

A Data-Driven Approach for the Submesoscale Parameterization

Abigail Bodner
Laure Zanna

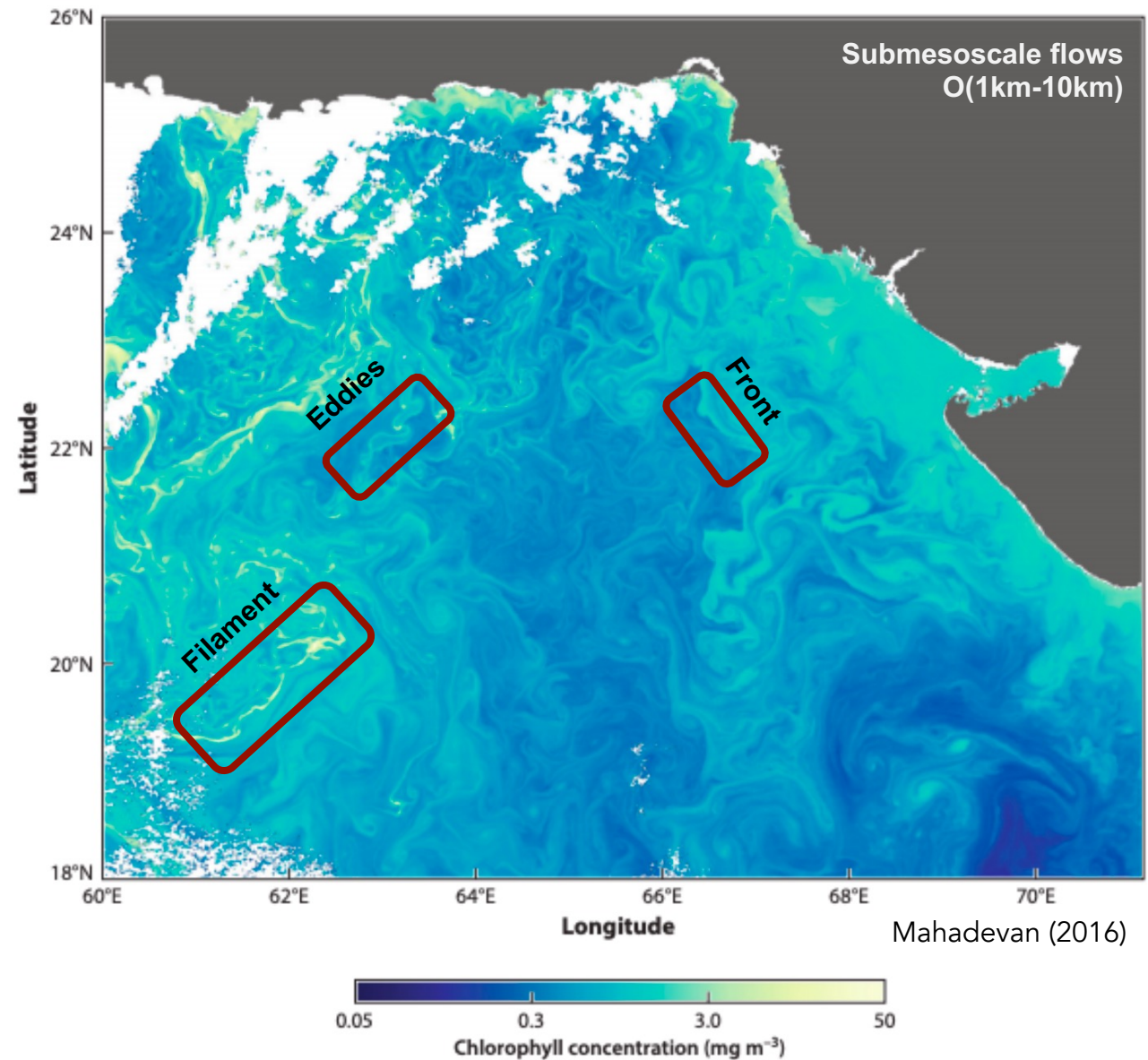


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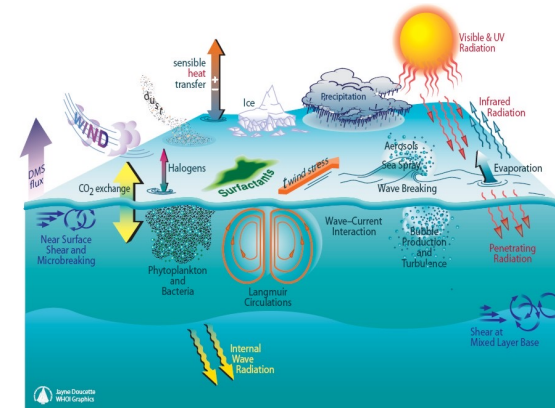
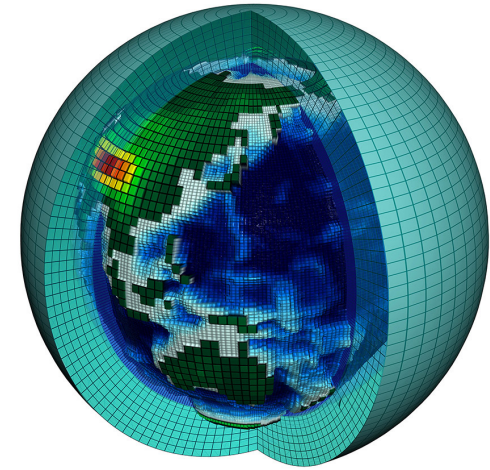


