**Weather Briefing 20150311**

**Nominal TO/Landing conditions for TH-FR flight**

**Convection to 50kft expected in spots along the proposed flight track**

A Santa Ana sets up through Friday, resulting in warm temperatures (record-setting in some parts of SoCal) and high winds in the LA area mountain passes. For us, this means benign flying conditions. Gusty winds (15-20 knots) are expected on takeoff, though they will be from the NE and largely down the runway.

Currently there is some convection along our proposed flight track. This tops out at 50kft or less (roughly consistent with the WAFC charts). A TC is spinning a way with very cold cloud tops at 170E, -12 (well away from us). A midlatitude wave amplifies near 160W (HI longitudes), penetrating down to 15N. This is expected to modulate the convection currently near those longitudes at about 8N. It is hard to say exactly what it will do to its strength, but a reasonable forecast is that it will top out at about 50kft. I expect something there (~8N) in the general vicinity because of the presence of the midlatitude wave So, in the absence of lightning we should be able to fly over it, but not dive over it. There is more uncertainty about the convection forecast at the end of the flight track, since it lacks a midlatitude anchor. The area is unstable, though, so we can expect either a convectively coupled wave or an outflow boundary from the SPCZ to kick something off.

Might try to debate what to do with the extra hour, possibly create a triangle near the end of the flight track to get a constant latitude set of two dips (get some wave structure).