# **Response to Reviewer # 1's Comments**

- **Comment. 1** The INSAT-3D is a new satellite and the basic datasets need to validated before CAPE calculation. So I suggest the authors to provide some analysis on how the INSAT temperature, humidity etc. performs over the Indian region, by comparing with radiosonde or reanalysis data. Since India has a large latitudinal extent from near equator in South to subtropics in the North, it is essential to investigate whether INSAT data compares well everywhere or there is some spatial inhomogeneity.
- Response We agree with the referee's suggestion that the Indian region has a large latitudinal extent and spatial inhomogeneity can exists in the retrieval of the satellite data sets.

Earlier studies by Mitra et al. (2015) and Ratnam et al. (2016) assessed the temperature and humidity retrievals from the INSAT-3D measurements using GPS sonde, reanalysis and other satellite measurements over the Indian region. They found a good agreement of INSAT-3D retrieved temperature with GPS sonde, reanalysis and satellite estimates below 25°N. The temperature difference was 0.5K with a standard deviation of about 1K, and for humidity, a dry bias (20-30%) was observed between INSAT-3D and GPS sonde data. This is already mentioned in the manuscript.

- **Comment. 2** The authors need to highlight the advantages of their present study i.e. what new can we extract about CAPE by using the INSAT data. The authors mention in abstract that "In this work, an attempt is made for the first time to estimate CAPE from high spatial and temporal resolution measurements of the INSAT-3D over the Indian region". But there are many other satellites available back from many years and there are several studies related to CAPE over Indian region. So the authors need to discuss the why their work is important and how better it is from the previous estimates.
- Response Several satellites measurements are available which can provide profiles of temperature and water vapour with reasonable accuracies. Most of them are polar orbiting satellites and have limited overpasses especially in the tropics. The other limitation of these polar satellite measurements is poor temporal resolution, even though they have global coverage. The significance of the INSAT-3D is its geostationary orbit, providing the profiles of temperature and water vapour with high temporal (1 hour) and spatial resolution  $(0.1^{\circ} \times 0.1^{\circ})$  over the Indian and the surrounding oceanic regions. In the present study, the authors attempted to calculate CAPE from these high spatial and temporal resolution measurements of INSAT-3D and its performance assessment. To date there are no studies utilizing such high resolution data for such a long period to evaluate and understand the variability of CAPE. Hence, this study provides the direct usability of INSAT-3D data sets in the numerical weather prediction models for nowcasting of thunderstorms and for severe weather conditions, which is lacking over the Indian region.

The relative sentence has been added in the revised manuscript.

# **Response to Reviewer # 2's Comments**

This paper presents the temporal and spatial distribution of convective General Comment available potential energy (CAPE) estimated using INSAT-3D measurements. Initially, these CAPE estimates are compared with that estimated using ERA-Interim reanalysis and the radiosonde measurements obtained from 20 stations that are distributed across India. Statistical analysis has been made to get confidence on the estimated CAPE values. Finally, the diurnal and seasonal variability in the CAPE is also presented at different geographical locations. In general, paper is well written and contains significant original contribution. Authors have fully taken advantage of the high spatial and temporal measurements available from INSAT-3D to investigate the diurnal and season variability of CAPE. However, there are few mistakes and sometimes interpretation is missing at some instances without proper literature survey which demands careful editing or re-writing the sentences. Below are the some of the issues which authors need to take care before rendering judgment on the manuscript. Authors are strongly encouraged to revise and re-submit this manuscript.

- Response We are indebted to the reviewer for his valuable and thoughtful comments on the manuscript. We greatly appreciate the reviewer's time and efforts for evaluating the manuscript. We went through all the referee comments and suggestions and implemented the same in the revised manuscript. Point-to-point clarifications for referee's comments and how we have addressed each recommendation is given below.
- **Comment 1** There are few studies where global measurements of CAPE are available using GPS RO observations (Santhi et al., 2014). Since no observations are there to validate the CAPE at high spatial resolution, small analysis can be made how INSAT-3D estimated CAPE match with GPS RO measured CAPE, particularly over the ocean. Qualitative comparison can also be made.
- **Response** The GPS RO measurements are very sparse for a particular location and hence are statistically insignificant to compare GPS-RO CAPE with INSAT-3D CAPE. For instance, Santhi et al. (2014) observed a total number of 6 occultations in a month over  $2^{\circ} \times 2^{\circ}$  grid around Gadanki, India. Among these occultation's, only 2 and 4 occultations reached below 0.5 km and 1 km respectively above the surface. When we looked into the number of occultation during the present study period over a particular station ( $0.25^{\circ} \times 0.25^{\circ}$  grid), the total number of occultations are less than 40, which may not be statistically significant. Hence, the reviewer is requested to consider author's proposal for not including the GPS-RO measurements in the revised manuscript.
- **Comment 2** To the best of my knowledge, INSAT-3D data will not be available during the cloudy times. Since there are two monsoon seasons (SW and NE monsoon) over Indian region, huge data gaps are expected during these two seasons. While

making composite analysis at both spatial and temporal scales, results are expected to be biased. How the authors have taken care this issue need to be discussed.

Response We agree with the reviewer. However, for the present analysis we have taken only cloud free conditions. The confidence level for the identification of the cloud free region is based on the cloud flag which is set to zero (CLD\_FLG=0).

The total number of data for the 20 stations considered in the study during different seasons is provided in Table 1. Since the INSAT-3D data are available for every one hour, the data gaps are not huge during both the monsoon seasons.

The relative sentences and Table are added in the revised manuscript.

Table 1: The total number of data available in 20 stations during different seasons for the period from April 2014 to March 2017.

Station	Latitude	Longitude	Total Number of Data			
			Winter	Pre- monsoon	Monsoon	Post- monsoon
Agarthala (AGR)	23.88	91.25	3614	3272	2615	2613
Ahmedabad (AHB)	23.06	72.63	3808	4034	3686	2891
Amini Divi (AMD)	11.12	72.73	3985	3776	3327	2362
Bhuvaneswar (BHU)	20.25	85.83	3701	3450	2389	2488
Chennai (CHE)	13.00	80.18	3816	3712	2956	1985
Cochin (COC)	9.95	76.26	3867	3072	2905	1758
Delhi (DEL)	28.58	77.20	2910	3316	3845	2894
Dibrugarh (DIB)	27.48	95.01	3287	2260	2536	2595
Gorakhpur (GRK)	26.75	83.36	2871	3383	2769	2833
Guwahati (GUW)	26.10	91.58	3610	3058	2956	2796
Hyderabad (HYD)	17.45	78.46	2550	394	327	1045
Karaikal (KAR)	10.91	79.83	3660	3458	3632	1846
Kolkata (KOL)	22.65	88.45	3488	2924	2500	2677
Machilipatnam (MAP)	16.20	81.15	4001	3706	2564	2322

Mangalore	12.95	74.83	4063	3542	2705	2232
(MAN)						
Minicoy	8.30	73.15	3882	3346	3320	2040
(MIN)						
Mumbai	19.11	72.85	4294	4321	3405	2756
(MUM)						
Port Blair (PB)	11.66	92.71	3676	3458	2381	2178
Trivandrum	8.48	76.95	3675	3116	3608	1805
(TVM)						
Visakhapatnam	17.70	83.30	3972	3747	2632	2415
(VSP)						

**Comment 3** It is mentioned (Line 101) that 'They observed that the INSAT-3D measurements compare better with GPS sonde observations at middle levels (from 900 hPa to 500 hPa).'. In this case how it is going to affect the estimates of CAPE need to be discussed. Further, how large bias observed in water vapor measurements from INSAT-3D is going to affect the CAPE estimates need to be discussed in detail.

Response CAPE is associated with the changes in the temperature and moisture in the troposphere. However, the changes in CAPE are more related to the moisture present in the boundary layer. Zhang (2002) showed that the net changes in the CAPE come from the thermodynamic changes in the boundary layer. They also showed that the changes in CAPE due to the changes in the temperature and moisture in the free troposphere is about 10% or less when compared to changes in temperature and moisture in the boundary layer. Hence, the changes in the INSAT-3D measurements at the lower levels affect much the changes in the CAPE compared to the changes in the middle levels.