Ocean Mixed Layer

- Mixing and turbulence controls atmosphere-ocean interactions
- Accurate representation of fluxes is crucial for climate simulations
- Small, fast and complex processes
- Unresolved in General Circulation Models

Buoyancy equation
$$\frac{\partial \bar{b}}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\bar{\mathbf{u}}\bar{b}) = \nabla \cdot (\overline{\mathbf{u}'b'})$$

subgrid fluxes of b'
(parameterizations)



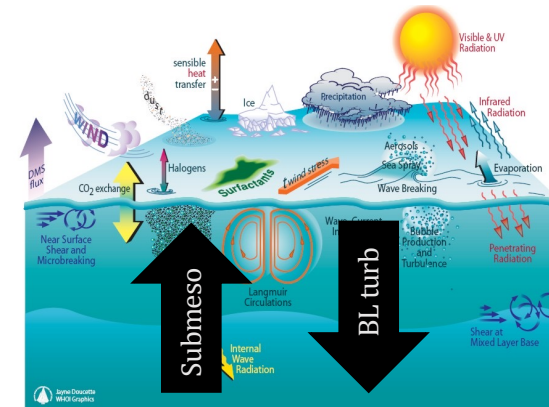
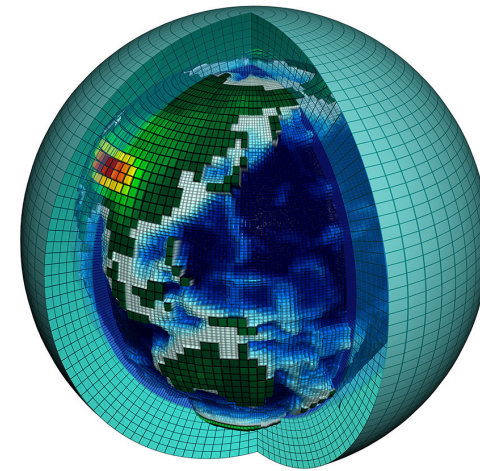
Processes in the upper ocean mixed layer

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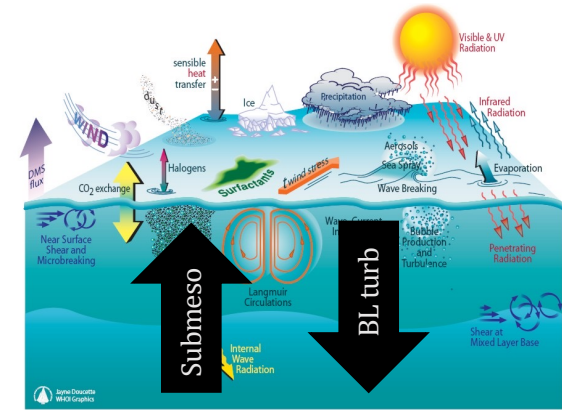
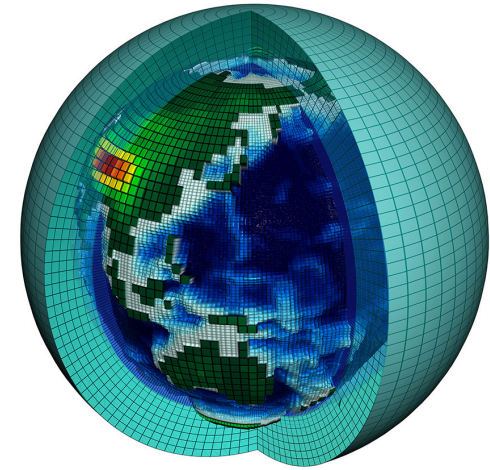
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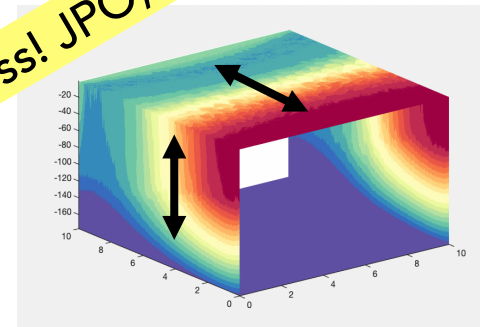
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subgrid fluxes of b'
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Physics-based

