Calculating the humidity convergence with finite differences

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General remarks

- Vertical component of humidity convergence is the same as it is already in finite difference space, only horizontal components are considered further
- Unlike in spectral method, many solutions are theoretically possible, constraints (e.g. conservation, accuracy) help to make a choice
- The task is to approximate the unstaggered grid

$$u\frac{\partial q}{\partial x} + v\frac{\partial q}{\partial y} \quad on$$

Simplest solution is bad

$$u_i \frac{q_{i+1} - q_{i-1}}{2\Delta x}$$

 Large error of differentiation for small scales : instead of *ik* for spectral differentiation of *k*-th harmonic

$$i \frac{\sin k\Delta x}{\Delta x}$$

• Nonlinear (representation) error

Pseudostaggering (Staniforth et al, 1990)

$$\frac{1}{4} \left[(u_i + u_{i-1}) \frac{q_i - q_{i-1}}{\Delta x} + (u_i + u_{i+1}) \frac{q_{i+1} - q_i}{\Delta x} \right]$$

- Avoids second problem
- Still has unacceptably large error for derivative

Solution used in SLAV model

 Pseudostaggering + 4th order formula for differentiation

$$\frac{1}{4} \left\{ (u_i + u_{i-1}) \frac{(27(q_i - q_{i-1}) - (q_{i+1} - q_{i-2}))}{24\Delta x} + (u_i + u_{i+1}) \frac{(27(q_{i+1} - q_i) - (q_{i+2} - q_{i-1}))}{24\Delta x} \right\}$$

Evaluation of precipitation forecasts over Central Russia for 1/07-24/09/2006

 Two versions of MM5 model running at Russian Hydrometcentre and Moscow Hydrometeobureau (18 and 15 km resolution) and variable-resolution SLAV-VR model (~30 km resolution over that region) compared.

SLAV global model=own FD SISL dynamics+ALADIN parameterizations.

 Both versions of MM5 started from NCEP analysis and boundary conditions, SLAV-VR started from Hydrometcentre OI assimilation based on operational SLAV 0.72°x0.9° version.

Pearcy criteria, Central Russia



Heidke skill score (HSS), Central Russia



hour