The error in estimating the CAPE is determined by applying the standard error propagation formula (Bevington and Robinson, 1992). The error in the CAPE calculation depends on the temperature and water vapour retrievals. In this study, an error of 5% in the measured relative humidity and temperature corresponds to an error of 8% in the calculated CAPE from the INSAT-3D measurements.

- **Comment 4** Do authors have any explanation why there is a consistent positive (negative) bias (most of the cases) in CAPE values measured by INSAT-3D (ERA-Interim)?
- Response The exact reason is very difficult to be pointed out. However, the reanalysis in general is an assimilated output with prior assumptions. The meteorological parameters of the reanalysis are always underestimated with respect to the observations. For example, Ratnam et al. (2013) have shown the comparison of humidity obtained from SAPHIR–A megha tropiques payload with respect to all reanalysis over the tropics. The humidity was underestimated in reanalysis. This may be the reason for the

negative bias in the reanalysis. Radiosonde and INSAT-3D being both observations shows a positive bias.

- **Comment 5** *Do authors have any explanation why no variation is seen for large spatial gird in Fig.6 during pre-monsoon?*
- Response In India, the pre-monsoon season is most favourable for the development of thunderstorms over land regions. The surrounding oceanic regions have frequent development of depressions and these depressions sustained over oceanic region for few days. This results in higher values of CAPE over a large spatial extent for few days. This is the reason why no variation in CAPE is observed over large spatial grid during pre-monsoon season.
- **Comment 6** Introduction is too long without focus. It can be cut to 50% while retaining only relevant information. Diurnal and high spatial resolution studies only need to be highlighted.
- **Response** As per the referee's suggestion, the introduction section has been modified in the revised manuscript.

Minor Comments

- **Comment 1** Line 142: It is mentioned that radiosonde data has been taken from University of Wyoming website. Note that this is not the quality checked data. Instead, it will be better to use data from IGRA2.
- **Response** We appreciate the referee for his suggestion.

The analysis is performed with IGRA2 dataset for the 20 stations considered in the study. As an example, the scatter plot between INSAT-CAPE and IGRA2-CAPE is shown in fig. 1. Even in the case of IGRA2 data also, the INSAT derived CAPE shows good correlation with a correlation coefficient of 0.72.



Fig. 1: Scatter plot between IGRA2 derived CAPE  $(J \text{ kg}^{-1})$  and INSAT derived CAPE  $(J \text{ kg}^{-1})$  for Chennai during April 2014 to March 2017.

Similarly, the correlation coefficient for CAPE derived from IGRA2 dataset and INSAT-3D data is provided for the reviewer in table 2. The INSAT-3D derived CAPE shows better correlation for most of the stations considered in the study. This shows the consistency of the INSAT-3D derived CAPE over IGRA2 dataset.

Table.2: Correlation coefficient in the comparison of INSAT-3D CAPE with IGRA2 and Wyoming derived CAPE for 20 stations in India for the period from April 2014 to March 2017.

Station	IGRA2	Radiosonde
AGR	0.61	0.62
AHB	0.56	0.38
AMD	0.48	0.46
BHU	0.59	0.62
CHE	0.72	0.84

0.50	0.81
0.65	0.31
0.72	0.44
0.64	0.46
0.72	0.59
0.51	0.59
0.73	0.56
0.57	0.55
0.57	0.62
0.42	0.68
0.56	0.64
0.43	0.64
0.40	0.48
0.71	0.52
0.55	0.68
	$\begin{array}{c} 0.65\\ 0.72\\ 0.64\\ 0.72\\ 0.51\\ 0.73\\ 0.57\\ 0.57\\ 0.42\\ 0.56\\ 0.43\\ 0.40\\ 0.71\\ \end{array}$

It can be observed from the above table that the correlation coefficient in the comparison of INSAT-3D CAPE with IGRA2 and radiosonde CAPE are almost similar for most of the stations. Hence, the inclusion of IGRA2 data in the manuscript is not going to affect the results of the study. So, the reviewer is requested to consider the use of Wyoming university data in the manuscript.

- **Comment 2** Line 155: It was mentioned that the resolution of the data utilized is 0.75°\_0.75° from ERA-Interim and 0.25°X0.25° from INSAT-3D. How this different spatial resolutions grids are taken care while comparing the CAPE estimates.
- Response The authors apologize for the typographical error. For the present study, the authors make use of the ERA-Interim data at  $0.25^{\circ} \times 0.25^{\circ}$  spatial resolution.

The relative sentence is modified in the manuscript.

- **Comment 3** Line 282: It is mentioned that 'The estimated CAPE is divided into four categories: weak instability (<500 J kg-1), moderate instability (501-1500 J kg-1), strong instability (1501-3000 J kg-1), and extreme instability (>3000 J kg-1).' Do you have any scientific justification to choose these thresholds? You may provide suitable reference.
- **Response** These CAPE ranges are considered arbitrarily.
- Comment 4 Line 338: It is mentioned that 'These regions are: the Arabian Sea (AS; 8-200N, 65-720E), Bay of Bengal (BoB; 8-200N, 80-900E), South Peninsular India (SP; 8-200N, 72-800E), Central India (CI; 20-250N, 73-820E), North India (NI; 25-350N, 73-800E), and Northeast India (NE; 24-290340 N, 90-960E).' Is there any scientific justification to choose these latitude longitude grids? You may provide suitable reference.

- ResponseTo understand the diurnal variation of CAPE over different parts of India,<br/>the study region is divided (latitude-wise for uniformity) into six sub-<br/>regions; Arabian Sea (AS; 8-20°N, 65-72°E), Bay of Bengal (BoB; 8-20°N,<br/>80-90°E), South Peninsular India (SP; 8-20°N, 72-80°E), Central India (CI;<br/>20-25°N, 73-82°E), North India (NI; 25-35°N, 73-80°E), and Northeast<br/>India (NE; 24-29°N, 90-96°E) as given in Raut et al. (2009).<br/>The relative reference is added in the text in the revised manuscript.
- **Comment 5** Line 411: It is mentioned that several interesting features are noticed. 'The weak instability is predominant during the winter season, the moderate instability is higher during the post-monsoon, the strong instability is more during the monsoon period and the extreme instability is higher during the premonsoon months.' Note that these things are well known to the scientific community.
- Response The above sentence is re-written as "The spatial and temporal distribution of CAPE reveals that the weak instability is predominant during winter season, moderate instability is higher during post-monsoon, strong instability is more during monsoon period and extreme instability is higher during pre-monsoon months".
- **Comment 6** It seems INSAT-3DR is being launched as a follow up of INSAT-3D. Did you tested how CAPE behaves between these two instruments?
- Response INSAT-3DR is a redundancy payload for INSAT-3D and hence we have not attempted to calculate CAPE with INSAT-3DR data. In future, this will be our follow-up study.
- Comment 7 Figure 1 caption: It is better to shift the latitude and longitude along with the name of the station to the running text rather keeping lengthy figure caption.
   Response Referee's suggestion is implemented in the manuscript.
- **Comment 8** Figure 8: There are white patches over Tibetan high and also over the central India in few panels. Hope the reasons for the data gaps at these two places is not the same?
- Response The white patches in the Tibetan high are due to the non-availability of data due to topography. Over Central India, it is mostly due to non-availability of data.

# **Refrences:**

Venkat Ratnam, M., Basha, G., Krishna Murthy, B. V., & Jayaraman, A. (2013). Relative humidity distribution from SAPHIR experiment on board Megha-Tropiques satellite mission: Comparison with global radiosonde and other satellite and reanalysis datasets, *Journal of Geophysical Research Atmospheres*, 18, 1–9, doi:10.1002/jgrd.50699.