Hot off the press! JPO, Jan 2023




Modifying the Mixed Layer Eddy Parameterization

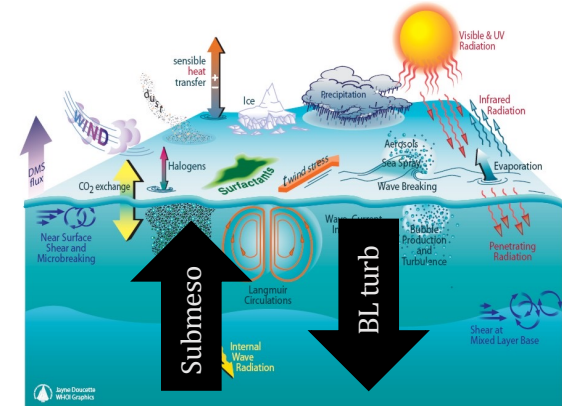
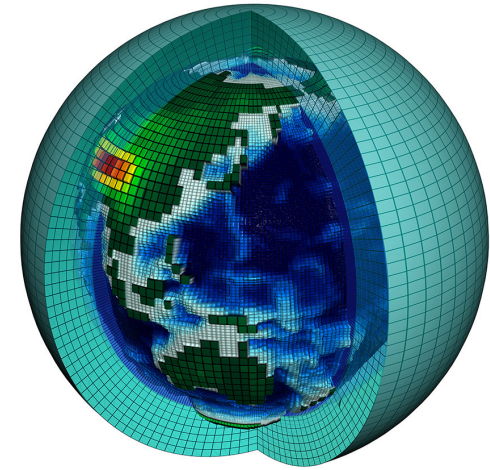
$$L_f = C_f \cdot \frac{(m_* u_*^3 + n_* w_*^3)^{\frac{2}{3}}}{f^2} \cdot \frac{1}{h}$$

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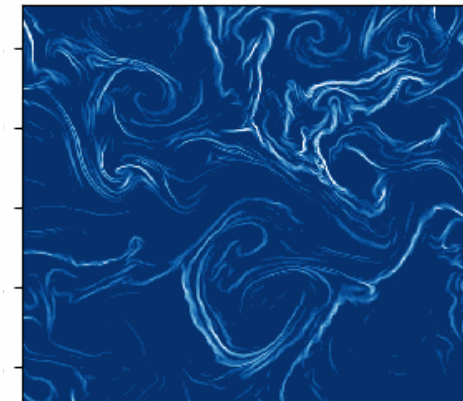
Buoyancy equation

$$\frac{\partial \bar{b}}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\bar{\mathbf{u}}\bar{b}) = \underbrace{\nabla \cdot (\bar{\mathbf{u}}'b')}_{\substack{\text{Data-Driven} \\ \text{subgrid fluxes of } b' \\ \text{(parameterizations)}}}$$




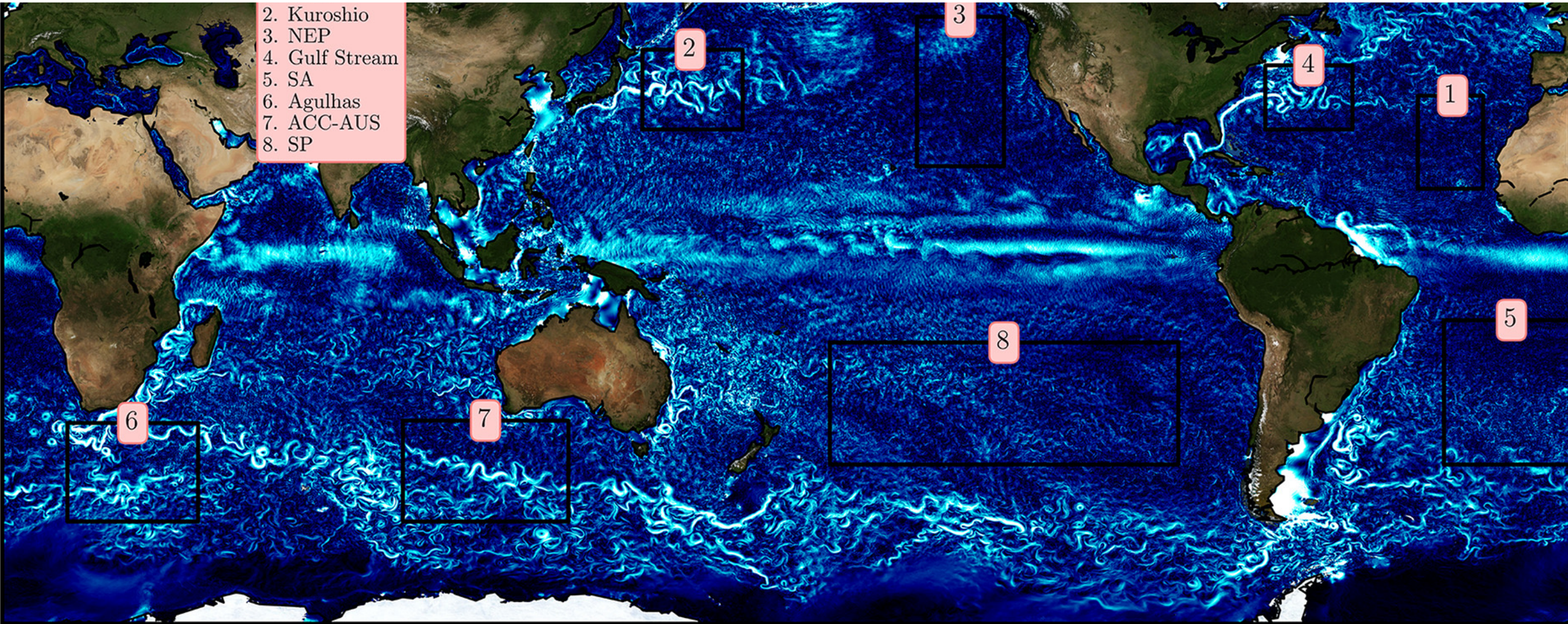
Processes in the upper ocean mixed layer

