#### Data Imbalance, Uncertainty Quantification, and Generalization via Transfer Learning in Data-driven Parameterizations

Lessons from the Emulation of Gravity Wave Momentum Transport in WACCM



https://cssi-gws.github.io/index.html

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# Emulating the complex physics-based GW parameterization in WACCM serves as a testbed for exploring solutions to these challenges



### **Fully connected NNs are used as emulators**



CWP	l I:	Output		
GWI	pressure levels	surface level	forcing	Output
CGWs	u(70),	lat $(1)$ ,	diabatic heating $(70)$	zonal drag
FGWs	v(70),	lon(1),	frontogenesis	$\mathrm{GWD}_x$ (70),
	T(70),	$P_{surface}$ (1),	function (70)	meridional drag
OGWs	z(70),		mxdis (16),	$\mathrm{GWD}_y$ (70),
	ho(71),		hwdth $(16)$ ,	
	Brunt–Väisälä frequency $N$ (70),		clngt (16),	
	dry static energy $DSE$ (70)		angll $(16)$ ,	
			anixy (16),	

$$\mathcal{L}(\Theta) = rac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left\| \mathbf{NN}(x_i, \Theta) - y_i 
ight\|_2^2$$

### The heterogeneous and intermittent nature of GW sources leads to a significantly imbalanced dataset



Occurrence frequency for FGW GWP (avg: 8.5%)





50

1

### GW drags concentrate primarily at critical levels, resulting in non-smooth profiles with numerous levels exhibiting zero GW drag



A sample profile of CGWs

## Normalizing the data while preserving the original wind and GWD profile structure enhances the emulator's performance



# Resampling the data (ReSAM): limiting the number of sample pairs with zero GWD to match the number of samples with non-zero GWD



## Uncertainty quantification (UQ) provides a credible confidence level for each prediction, serving as a reliable indicator of its accuracy

- Bayesian Neural Network (BNN)
- Dropout Neural Network (DNN)
- Variational Auto-Encoder (VAE)



# All three UQ methods produce reasonably informative uncertainty estimates, as their curves closely align with the 1-to-1 line



# Transfer learning improves out-of-distribution generalization of the NNs under 4×CO2 forcing



### The data imbalance issue is particularly pronounced for the OGWs



### **Take-home points**

- WACCM's orographic, convective, and frontal GWP are emulated using NNs.
- Data imbalance is addressed via resampling and weighted loss.
- Uncertainty quantification is addressed via Bayesian, dropout, and variational methods.
- Out-of-distribution generalization under 4×CO2 forcing is enabled via transfer learning.
- These findings apply to the data-driven parameterizations of other climate processes.



## A library of high-resolution simulations with regional WRF model



O Constrained by reanalysis on the boundaries (no model drift)







**Table 2.** Change of Mahalanobis distance based on the ratio of the average distance of the points that are more than 3 standard deviations away from the mean. The choice of the variables here is based on Appendix A, showing u, v, T, and source function contain most of the information needed for the NN.

Variables	u	v	Т	Source (diabatic heating for CGWs, frontogenesis for FGWs)	Zonal drag	Meridional drag
Distance (Convection)	1.03	1.00	1.19	3.62	1.42	1.44
Distance (Front)	1.03	0.96	1.50	1.10	1.00	1.00

## **OOD** generalization

(extrapolation to a test data distri- bution different from that of the training set) is a major challenge for applications involving non-stationarity, like a changing climate A general and powerful method for im- proving the OOD generalization capability of NNs is transfer learning (TL), which involves re-training a few or all of the layers of a NN using a small amount of data from the new system



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### The effect of normalization method