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1	Retrieval of convective available potential energy from INSAT-3D measurements:
2	comparison with radiosonde data and its spatial-temporal variations
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# 10 Abstract:

Convective available potential energy (CAPE) is a measure of the amount of energy 11 12 available for convection in the atmosphere. The satellite-derived data over the ocean and land is used for a better understanding of the atmospheric stability indices. In this work, an attempt 13 is made for the first time to estimate CAPE from high spatial and temporal resolution 14 measurements of the INSAT-3D over the Indian region. The estimated CAPE from the 15 INSAT-3D is comprehensively evaluated using radiosonde derived CAPE and ERA-Interim 16 17 CAPE. The evaluation shows that the INSAT-3D CAPE reasonably correlated with the radiosonde derived CAPE; however, the magnitude of CAPE shows higher values. Further, 18 19 the distribution of CAPE is studied for different instability conditions (different range of 20 CAPE values) during different seasons over the Indian region. In addition, the diurnal and seasonal variability in CAPE is also investigated at different geographical locations to 21 22 understand the spatial variability with respect to different terrains.

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24 Keywords: CAPE; <u>Diurnal;</u> INSAT-3D; <u>Monsoon; Diurnal;</u> Instability<u>; -Monsoon</u>

# 25 1. Introduction

26 The interaction between convection, clouds radiation, and large scale circulation 27 remains a major source of uncertainty in understanding the climate and climate change. Convection plays a crucial role in the formation of clouds (cumulonimbus). The convective 28 29 activity prevailing over the atmosphere is the feeding mechanism for the development of 30 weather systems such as thunderstorms and cyclones. Deep convection is one of the usual 31 phenomena in the tropical region which requires three ingredients: instability, moisture, and uplift. Convective available potential energy (CAPE; Moncrieff and Miller, 1976) is a 32 measure of convective potential in the atmosphere that incorporates the instability and 33 moisture ingredients (Johns and Doswell, 1992). In a physical sense, it is the energy available 34 for the free lifting of the air parcel from the level of free convection to the level of neutral 35 36 buoyancy. CAPE is also the measure of maximum kinetic energy per unit mass of air parcel 37 achievable by convection of moist air (Murugavel et al., 2012). So it can also be used as an 38 estimator of maximum possible updraft velocity.

39 Climatology of CAPE provides valuable information for severe weather forecasting. Comparing this climatology to near real-time observations from meteorological sensors on 40 41 satellites could provide valuable information in assessing the risk of severe weather (Breznitz 1984; Golden and Adams 2000; Doswell 2004; Barnes et al., 2007; Rothfusz et al., 2014; 42 Cintineo et al., 2014). For example, high value of CAPE is an indicator of deep convection 43 44 (Bhat et al., 1996). Johns and Doswell (1992) showed that the largest hail sizes in convection are related to CAPE. In severe weather conditions, CAPE is one of the key indices 45 determining the occurrence of thunderstorms and tornadoes (McNulty, 1995). Further, 46 Williams and Renno (1993) and Dutta and De (1999) have shown that the isolated heavy 47 rainfall events on any isolated day result from a higher value of CAPE. Craven (2000) found 48 that higher CAPE values and steep lapse rates were ideal for supercell storm and tornado 49

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50	formation. Williams et al. (2002) suggested that CAPE can be used as a predictor of
51	electrification/lightning intensity in deep tropical convection. The changes in convective
52	activity and atmospheric energy budget are associated with the long term changes in CAPE
53	(Gettelman et al., 2002; DeMott and Randall, 2004; Riemann Campe et al., 2008; Brooks,
54	2013). Hence, CAPE can also be used as a potential indicator of climate change (Gettelman
55	et al., 2002; DeMott and Randall, 2004; Riemann Campe et al., 2008; Murugavel et al., 2012;
56	Brooks, 2013). Thus, the behaviour of convection can be partially addressed by
57	understanding the changes in CAPE.

Variability in CAPE can also affect the temperature field in the upper troposphere (Gaffen et-58 al., 1991; Dhaka et al., 2010). Gaffen et al. (1991) discussed the dynamical link between 59 lower tropospheric CAPE and variations in the temperature in the upper troposphere. For 60 example, Dhaka et al. (2010) studied the relationship between seasonal, annual, and large-61 62 scale variations in CAPE and the solar cycle on the temperature at 100 hPa pressure levels using daily radiosonde data for the period 1980-2006 over the Indian region. They showed 63 that the increase in CAPE was associated with the decrease in temperature at 100-hPa 64 pressure level on all time scales. 65

66 The convective schemes in general circulation models use CAPE as a variable for-67 calculating convective heating (e.g., Arakawa and Schubert, 1974; Moncrieff and Miller, 1976; Washington and Parkinson, 2005: Lee et al., 2007). Many of the cumulus 68 parameterization schemes make use of CAPE in constructing closures (Donner and Phillips, 69 2003). The diurnal variation of CAPE is of primary importance for understanding the 70 sensitivity of convection schemes in the model to produce the diurnal cycle of precipitation 71 (Lee et al., 2007). The reliability of model-simulated temporal and spatial variations in CAPE 72 is an important indicator of model performance, particularly in the tropics (Gettelman et al., 73 2002). Also, the seasonal and diurnal changes in CAPE are important for models to provide 74

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validation of their capacity to simulate future changes in the tropical climate. The above
studies conclude that the estimation of CAPE areis imperative, not only for assessing the
conditional instability of the atmosphere and for the convective parameterization, but also for
the studies related to climatic change.

Most of the earlier studies on CAPE are based on radiosonde observations. Globally, 79 the radiosonde is launched twice a day, 0000 and 1200 UTC. This limits the studies on CAPE 80 at diurnal scales. It is also to be noted that the radiosonde observations are limited to land, 81 82 and are very sparse over the oceans. Reanalysis datasets fill these gaps; however, their spatial resolution is poor and most of the time the data accuracies do not match with the standard 83 techniques. The satellite observations are the only solutions to have regular observations of 84 CAPE with high spatial resolution across the globe. With the availability of satellite 85 measurements, several studies were carried out on CAPE. Narendra Babu et al. (2010) 86 87 studied the seasonal and diurnal variations in CAPE over land and oceanic regions using one year of observations from the FORMOSAT mission 3/Constellation Observing System for 88 Meteorology, Ionosphere, and Climate (COSMIC/FORMOSAT-3) Global Positioning 89 System (GPS) Radio Occultation (GPS-GPS-RO) measurements. Santhi et al. (2014) 90 estimated various stability indices using COSMIC GPS--RO profiles and the uncertainty in 91 estimating these stability indices. They also studied the diurnal variation of these stability 92 indices over Gadanki, India. In order to study the diurnal variation of stability indices, they 93 integrated the data over a season as the occultations were sparse and hence not adequate to 94 study on daily scale. This limitation of under sampling can be overcome by the use of 95 geostationary satellites. These geostationary satellite measurements provide near-continuous 96 monitoring of instability in the atmosphere with better spatial coverage, which is helpful in 97 nowcasting of convection (Koenig and de Coning, 2009). Siewert et al. (2010) discussed the 98 advantages of the METEOSAT Second Generation (MSG) system in deriving the instability 99

100 indices and to predict the convection initiation over the Central Europe and South Africa. 101 Using the MSG satellite measurements, de Coning et al. (2011) derived a new convection 102 indicator, the combined instability index which can calculate the probability of convection 103 over the South Africa. They showed that the combined instability index can predict the convection better than the individual instability indices like K-index, total totals index etc. 104 105 Jewett and Mecikalski (2010) developed an algorithm to derive convective momentum fluxes from the Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite (GOES) measurements. The 106 107 advantage of this algorithm is that it can be used in any convective environment. Botes et al. (2012) investigated the performance of the Atmospheric Infrared Sounder (AIRS) soundings 108 data with the collocated radiosonde observations. They showed that the AIRS measurements 109 underestimate instability due to dry bias at the surface. 110

Recently, the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) launched the Indian 111 112 National Satellite System (INSAT-3D), which is a geostationary satellite that provides the 113 profile of temperature and relative humidity with high temporal and spatial resolution. The 114 purpose of the INSAT-3D measurement is to enhance the understanding of the atmospherie processes and also to monitor land and oceans in order to accurately forecast weather and to 115 116 manage disasters. Several researchers evaluated the temperature and relative humidity 117 measurements from the INSAT-3D. Mitra et al. (2015) evaluated the INSAT-3D temperature and moisture retrievals up to 100 hPa with GPS sonde observations for the period January-118 119 May 2014. They observed that the INSAT-3D measurements compare better with GPS sonde observations at middle levels (from 900 hPa to 500 hPa). The assessment of the quality of 120 121 temperature and water vapour obtained from the INSAT-3D with in-situ, satellite, and 122 reanalysis datasets by Ratnam et al. (2016) revealed that the INSAT-3D measurements agree well with the GPS sonde observations, other-satellite measurements and reanalysis datasets 123 below 25°N. The temperature difference was 0.5K with a standard deviation of about 1K, and 124

for humidity, a dry bias (20-30%) was observed between INSAT-3D and <u>GPS sonde</u> <u>observationsother satellite measurements and reanalysis data</u>. Hence, these satellite measurements also suffer from some inherent shortcomings and have biases and random errors. Therefore, it is essential to evaluate the satellite products with conventional measurements to quantify the direct usability of these products.