$|\nabla b|$, time = 2011.09.13



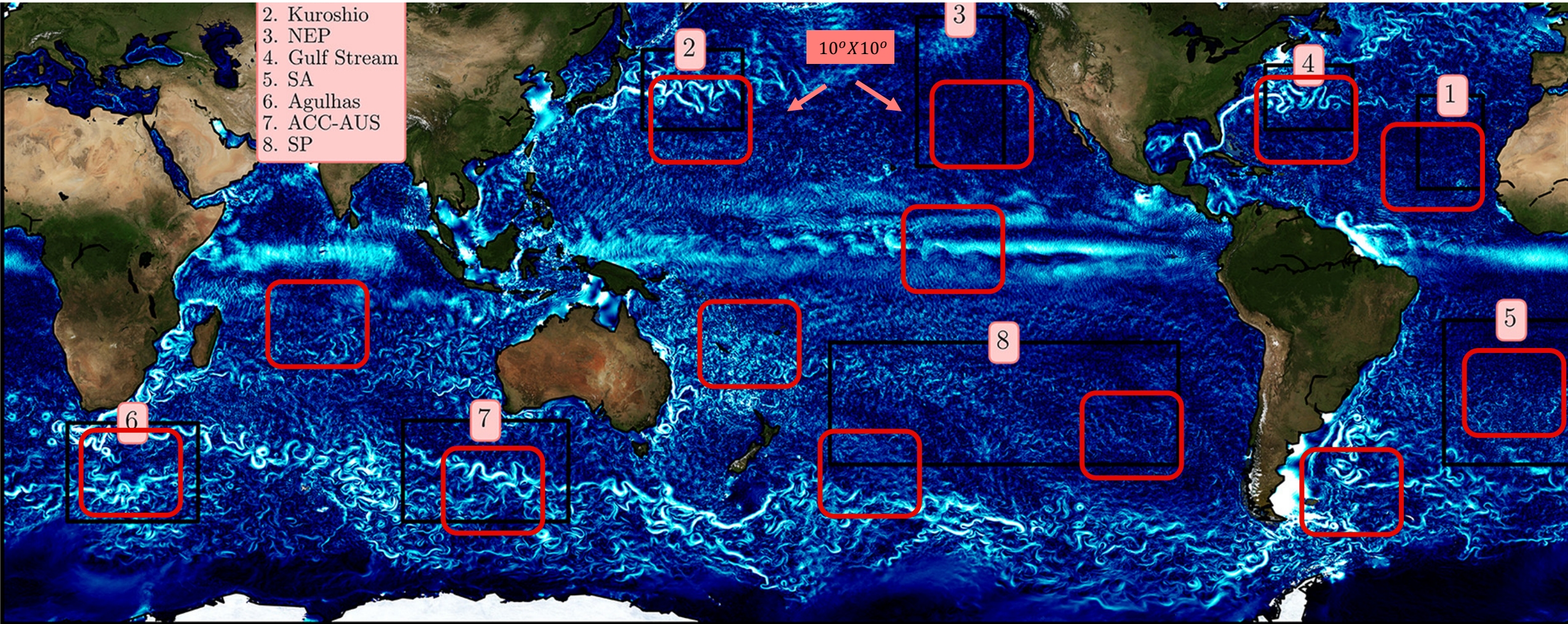
Data from submesoscale permitting simulation

MITgcm-llc4320 (horizontal resolution $1/48^\circ \sim 2\text{km}$)



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MITgcm-llc4320 (horizontal resolution $1/48^\circ \sim 2\text{km}$)



