moved into Mt. Da-Tun, the strong echo region deepened and widened. The rainfall enhancement of convective cells cannot be simply explained by seeder-feeder process.

Reference

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