130 The objective of the present study is to calculate CAPE from high spatial and temporal resolution measurements of INSAT-3D over the Indian region and its performance 131 assessment. To date there are no studies utilizing such high-resolution data for such a long 132 period to evaluate and understand the variability of CAPE. Hence, this study provides the 133 direct usability of INSAT-3D data sets in the numerical weather prediction models for 134 nowcasting of thunderstorms and for severe weather conditions, which is lacking over the 135 Indian region. In this work, we first attempted to The objective of the present study is to 136 137 quantitatively evaluate the accuracy of CAPE estimated from the INSAT-3D measurements with radiosonde measurements over the Indian region. Here, an attempt is made first to 138 validate the estimated CAPE from the INSAT-3D measurements with that of radiosonde 139 measurements over different stations in India. In general, there are many profiles that do not 140 141 reach the ground level in the INSAT-3D measurements. Hence, different statistical indices 142 are calculated to assess the detectability of INSAT-3D derived CAPE over these regions. Secondly, the diurnal variation of CAPE is studied at different regions in India. Finally, the 143 seasonal mean CAPE is estimated over the Indian region. The paper is organized as follows. 144 Section 2 provides the details of the data sets used. Section 3 discusses the methodology 145 adopted to estimate the CAPE. Section 4 provides the results and discussion. Finally, the 146 147 summary of the present study is provided in section 5.

148

149 2. Database

#### 150 **2.1.** *INSAT-3D*

151 In the present study, three years (01 April 2014 - 31 March 2017) of measurements 152 obtained from the INSAT-3D are used to estimate CAPE over the Indian region and assess 153 the estimation against radiosonde measurements. The INSAT is a series of multipurpose geostationary satellites launched by the ISRO, India. The INSAT-3D, which is considered to 154 be the advanced version of all the other INSAT series satellites, is a multipurpose 155 geosynchronous spacecraft with main meteorological payloads (imager and sounder) 156 157 launched on 26 July 2013. The main objective of the mission is to monitor the earth and ocean continuously and also provide data dissemination capabilities. The INSAT-3D also 158 159 provides an operational, environmental and storm warning system to protect life and 160 property.

The INSAT-3D spacecraft carries two meteorological payloads: (i) Imager (optical 161 162 radiometer) provides high-resolution images of mesoscale phenomena in the visible and 163 infrared (IR) spectral bands (0.55 to 12.5 µm) and (ii) Sounder has one visible and 18 IR (7 in 164 long-wave IR, 5 in mid-IR, and 6 in short-wave IR) channels. The sounder measures the irradiance and provide profiles of temperature, water vapour and integrated ozone over the 165 166 Indian landmass and surrounding ocean every hour and over the whole of the Indian Ocean 167 every 6 hours with a spatial resolution of 0.1°. This is the simplest scanning mode in which the soundings are available every hour over larger land and ocean region. For the present 168 study, temperature and water vapour data collected from the INSAT-3D sounder during the 169 clear (cloud free) conditions. These dataset are interpolated to 0.25° spatial resolution and are 170 used to estimate the CAPE over the Indian region. 171

172 **2.2.** *Radiosonde* 

Upper air radiosonde profiles are downloaded from the University of Wyoming
website (http://weather.uwyo.edu/upperair/sounding.html). Radiosonde data are usually

available at 0000 and 1200 UTC regularly to monitor the thermodynamic state of the
atmosphere by the National Weather Service. For the present study, the data collected for 20
stations (black dots in Fig.ure 1) for the period from 01 April 2014 to 31 March 2017 are
used to assess the INSAT-3D estimated CAPE. The values of CAPE reported in this paper
are taken directly from the data provided by the University of Wyoming.

#### 180 2.3. ERA-Interim Reanalysis

The reanalysis dataset used in this study are from the ERA-Interim project (Dee et al., 181 182 2011). The ERA-Interim is the latest global atmospheric reanalysis produced by the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF), which envisaged preparing a future 183 reanalysis project that will span the entire twentieth century. The ERA-Interim data are 184 185 available in near-real time from 1 January 1979 onwards. The ERA-Interim generates gridded data, including a large variety of surface parameters that describe the weather as well as land 186 187 surface and ocean conditions at the 3-hourly and 6-hourly interval. The present study utilizes the CAPE derived from the ERA-Interim dataset. The data are extracted over the Indian 188 region at 0000, 0300, 0600, 0900, 1200, 1500, 1800 \_ and 2100 - 1200 UTC for each day 189 between 01 April 2014 and 31 March 2017. The spatial resolution of the data utilized is 190 0.75<sup>°</sup> <del>×0.75</del><sup>°</sup> <u>0</u>.25<sup>°</sup> ×0.25<sup>°</sup>. 191

192

# 193 **3. Estimation of CAPE**

To calculate the CAPE-over the Indian region, the vertical profiles of pressure, temperature, and water vapour are taken from the INSAT-3D measurements. For many years, a debate has existed in the literature regarding the most meaningful way to calculate CAPE and how to interpret the result. The most important methods of calculating CAPE is (1) pseudoadiabatic CAPE in which CAPE is estimated after assuming that all the condensate has fallen out of the air parcel and (2) reversible CAPE in which it is assumed that the

condensate remains within the parcel. In the present study, the pseudoadiabatic algorithm is 200 201 used to calculate CAPE-over the Indian region. Further, CAPE is very sensitive to near-202 surface temperature and humidity (Gartzke et al., 2017), which are known to vary spatially. 203 However, Ratnam et al. (2016) found that the variability of the atmospheric state within the INSAT-3D footprint sampled by the radiosonde had little bias over the Indian region. They 204 205 also reported that the difference in temperature between INSAT-3D and ERA-Interim reanalysis datasets lies within 1K and a dry bias of 5-10% was found in the lower and mid-206 207 troposphere relative humidity when compared with the ERA-Interim reanalysis datasets. In this scenario, it is assumed that the spatial sampling mismatch may not affect much in the 208 209 calculation of CAPE and hence are neglected in the present study. In addition, only cases with radiosonde profiles having CAPE greater than 0 J kg<sup>-1</sup> are included in the analysis. This 210 threshold is used to eliminate the large number of zero CAPE values. 211

The integration of the buoyancy of the air parcel from the level of free convection (LFC) to equilibrium level (EL) gives the measure of CAPE.

$$CAPE = \int_{LFC}^{EL} \frac{g(T_{vp} - T_{ve})}{T_{ve}} dZ$$
(1)

214

Where,  $T_{vp}$  is the virtual temperature of the air parcel and  $T_{ve}$  is the virtual temperature of the 215 environment, g is the acceleration due to gravity. The LFC is situated above the lifting 216 217 condensation level (LCL) and at that level, the parcel temperature is greater than the environmental temperature. This is calculated by lifting the air parcel moist adiabatically. The 218 219 EL is situated above the LFC and at this level, the parcel temperature is less than or equal to 220 the environment temperature. At EL, the air parcel attains stability and the convection stops. 221 Under stable environmental conditions, the LFC and EL will not be present. The procedure to 222 estimate CAPE is similar as discussed in Uma and Das (2017).