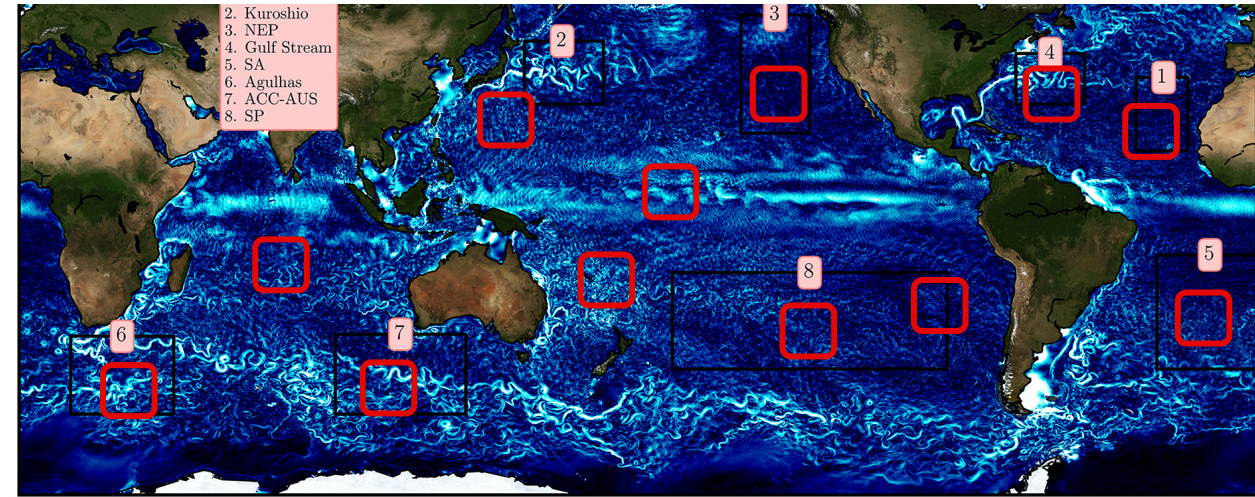
Made possible by the xmitgcm llcreader package

Torres et al (2018)

Data from submesoscale permitting simulation

MITgcm-llc4320

- $1/48^\circ \sim 2\text{km}$ horizontal resolution
- Select $10^\circ \times 10^\circ$ domains from global simulation
- Total of 14 months of hourly data, downsampled to 12 hours
- Train Neural Network to predict submesoscale-induced vertical fluxes

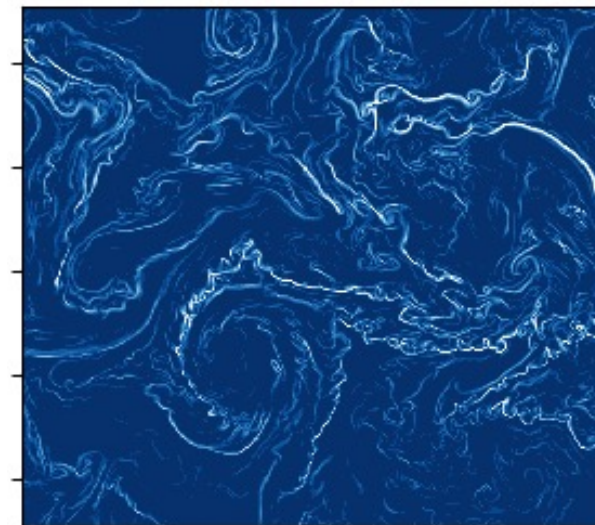


Torres et al (2018)

