

## Tristan H. Abbott

Department of Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences (EAPS)  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
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### Education

- 2016-present **Massachusetts Institute of Technology**  
Ph.D. in Atmospheric Science (advisor: Tim Cronin)  
Expected graduation: 2021
- 2012-2016 **University of Wisconsin - Madison**  
B.S. in Computer Science with Honors in the Major
- Spring 2015 **Aarhus University, Denmark**  
Exchange student

### Expertise and Interests

Atmospheric dynamics, cloud physics, climate dynamics and climate change, high-performance computing

### Research Experience

- 2016-present **Cronin Group**, Department of Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences, MIT  
Ph.D. thesis work on cloud dynamics and cloud-climate interactions.  
Thesis committee: Tim Cronin, Larissa Back, David McGee, Paul O’Gorman, Sharon Sessions
- Fall 2018 **RELAMPAGO-CACTI Field Campaign**, Cordoba, Argentina  
Deployed instruments and analyzed observations during an international field campaign to study severe thunderstorms in central Argentina.
- 2016 **Climate Systems Interaction Group**, Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences, UCLA  
Developed parallel simulations of multi-column models of tropical water vapor and precipitation.
- 2014-2016 **Stechmann Group**, Department of Mathematics, University of Wisconsin - Madison  
Investigated statistical properties of stochastic precipitation models through simulations on distributed computing networks; applied spectral analysis and least-squares techniques to compare reanalysis data sets and radiosonde records.
- 2013-2014 **Behavioral and Experimental Economics Lab**, University of Wisconsin - Madison  
Developed Java-based interest visualization software for behavioral economics experiments.
- 2013 **Jin Group**, Department of Chemistry, University of Wisconsin - Madison  
Refined synthesis processes for lead selenide nanoparticles used in photovoltaics; identified a ligand whose concentration controls nanoparticle size.
- 2012 **Weibel Group**, Department of Biochemistry, University of Wisconsin - Madison  
Investigated interactions between the RecA protein and *E. Coli* lipid membranes.

### Publications and Preprints

- Abbott** and Cronin (2020): “Aerosol invigoration of atmospheric convection through increases in humidity”.  
[arxiv.org/abs/2002.06056](https://arxiv.org/abs/2002.06056). Under review at *Science*.
- Abbott**, Cronin, and Beucler (2020): “Convective Dynamics and the Response of Precipitation Extremes to Warming in Radiative-Convective Equilibrium”. *Journal of the Atmospheric Sciences* 77.  
doi:0.1175/JAS-D-19-0197.1
- Hausfather, Drake, **Abbott**, and Schmidt (2020): “Evaluating the performance of past climate model projections”.  
*Geophysical Research Letters* 46. doi:10.1029/2019GL085378
- Beucler, **Abbott**, Cronin, and Pritchard (2019): “Comparing Convective Self-Aggregation in Idealized Models to Observed Moist Static Energy Variability Near the Equator”. *Geophysical Research Letters* 46.  
doi:10.1029/2019GL084130
- Abbott**, Stechmann, and Neelin (2016): “Long Temporal Autocorrelations in Tropical Precipitation Data and Spike Train Prototypes”. *Geophysical Research Letters*, 43. doi:10.1002/2016GL071282

### ***Presentations***

- Dec. 2019 **AGU Fall Meeting** (San Francisco, CA)  
“A Humidity-Entrainment Mechanism for Aerosol Invigoration of Convection” (poster).
- June 2019 **AMS Atmospheric and Oceanic Fluid Dynamics Conference** (Portland, ME)  
“Large-Scale Tropical Dynamics Enable Microphysical Invigoration of Convection” (poster)  
“How do Changes in Convective Dynamics Impact Tropical Precipitation Extremes in a Warming World?” (poster).
- June 2019 **Northeast Tropical Meteorology Workshop** (Dedham, MA)  
“Large-Scale Tropical Dynamics Enable Microphysical Invigoration of Convection” (talk)
- Dec. 2018 **AGU Fall Meeting** (Washington, DC)  
“How do Changes in Convective Dynamics Impact Tropical Precipitation Extremes in a Warming World?” (talk)
- June 2018: **Lorenz Center Workshop on Water and Climate Change** (Dedham, MA)  
“Understanding the Scaling of Tropical Precipitation Extremes with Warming” (poster)
- April 2018: **AMS Hurricanes and Tropical Meteorology Conference** (Ponte Vedra, FL)  
“Toward a Simultaneous Scaling for Mean and Extreme Precipitation” (talk)
- June 2017: **AMS Atmospheric and Oceanic Fluid Dynamics Conference** (Portland, OR)  
“Precipitation Extremes and Convective Dynamics” (poster).

### ***Teaching***

- 2019 **Teaching Assistant**, MIT  
Courses: Introduction to Atmosphere, Ocean, and Climate Dynamics (Prof. Tim Cronin) and Atmospheric Radiation and Convection (Prof. Tim Cronin)  
Designed and led discussion sections and office hours; gave a guest lecture on radar meteorology.
- 2012-2014 **Volunteer Tutor**, University of Wisconsin - Madison  
Tutored fellow university students in calculus and physics.

### ***Awards***

- 2019 Outstanding Student Poster Award, AMS Atmospheric and Oceanic Fluid Dynamics Conference
- 2017 DOE Computational Sciences Graduate Fellowship Honorable Mention  
NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Honorable Mention
- 2016 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Honorable Mention

### ***Service***

- 2019-present **Peer reviewer for *Journal of the Atmospheric Science, Climate Dynamics***
- 2017-present **Program in Atmospheres, Oceans, and Climate Colloquium Organizing Committee**  
Nominated, selected, and invited faculty speakers for a weekly colloquium.
- 2016-present **EAPS Student Advisory Council**  
Organized social and community-building activities for students, staff, and faculty in EAPS.
- 2017, 2019 **Graduate Climate Conference Organizing Committee**  
Reviewed and selected abstracts, coordinated logistics, and organized sessions for a conference for graduate students in climate science.
- 2016-2017 **EAPS Graduate Student Retreat Coordinator**  
Secured funding, rented cabins, and organized food and transportation for the annual EAPS student retreat.

### ***Outreach***

- 2017 **DayCon Seminar Series**  
20 minute talk to a general audience on Earth’s energy budget and the runaway greenhouse.
- 2017 **Beacon Hill Seminar**  
30 minute talk to a general audience on Earth’s energy budget and the runaway greenhouse.