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223	The error in estimating the CAPE is determined by applying the standard error
224	propagation formula (Bevington and Robinson, 1992). The error in the CAPE calculation
225	depends on the temperature and water vapour retrievals. In this study, an error of 5% in the
226	measured relative humidity and temperature corresponds to an error of 8% in the calculated
227	CAPE from the INSAT-3D measurements.
228	
229	4. Results and Discussions
230	Three years of data collected from the INSAT-3D measurements are utilized to
231	estimate CAPE over the Indian region. These estimates are compared with the radiosonde
232	derived CAPE at 0000 and 1200 UTC along with the ERA-Interim reanalysis CAPE data.
233	4.1. Comparison of INSAT-3D <u>CAPE with radiosonde and ERA-Interim</u> estimated CAPE
234	with radiosonde measurements
235	In this work, 20 stations are selected for which the radiosonde profiles are available
236	during the study period (location shown in Fig. 1). Table 1 provide the details of the stations
237	considered along with the total number of data available from INSAT-3D measurements
238	during four seasons (winter: December to February; pre-monsoon: March to May; monsoon:
239	June to September; and post-monsoon: October and November)Table 1 provide the details of
240	the stations considered along with the total number of data available during different
241	monsoon seasons (winter; December to February, pre-monsoon;; March to May, monsoon;
242	June to September, and post-monsoon; October and November). Fig. 2 shows the correlation
243	coefficient along with the number of data points used in the analysis for the comparison
244	between the estimated CAPE from the INSAT-3D measurements, ERA-Interim CAPE, and
245	radiosonde derived CAPE. Here, the comparison is performed only when the INSAT-3D and
246	radiosonde CAPE as well as INSAT-3D and ERA-Interim CAPE greater than zero. From this
247	figure, it is noticed that the INSAT-3D estimated CAPE shows the better correlation with

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248	radiosonde CAPE compared to the ERA-Interim CAPE. In general, the coastal stations show
249	a higher correlation coefficient than that of the other stations for the INSAT-3D estimated
250	CAPE. All the coastal stations show a correlation higher than 0.6 except Trivandrum. The
251	correlation coefficient is as high as 0.84 for Chennai among all the stations. The correlation
252	values are lower for the stations located near the foothills of the-Himalayas and north-east
253	(NE) regions of India. A weak correlation of 0.31 is found for Delhi. For the ERA-Interim
254	data, INSAT-3D CAPE shows less correlation coefficient for all the stations except Amini
255	Divi compared to radiosonde CAPE The ERA-Interim estimated CAPE shows less correlation
256	coefficient for all the stations except Agarthala compared to the INSAT-3D estimated CAPE.
257	Even in the ERA-Interim CAPE, the coastal stations show better correlation compared to
258	other stations. The ERA-Interim CAPE shows a higher correlation for MinicoyAgarthala and
259	the correlation is minimum for Port-BlairDelhi. This result suggests that the INSAT-3D
260	CAPE measurements agree well with the radiosonde measurements. It is worth to note that
261	the comparison shows better correlation for the stations where the number of data is higher.
262	To elucidate the consistency of INSAT-3D estimated CAPE against the ERA-Interim
263	CAPE, the bias in the measurements of INSAT-3D and ERA-Interim with the radiosonde is
264	presented in Fig. 3. The bias evaluates the size of the difference between the two datasets.
265	The positive (negative) value of bias indicates the overestimation (underestimation) of the
266	satellite/reanalysis measurements. The INSAT-3D estimated CAPE shows small and positive
267	bias for most of the stations considered in the study. Among all the stations, Hyderabad,
268	Gorakhpur, and Delhi show higher bias, whereas Mumbai shows minimum bias. All the
269	stations show positive bias except Ahmedabad, Dibrughar, Delhi, Gorakhpur, and Port Blair
270	where the bias is negative and Mumbai shows small negative bias. Whereas, the ERA-Interim
271	CAPE shows negative bias for all the stations indicating the underestimation of CAPE
272	compared to radiosonde measurements. Further, the bias in the estimation of CAPE in the

ERA-Interim data is higher for most of the stations. Among all the stations, Gorakhpur shows higher negative bias. From this, it is clear that the INSAT-3D (ERA-Interim) overestimated (underestimated) the CAPE compared to radiosonde measurements. From the above discussion, it can be concluded that the INSAT-3D provides better estimates over coastal regions compared to other regions and also a better comparison with the radiosonde measurements.

# 4.2. Statistical indices in the estimation of CAPE from in the comparison of \_INSAT-3D estimated CAPE measurements

Furthermore, to examine the capability of detection of the INSAT-3D sounder, the 281 282 probability of detection (POD), false alarm ratio (FAR), critical success index (CSI), and accuracy (ACC) are computed on the basis of a contingency table (Table 12). A threshold 283 284 value of zero is considered for CAPE to be estimated by the satellite measurements. The POD 285 is a measure of the CAPE successfully identified by the satellite product, and FAR gives a 286 proportional measure of the satellite product's tendency to estimate CAPE where none is 287 observed i.e., it gives the CAPE estimates that are incorrectly detected. CSI represents how 288 well the estimated CAPE events correspond to the observed CAPE events. ACC measures the 289 fraction of the correctness in the CAPE estimates. For a perfect satellite-based estimate, the 290 values of POD, FAR, CSI, and ACC should be 1, 0, 1, and 1 respectively. These statistical 291 indices can be calculated as:

292

293

 $POD = \frac{a}{a+c}$ 

(2)

(3)

$$FAR = \frac{b}{a+b}$$

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294

$$CSI = \frac{a}{a+b+c} \tag{4}$$

295

$$ACC = \frac{a+d}{a+b+c+d}$$
(5)

296

297 Fig.ure 4(a)-(d) shows the POD, FAR, CSI, and ACC calculated for the INSAT-3D estimated CAPE respectively. Among all the stations, Mumbai shows higher POD whereas 298 Hyderabad shows lower POD. This indicates that the INSAT-3D is unable to detect CAPE 299 over Hyderabad. This may be due to less availability of data and the inability to catch the 300 301 short-lived convective storms frequently observed over this region. All the coastal stations show the higher POD, CSI, and ACC. Cochin shows the highest CSI and ACC, whereas 302 Agarthala and Kolkata have highest FAR. This indicates that the INSAT-3D product 303 performs reasonably well with the higher POD, CSI, and ACC and lower FAR. 304

# 305 **4.3.** Distribution of CAPE over Indian Sub-continent

A summary of the frequency distribution of CAPE computed from the INSAT-3D, 306 ERA-Interim and radiosonde measurements for the 20 stations are shown in Figure 5. The 307 308 distribution of CAPE shows the higher occurrence for lower values. Thus, the CAPE distribution is shifted to lower values in all the three measurements. The INSAT-3D 309 estimated CAPE and ERA-Interim CAPE shows a similar kind of distribution compared to 310 311 radiosonde CAPE. The distribution of the INSAT-3D estimated CAPE is higher (lower) in the range ~300-1200 (1200-3000) J kg<sup>-1</sup> compared to the radiosonde measurements. The 312 INSAT-3D estimated CAPE matches with the radiosonde CAPE above 3000 J kg<sup>-1</sup>. The 313 ERA-Interim CAPE distribution shows higher values below 1200 J kg<sup>-1</sup>. However, the ERA-314 Interim distribution becomes negligible above 2000 J kg<sup>-1</sup>. This also shows that for the higher 315 values of CAPE, the-ERA-Interim underestimates the observations. This may be due to the 316

fact that the spatial resolution of the reanalysis data are coarse compared to the observations.
The figure shows that among the two distributions, the INSAT-3D distribution agrees well
with the radiosonde distribution.