$$\Psi = \frac{\overline{w'b'^z}}{|\nabla b|^z}$$



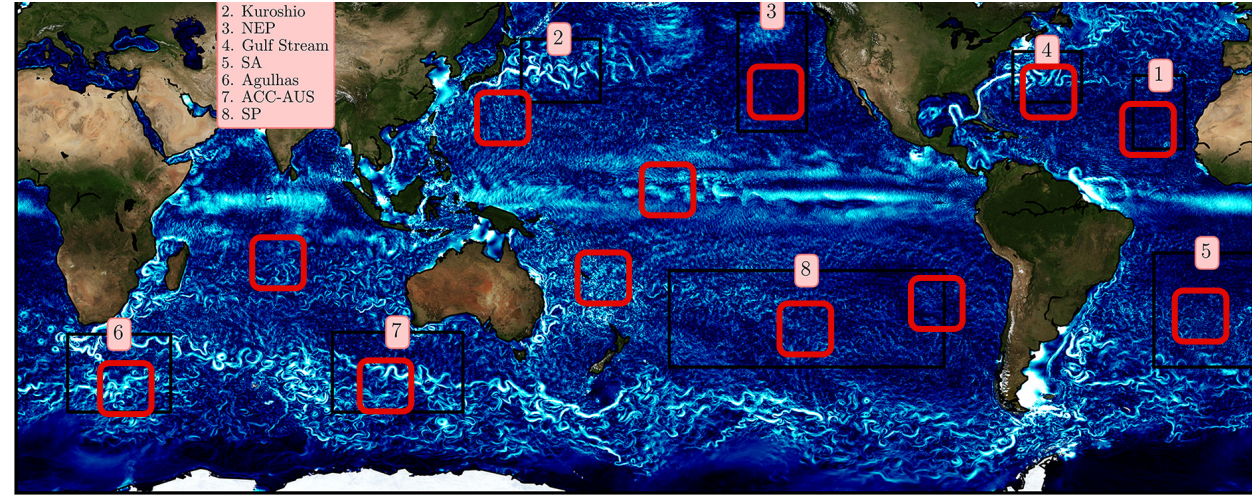
$|\nabla b|$, time = 2011.10.25



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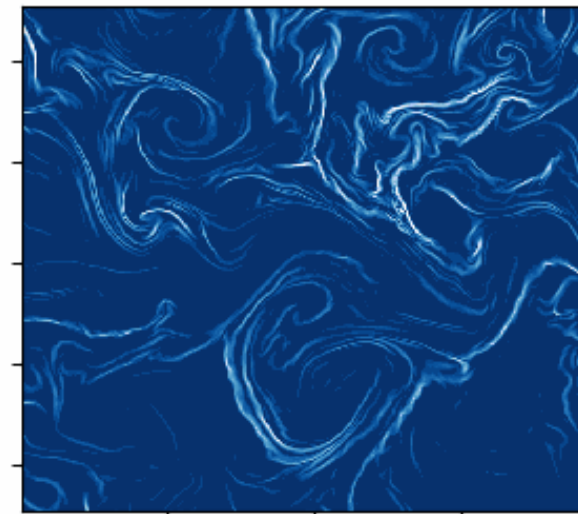
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Data-Driven

$|\nabla b|$, time = 2011.09.13



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- **Inputs** ($1/4^\circ$ resolution):

Mixed layer depth, boundary layer depth,
wind stress, surface heat flux,
Coriolis, MLD-averaged buoyancy gradient,
MLD-averaged stratification

$$\Psi = \frac{\overline{w'b'^z}}{|\nabla b|^z}$$

- **Target** ($1/4^\circ$ resolution): :

MLD-averaged vertical buoyancy flux

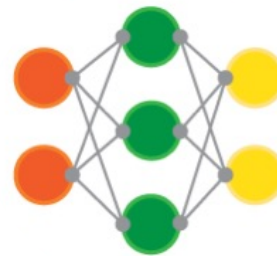
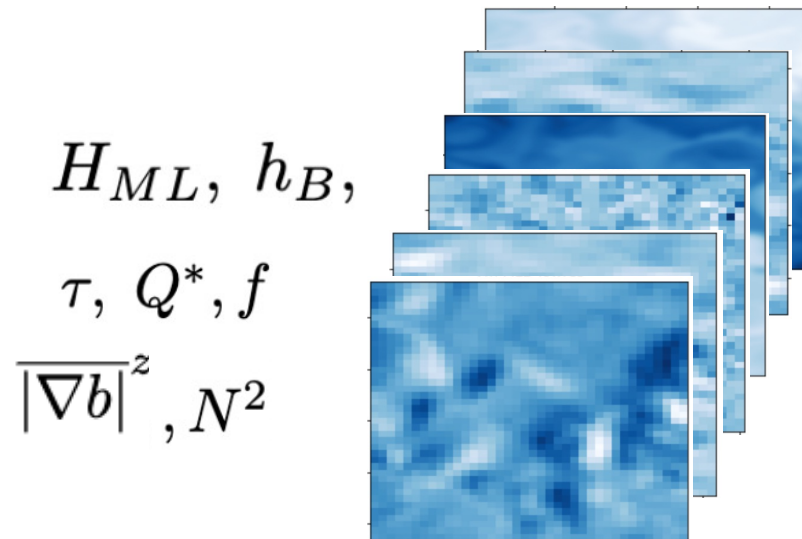
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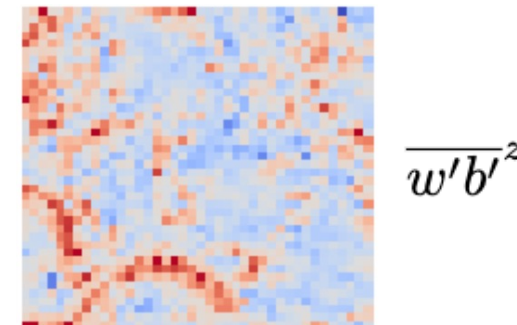
$$\Psi = \frac{\overline{w'b'^z}}{|\nabla b|^z}$$

Inputs (resolved by GCM):