320 4.4. Seasonal variation of CAPE

In the present study, the INSAT-3D dataset is divided we have divided the period into 321 322 four seasons viz., winter (December to February), pre-monsoon (March to May), monsoon (June to September), and post-monsoon (October and November)-to understand the seasonal 323 324 variations in CAPE over the Indian region. Fig. 6(a)-(d) shows the seasonal mean CAPE estimated from the INSAT-3D measurements during the period from April-2014 to March-325 326 2017 over the Indian region. During the winter season (Fig. 6a), the mean CAPE is below 500 J kg<sup>-1</sup> over the land regions. The mean CAPE is relatively higher over the west coast and 327 Arabian Sea (AS) and the parts of northern Bay of Bengal (BoB). This relatively high CAPE 328 329 over oceans and the western coastal regions may be due to the occurrence of depression and 330 cyclone during the month of December over the oceanic regions. In the pre-monsoon season (Fig. 6b), the higher values of CAPE (above 2000 J kg<sup>-1</sup>) are <u>observed</u> over the AS, BoB and 331 Central India (CI). The pre-monsoon depressions are regular during this time period over the 332 333 surrounding oceanic regions of India. This sustains for few days which results in higher 334 CAPE over these regions. Higher values of CAPE are the causing factors for frequent thunderstorms and deep convection over the Northern and Central India. The Western Ghats 335 has higher CAPE which may be due to the orographic induced deep convection. CAPE is 336 lower over the Southern Peninsular India. Further, the CI, north India (NI) and foothills of 337 Himalayas also-exhibits higher CAPE compared to other land regions. The north-western 338 339 parts of India (Gujarat) show higher CAPE among other land regions. During the monsoon season (Fig. 6c), the east coast of India, AS, BoB, and foothills of Himalayas shows relatively 340 higher CAPE than the other regions. During the post-monsoon period (Fig. 6d), the northern 341

parts of AS and BoB, east coast of India and west coast of India shows higher values ofCAPE and the southern peninsula and eastern regions shows lower CAPE.

344 Further, the spatial distribution of CAPE estimated from the INSAT-3D is studied for different CAPE ranges. The spatial distribution of CAPE provides information on the 345 distribution of extreme weather events over the study region. The estimated CAPE is divided 346 into four categories: weak instability (<500 J kg<sup>-1</sup>), moderate instability (501-1500 J kg<sup>-1</sup>), 347 strong instability (1501-3000 J kg<sup>-1</sup>), and extreme instability (>3000 J kg<sup>-1</sup>). The normalized 348 349 anomaly distribution of CAPE in the four instability conditions during different seasons is provided over the Indian region as shown in Fig. 7. The spatial distribution of CAPE during 350 351 the weak, moderate, strong, and extreme instability conditions is shown in Fig. 7(a)-(d), 7(e)-352 (h), 7(i)-(l), and 7(m)-(p) respectively. The top panel is for the winter, second from the top is 353 for the pre-monsoon, third from the top is for the monsoon and bottom panel is for the post-354 monsoon season. Here, the negative (positive) anomaly indicates the increase (decrease) in CAPE. During the-winter, the response of weak instability (Fig 7a) is very less over the 355 356 Indian subcontinent as well as the surrounding oceanic regions. -However, the response of 357 winter towards strong and extreme instability is observed over the BoB, Southeast AS, and 358 some parts of the NI. The higher response may be due to the cyclones and depressions that 359 occur over the oceanic regions during December. Over the NI, strong westerlies are observed 360 during the winter, which may result in a dry convection with higher CAPE.

The response during pre-monsoon is observed to be high<u>er for during</u> strong and extreme instability. The pre-monsoon season is considered to be summer over the Indian subcontinent and it is the favorable season for thunderstorms and deep convection. This could be easily observed in the figure that during extreme instability the whole Indian region is observed to have <u>higher frequencies very high values</u> of CAPE. During the-monsoon <u>season</u>, the response to weak and moderate instability is more compared to strong and extreme

instability. It is observed that the Western Ghats and the surrounding oceanic regions have 367 368 more frequency of weak and moderate instabilities compared to the other regions. The 369 Western Ghats is generally dominated by the shallow clouds (e.g., Das et al., 2017; Utsav et 370 al., 2017), which results its in high response with weak instability as deep convection does not predominantly occur over this region. The monsoon trough region extending from heat 371 372 low in Pakistan to head BoB respond to strong instability. This trough (core low-pressure region) occurs during the monsoon, which results in heavy rainfall over the Indian 373 374 subcontinent. Compared to the pre-monsoon, there is little response in strong instability conditions over the oceanic regions. This results in fewer occurrences of deep convection and 375 cyclones (inhibited because of the presence of strong wind shear at 500 hPa) during the 376 monsoon season. In the post-monsoon, the response is much similar to the pre-monsoon 377 during the strong and extreme instability conditions. In the-post-monsoon, the wind flow over 378 379 the Indian region is northeasterly which results in more convection over the northwestern and the southern peninsular Indian region. Usually, in October-November months, the deep 380 381 depression occurs over the Bay of Bengal due to which the higher frequency of higher CAPE is observed. In general, the weak instability is predominant during the winter season. The 382 383 moderate instability shows higher occurrence during the-post-monsoon compared to other 384 seasons. The strong instability condition is more during the monsoon period whereas the occurrence of extreme instability is higher during the pre-monsoon months. 385

#### 386 **4.5.** *Diurnal variation of CAPE*

Fig. 8 shows the hourly mean CAPE averaged for three years (2014-2017). A strong diurnal variation in the mean CAPE is observed over different parts of India. A clear land-sea contrast is also observed in the mean CAPE. The CAPE starts building up in the morning (0530 LT=00UTC+0530) over the oceans with land having low values of CAPE. The mean CAPE reaches its maximum at ~1200 LT over the oceans. However, the CAPE starts 392 increasing after 0900 LT over the land and reaches the maximum in the afternoon (between 393 1300 and 1400 LT) and decreases again thereafter. The land-sea contrast in the mean CAPE 394 has disappeared in the evening. Again in the evening, the CAPE increases and a secondary 395 maximum is observed in the midnight over the oceans. Over the tropics, the Indian region is one of the active convective regions. The deep convective clouds form during the daytime 396 397 over the Indian sub-continent due to solar insolation, which increases the lower tropospheric temperature resulting in convective instability. Uma and Das (2016) have found the lower 398 399 tropospheric humidity maximum in the afternoon and minimum in the evening hours. The surrounding oceanic regions found to peak in the late evening and midnight. This indicates 400 401 that the convection peaks in the late afternoon over the land region and evening to midnight 402 over the oceans. These results are consistent with the findings of Dutta and Rao (2001) and 403 Dutta and Kesarkar (2004). These studies revealed that the maximum value of CAPE is 404 observed during nighttime over the BoB and east coast of India. However, this secondary 405 maximum is not observed over the land areas. In contrast, another maximum is observed around 1700 LT over the east coast, west coast and north-west regions of India. 406

407 To observe the diurnal variation of CAPE over different parts of India, the study 408 region is divided (latitude-wise for uniformity) into six sub-regions as provided in Raut et al. 409 (2009). These regions are: the Arabian Sea (AS; 8-20°N, 65-72°E), Bay of Bengal (BoB; 8-20°N, 80-90°E), South Peninsular India (SP; 8-20°N, 72-80°E), Central India (CI; 20-25°N, 410 73-82°E), North India (NI; 25-35°N, 73-80°E), and Northeast India (NE; 24-29°N, 90-411 412 96°E). Fig. 9 shows the diurnal variation of mean CAPE over these sub-regions during four 413 seasons. From this figure, one can observe a bimodal distribution in the mean CAPE over the 414 AS and BoB during the pre-monsoon and monsoon periods (Fig. 9a and b). The primary maximum is observed in the nighttime and the secondary maximum is observed in the 415 afternoon time over these regions. Uma and Das (2016) have also observed bimodal 416

distribution in the relative humidity over the BoBay of Bengal and the Indian Ocean. They 417 418 found maximum distribution at 1200 and 1500 LT, which is almost similar to that observed in 419 the present study. During Bay of Bengal Monsoon Experiment (BOBMEX) 1999, Dutta and Kesarkar (2004) observed that the CAPE is maximum in the nighttime than in the daytime. 420 Further, the nighttime maximum in the mean CAPE is observed around ~0000 LT over BoB, 421 422 and AS during the pre-monsoon and monsoon periods. The bimodal distribution in mean CAPE is also observed over the AS and BoB during the post-monsoon season. However, the 423 424 secondary maximum is not much prominent as observed in the pre-monsoon and monsoon periods. The mean CAPE peaks in the afternoon hours over the AS and BoB during the 425 winter season. 426

427 The SP region (Fig. 9c) also shows the similar behavior as that of oceans. The mean CAPE over the SP region maximizes in the afternoon hours. The secondary maximum is also 428 429 observed in the late night (0000 LT). The mean CAPE in the CI region (Fig. 9d) shows a bimodal distribution during the-winter, monsoon and post-monsoon seasons. The mean 430 CAPE is at its maximum in the afternoon time. The other maximum is during the nighttime. 431 A noticeable difference is observed in the mean CAPE during the pre-monsoon season. 432 433 During this period, the CAPE is nearly the same throughout the day. However, this CAPE decreases a little and becomes minimum in the early morning over the CI region. The mean 434 CAPE in the NI region (Fig. 9e) shows a similar diurnal variation as observed over the CI 435 region. The mean CAPE shows little variation during the pre-monsoon months. The other 436 three seasons show bimodal distribution as observed in other regions. However, the 437 438 magnitude of the mean CAPE is higher in the NI region compared to the CI region. Further, 439 the difference in mean CAPE between primary and secondary maximum is relatively small compared to the other regions. The NE region (Fig. 9f) also shows a bimodal distribution in 440 mean CAPE with the primary maximum in the afternoon hours and the secondary maximum 441

in the late-night during the-winter, monsoon and post-monsoon seasons. In addition to these
two maxima, a third maximum is also observed over the NE region during the pre-monsoon
season. The third maximum is observed at ~0900 LT over this region. The third maximum
observed in the mean CAPE may be due to the occurrence of pre-monsoon thunderstorms
known as Norwesters during the morning over this region.

447 The statistical analysis of CAPE is also attempted over these six regions to understand the variability during different seasons between the different regions as shown during 448 different seasons and it is shown in Fig. 10(a)-(d) for the winter, pre-monsoon, monsoon, and 449 post-monsoon respectively. The mean, standard deviation along with maximum/minimum 450 with 25, 50 and 70 % occurrence are provided in the figure. During the-winter, the mean 451 CAPE is higher (~1600 J kg<sup>-1</sup>) over the AS compared to that of the BoB (~1000 J kg<sup>-1</sup>). Over 452 the land regions, the mean CAPE is found to be less than ~1000 J kg<sup>-1</sup>. The oceanic regions 453 454 are found to have higher CAPE during the-winter compared to that of the continent. The NI and NE have smaller CAPE during the winter period. WThe winter is extremely dry over the 455 456 Indian region except for the surrounding oceanic regions and south peninsular India, where 457 we observe cyclones/depressions during December, which brings more moisture and heavy 458 rainfall as discussed earlier. During the-pre-monsoon months, the mean CAPE is higher than  $\sim$ 2000 J kg<sup>-1</sup> over all the regions concerned. The pre-monsoon depressions, thunderstorms, 459 deep convection and Norwesters contribute to very highligher CAPE values over India and 460 surrounding oceanic regions. During the monsoon season, the mean CAPE is less than ~1500 461 J kg<sup>-1</sup> over all the regions except the NI where it is about  $\sim 2000$  J kg<sup>-1</sup>. The shallow 462 convection dominates during the monsoon season rather than deep convection, which results 463 in lesser-lower CAPE values compared to that of the pre-monsoon. During the post-monsoon, 464 the mean value of CAPE is about ~1200 J kg<sup>-1</sup> except AS where it is about ~1800 J kg<sup>-1</sup> and 465 BoB about ~1500 J kg<sup>-1</sup>. The northeast monsoon dominates the Indian region during the post-466

467 monsoon which results in deep convection resulting in relatively higher values of CAPE.
468 Overall, over the Indian and the surrounding oceanic regions, the maximum CAPE is found
469 in the pre-monsoon followed by the post-monsoon, monsoon and winter over the Indian sub470 continent.

471

#### 472 **5.** Summary

The extreme weather events such as thunderstorms and tropical cyclones cause severe 473 474 damage to life and property, especially in the tropical regions. Convective available potential energy (CAPE) is a measure of the amount of energy available for convection in the 475 atmosphere. Hence, CAPE can be used as a measure for the occurrence of these severe 476 477 weather conditions. In the present study, we made an attempt for the first time to estimate CAPE from the INSAT-3D measurements and evaluate comprehensively over the Indian 478 479 regionsub-continent. For the evaluation, 20 stations are selected in different parts of India and 480 these estimates are evaluated against the radiosonde measurements collected from the Wyoming University along with the ERA-Interim data. The station wise comparison shows 481 482 that the INSAT-3D estimates match well with higher correlation coefficient and lower bias 483 with the radiosonde measurements. The correlation coefficient between INSAT-3D and 484 radiosonde CAPE is higher than that between INSAT-3D and ERA-Interim-and radiosonde. Further, the INSAT-3D derived CAPE overestimate the radiosonde CAPE-compared to 485 radiosonde measurements, whereas the ERA-Interim estimates underestimate the radiosonde 486 487 CAPE. The categorical statistics shows that the INSAT-3D can better represent the radiosonde measured CAPE. The distribution of CAPE collected from all the 20 stations 488 shows that the CAPE distribution is shifted to higher for lower values (< 1000 J kg<sup>-1</sup>) in all the 489 three measurements datasets (radiosonde, INSAT-3D and ERA-Interim) for all the stations. 490 The INSAT-3D and ERA-Interim estimated CAPE is higher than the radiosonde 491



492 measurements in the lower ranges. The INSAT-3D estimated CAPE matches well with the 493 radiosonde measurements above  $\sim$ 3000 J kg<sup>-1</sup>.

494 The spatial and temporal distribution of CAPE reveals several interesting features. 495 Thethat the weak instability is predominant during the winter season, the moderate instability is higher during the post-monsoon, the strong instability is more during the monsoon period 496 and the extreme instability is higher during the pre-monsoon months. The diurnal variation in 497 mean CAPE shows a bimodal distribution with the primary peak around mid-night and 498 499 secondary peak in the afternoon times for most of the regions and in different seasons. The seasonal mean CAPE shows that the land areas show lower CAPE during the winter, whereas 500 501 the oceans show the highest CAPE during the pre-monsoon season. The higher values of 502 CAPE over the oceanic regions may be due to the higher sea surface temperature and higher occurrence of the tropical cyclones during the pre-monsoon season. Further, the north-503 504 western parts of India (Gujarat) show higher CAPE among other land regions. Overall, the 505 INSAT-3D estimated CAPE is in close agreement with the radiosonde derived CAPE. As the INSAT-3D provides high temporal and spatial resolution data, hence it can be used for now-506 507 casting and severe weather warnings in the numerical prediction models.