Convolutional
Neural Network

Target
Subgrid submesoscale
vertical buoyancy fluxes

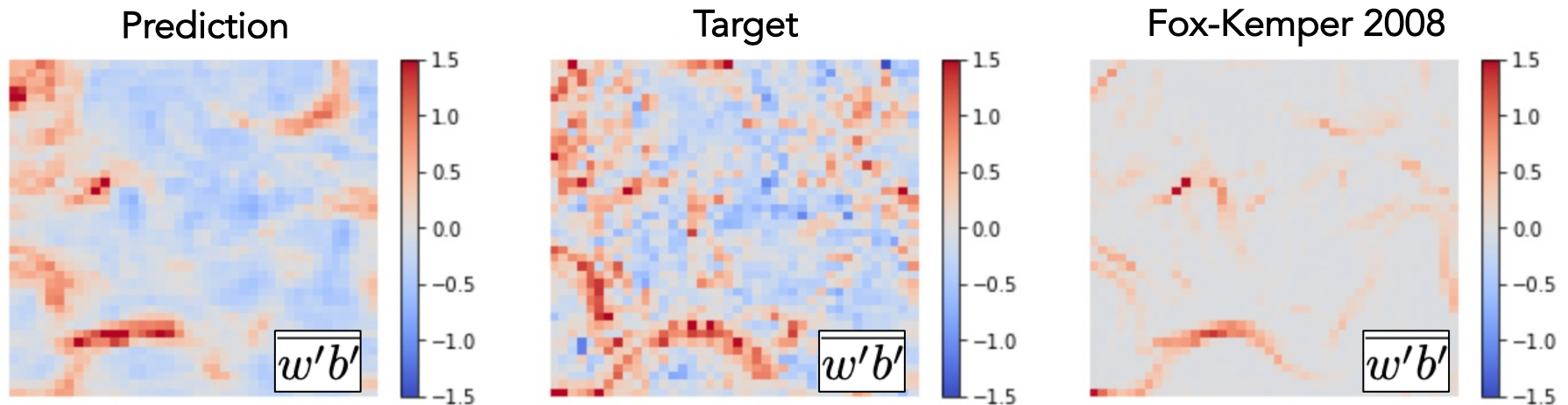


Offline Training Results

- Fully Convolutional Neural Network
(7 hidden layers, kernel 5x5)
- ~10,000 samples: 90% train, 10% test

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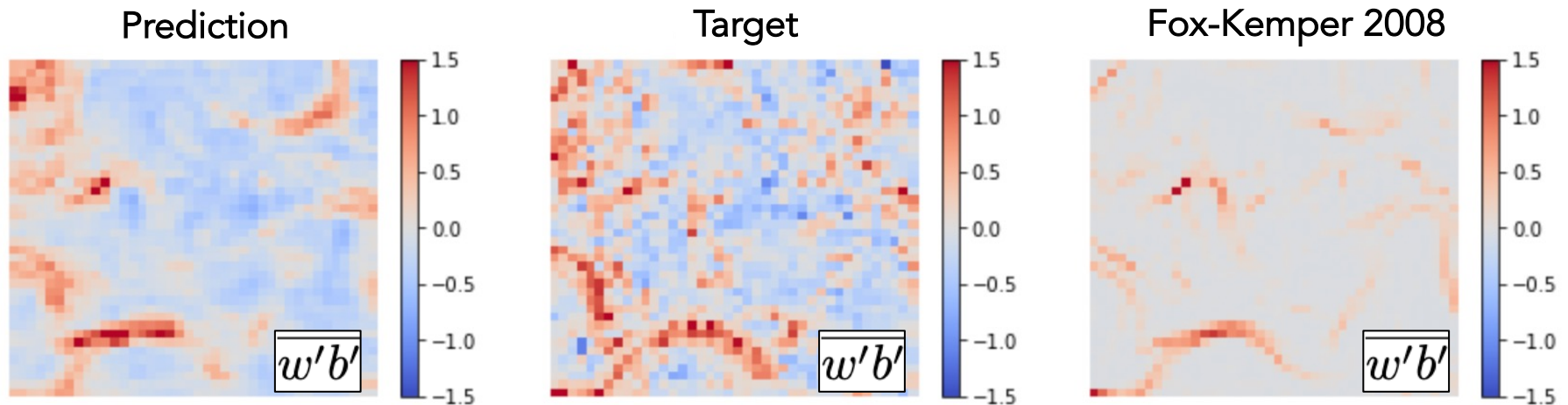
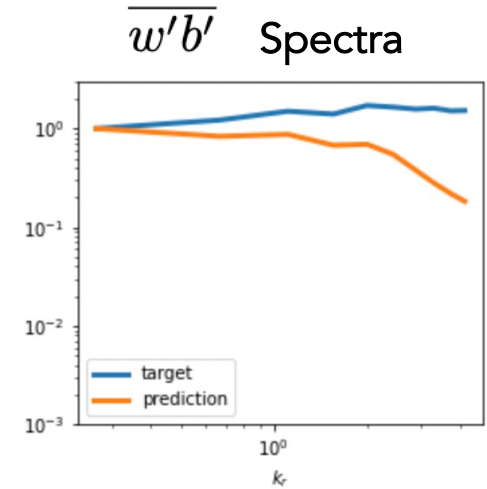
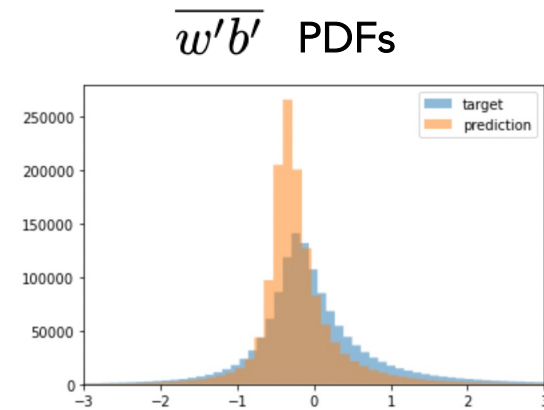
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$$\propto \frac{H_{ML} |\nabla_H B|^{z^2}}{|f|}$$

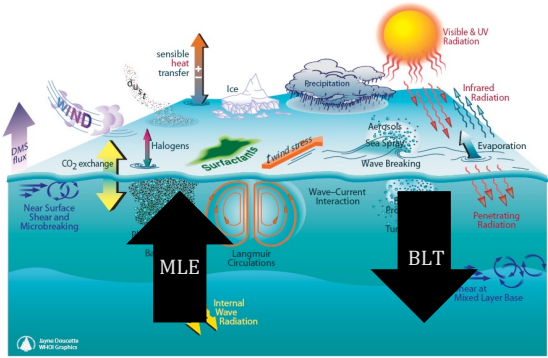
Offline Training Results

- Fully Convolutional Neural Network (7 hidden layers, kernel 5x5)
- ~10,000 samples: 90% train, 10% test
 - Prediction is a smoothed version of target
 - Spectral properties match at large scales but taper off at small scales
 - PDFs of prediction are also skewed



$$\propto \frac{H_{ML} |\nabla_H B|^{z^2}}{|f|}$$

Ocean Mixed Layer Parameterizations



- Predicting vertical buoyancy flux

$$\Psi = \frac{\overline{w'b'}^z}{|\nabla b|^z}$$



- Down-gradient flux (e.g. KPP, epbl):

$$\overline{u'b'} = \kappa \nabla \bar{b}$$

Diffusivity

- Eddy Streamfunction (e.g. GM, FK08):

$$\overline{u'b'} = \Psi_{MLE} \times \nabla \bar{b},$$

Eddy fluxes define streamfunction

$$\mathbf{u}^{MLE} = \nabla \times \Psi_{MLE}$$

Bolus velocity represents stirring



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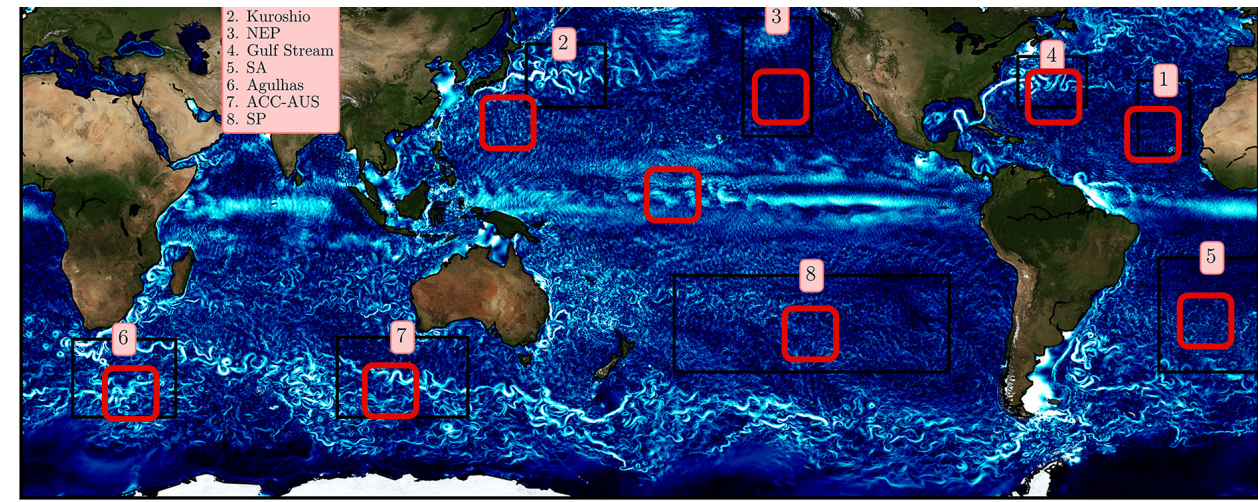
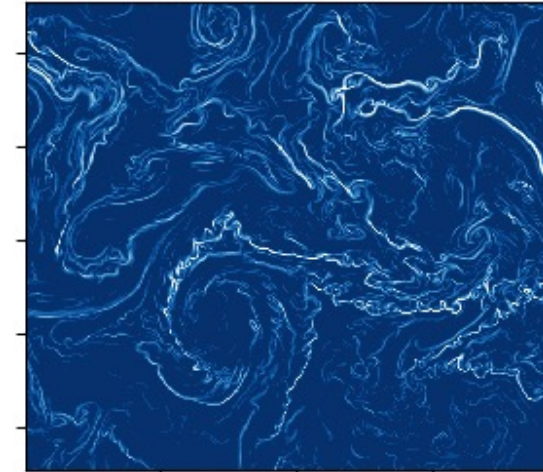


Summary and future work

- Data-driven approach for parameterizing vertical submesoscale buoyancy fluxes given by the ultra-high resolution MITgcm-llc4230
- Predicted fluxes are smoother compared to target but resemble in large-scale statistics
- Exploring different NN architectures to learn finer-scale features
- Testing sensitivity to input variables
 - Do we need all?
 - Any others relevant? e.g. strain, divergence
- Developing different approaches for GCM implementation which correspond to relevant ocean parameterizations

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$|\nabla b|$, time = 2011.10.25



Extra slides