508

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## 665 Table Captions:

666	Table 1: The total number of data available during four monsoon seasons for the 20 stations
667	for the period from April, 2014 to March, 2017.
668	Table 12: Contingency table for the comparison of INSAT-3D estimated CAPE with
669	radiosonde measured CAPE. The CAPE threshold is assumed considered as 0 J kg <sup>-1</sup> .
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671	Figure Captions:
672	Fig 1: The geographical map of India representing the 20 stations considered for the present
673	study. Stations are Agarthala (AGR; 23.88°N, 91.25°E); Ahmedabad (AHB; 23.06°N,
674	7 <del>2.63°E); Amini Divi (AMD; 11.12°N, 72.73°E); Bhuvaneswar (BHU; 20.25°N,</del>
675	85.83°E); Chennai (CHE; 13.00°N, 80.18°E); Cochin (COC; 9.95°N; 76.26°E); Delhi
676	(DEL; 28.58°N, 77.20°E); Dibrugarh (DIB; 27.48°N, 95.01°E); Gorakhpur (GRK;
677	26.75°N, 83.36°E); Guwahati (GUW; 26.10°N; 91.58°E); Hyderabad (HYD; 17.45°N,
678	7 <del>8.46°E); Karaikal (KAR; 10.91°N, 79.83°E); Kolkata (KOL; 22.65°N, 88.45°E);</del>
679	Machilipatnam (MAP; 16.20°N, 81.15°E); Mangalore (MAN; 12.95°N, 74.83°E);
680	Minicoy (MIN; 8.30°N, 73.15°E); Mumbai (MUM; 19.11°N, 72.85°E); Port Blair
681	(PB; 11.66°N, 92.71°E); Trivandrum (TVM; 8.48°N, 76.95°E); Visakhapatnam (VSP;
682	<del>17.70°N, 83.30°E).</del>
683	Fig 2: (a) Correlation Coefficient coefficient in the comparison of INSAT-3D and ERA
684	CAPE with radiosonde and ERA-Interimderived CAPE for 20 stations in India for
685	the Period period April, 2014 to March, 2017. (b) Number of data points in the
686	comparison of INSAT-3DCAPE, ERA CAPE with radiosonde and ERA-Interim
687	CAPE.

688	Fig 3: Bias in the comparison between INSAT-3DCAPE and ERA-Interim reanalysis
689	CAPE with radiosonde for different Stations stations in India for the Period period
690	April <del>,</del> 2014 – March <del>,</del> 2017.
691	Fig 4: Statistical indices (a) POD, (b) FAR, (c) CSI and (d) ACC in the comparison between
692	the INSAT-3D-CAPE with radiosonde CAPE for 20 Stations-stations in India.
693	<b>Fig 5:</b> Distribution (%) of INSAT-3D, radiosonde and ERA <u>-Interim</u> reanalysis CAPE (J kg <sup>-1</sup> )
694	for all the stations considered in the study.
695	Fig. 6: The seasonal mean distribution of CAPE (J kg <sup>-1</sup> ) during (a) winter (b) pre-monsoon
696	(c) monsoon and (d) post-monsoon from INSAT-3D data over Indian region.
697	Fig. 7: Frequency distribution (%) of CAPE in (a) weak (b) moderate (c) strong (d) extreme
698	instability during winter season. (e)-(h): same as (a)-(d) except for pre-monsoon
699	season. (i)-(l): same as (a)-(d) but for monsoon season and (m)-(p): same as (a)-(d)
700	except for post-monsoon season.
701	Fig 8: Hourly mean distribution of the-INSAT-3D CAPE (J kg <sup>-1</sup> ) during the period from 01
702	April 2014 to 31 March 2017 over the Indian region.
703	Fig 9: Diurnal variation of CAPE (J kg <sup>-1</sup> ) over (a) AS (b) BoB (c) SP (d) CI (e) NI (f) NE
704	region of India during four monsoon seasons.
705	Fig 10: Box-plot analysis of distribution of CAPE (J kg <sup>-1</sup> ) during (a) winter (b) pre-monsoon
706	(c) monsoon and (d) post-monsoon from INSAT-3D data over six sub-regions over
707	the Indian sub-continent. the Indian region.

## **Table 1:** The total number of data available during four monsoon-seasons for the 20 stations

## for the period from April, 2014 to March, 2017.

Station	Latitude	Longitude	Total Number of Data			
			<u>Winter</u>	Pre- monsoon	Monsoon	Post- monsoon
<u>Agarthala</u> (AGR)	23.88	<u>91.25</u>	<u>3614</u>	<u>3272</u>	<u>2615</u>	<u>2613</u>
Ahmedabad (AHB)	23.06	<u>72.63</u>	<u>3808</u>	<u>4034</u>	<u>3686</u>	<u>2891</u>
<u>Amini Divi</u> (AMD)	<u>11.12</u>	<u>72.73</u>	<u>3985</u>	<u>3776</u>	<u>3327</u>	2362
Bhuvaneswar (BHU)	20.25	<u>85.83</u>	<u>3701</u>	<u>3450</u>	<u>2389</u>	2488
<u>Chennai</u> ( <u>CHE)</u>	<u>13.00</u>	80.18	<u>3816</u>	<u>3712</u>	<u>2956</u>	<u>1985</u>
Cochin (COC)	<u>9.95</u>	76.26	<u>3867</u>	<u>3072</u>	<u>2905</u>	<u>1758</u>
Delhi (DEL)	<u>28.58</u>	<u>77.20</u>	<u>2910</u>	<u>3316</u>	<u>3845</u>	<u>2894</u>
Dibrugarh (DIB)	<u>27.48</u>	<u>95.01</u>	<u>3287</u>	2260	2536	<u>2595</u>
Gorakhpur (GRK)	<u>26.75</u>	<u>83.36</u>	<u>2871</u>	<u>3383</u>	<u>2769</u>	<u>2833</u>
<u>Guwahati</u> (GUW)	<u>26.10</u>	<u>91.58</u>	<u>3610</u>	<u>3058</u>	<u>2956</u>	<u>2796</u>
Hyderabad (HYD)	<u>17.45</u>	<u>78.46</u>	<u>2550</u>	<u>394</u>	327	<u>1045</u>
Karaikal (KAR)	<u>10.91</u>	<u>79.83</u>	<u>3660</u>	<u>3458</u>	<u>3632</u>	<u>1846</u>
Kolkata (KOL)	22.65	88.45	3488	<u>2924</u>	2500	<u>2677</u>
Machilipatnam (MAP)	<u>16.20</u>	<u>81.15</u>	<u>4001</u>	<u>3706</u>	<u>2564</u>	2322
Mangalore (MAN)	<u>12.95</u>	<u>74.83</u>	<u>4063</u>	3542	2705	2232
Minicoy (MIN)	<u>8.30</u>	<u>73.15</u>	<u>3882</u>	<u>3346</u>	<u>3320</u>	<u>2040</u>

Mumbai	<u>19.11</u>	<u>72.85</u>	<u>4294</u>	<u>4321</u>	<u>3405</u>	<u>2756</u>
<u>(MUM)</u>						
Port Blair (PB)	<u>11.66</u>	<u>92.71</u>	<u>3676</u>	<u>3458</u>	<u>2381</u>	<u>2178</u>
<u>Trivandrum</u> (TVM)	<u>8.48</u>	<u>76.95</u>	<u>3675</u>	<u>3116</u>	<u>3608</u>	<u>1805</u>
Visakhapatnam (VSP)	<u>17.70</u>	<u>83.30</u>	<u>3972</u>	<u>3747</u>	<u>2632</u>	<u>2415</u>

## **Table 12:** Contingency table for the comparison of INSAT-3D estimated CAPE with

	Radiosonde ≥Threshold	Radiosonde < Threshold
Satellite ≥Threshold	Hits (a)	False alarms (b)
Satellite < Threshold	Misses (c)	Correct negatives (d)

radiosonde measured CAPE. The CAPE threshold is <u>assumed-considered</u> as  $0 \text{ J kg}^{-1}$ .















for all the stations considered in the study.



Fig. 6: The seasonal mean distribution of CAPE (J kg<sup>-1</sup>) during (a) winter (b) pre-monsoon
(c) monsoon and (d) post-monsoon from INSAT-3D data over Indian region.



Fig. 7: Frequency distribution (%) of CAPE in (a) weak (b) moderate (c) strong (d) extreme
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season. (i)-(l): same as (a)-(d) but for monsoon season and (m)-(p): same as (a)-(d)
except for post-monsoon season.



Fig 8: Hourly mean distribution of the-INSAT-3D CAPE (J kg<sup>-1</sup>) during the period from 01
April 2014 to 31 March 2017 over the Indian region.





Fig 9: Diurnal variation of CAPE (J kg<sup>-1</sup>) over (a) AS (b) BoB (c) SP (d) CI (e) NI (f) NE
region of India during four monsoon-seasons.



(c) monsoon and (d) post-monsoon from INSAT-3D data over six sub-regions over the Indian sub-continentthe Indian region.