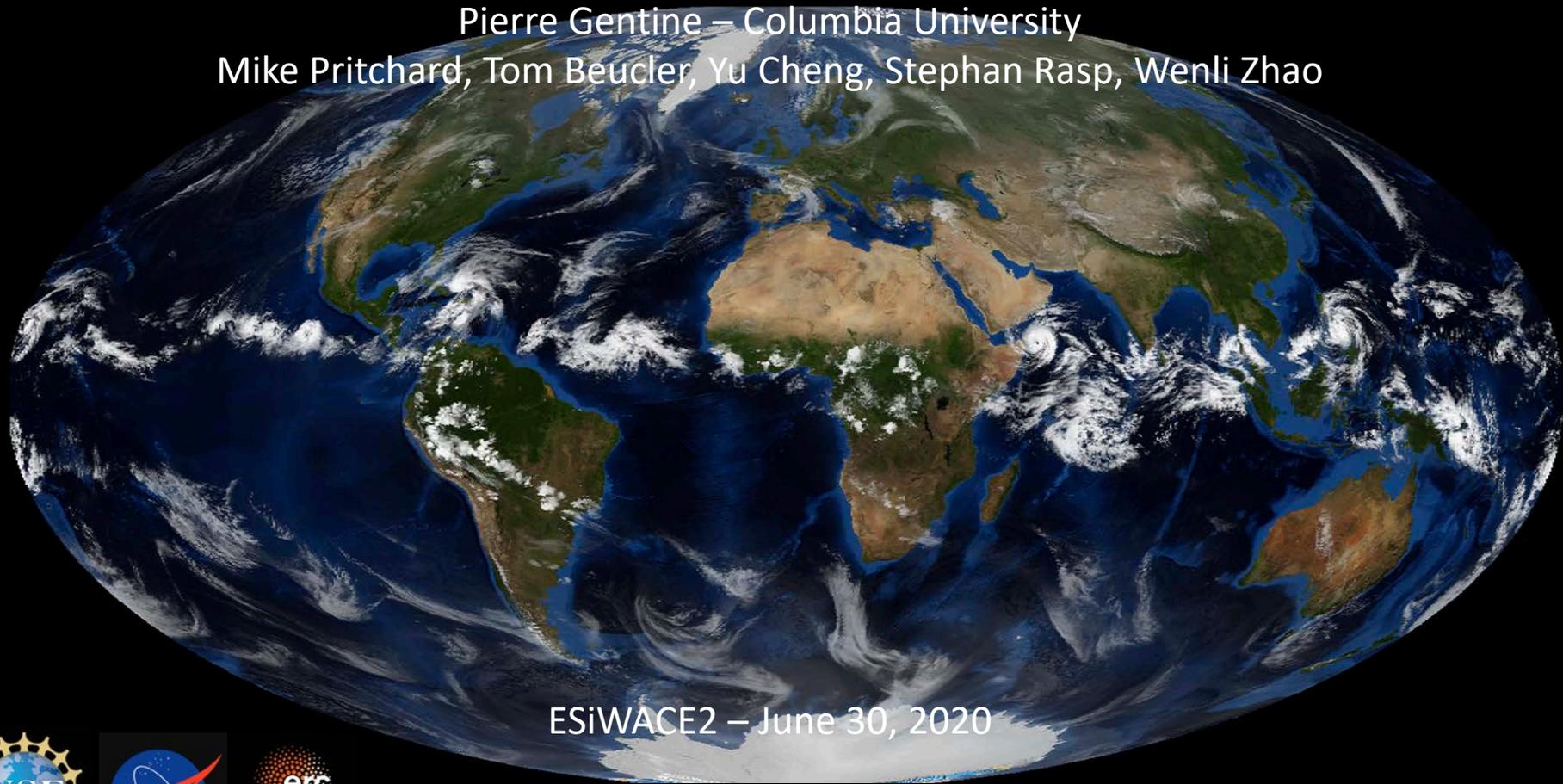


Physics-Guided Machine Learning

Pierre Gentine – Columbia University

Mike Pritchard, Tom Beucler, Yu Cheng, Stephan Rasp, Wenli Zhao



ESiWACE2 – June 30, 2020



TRANSCENDING DISCIPLINES, TRANSFORMING LIVES

 COLUMBIA | ENGINEERING
The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science

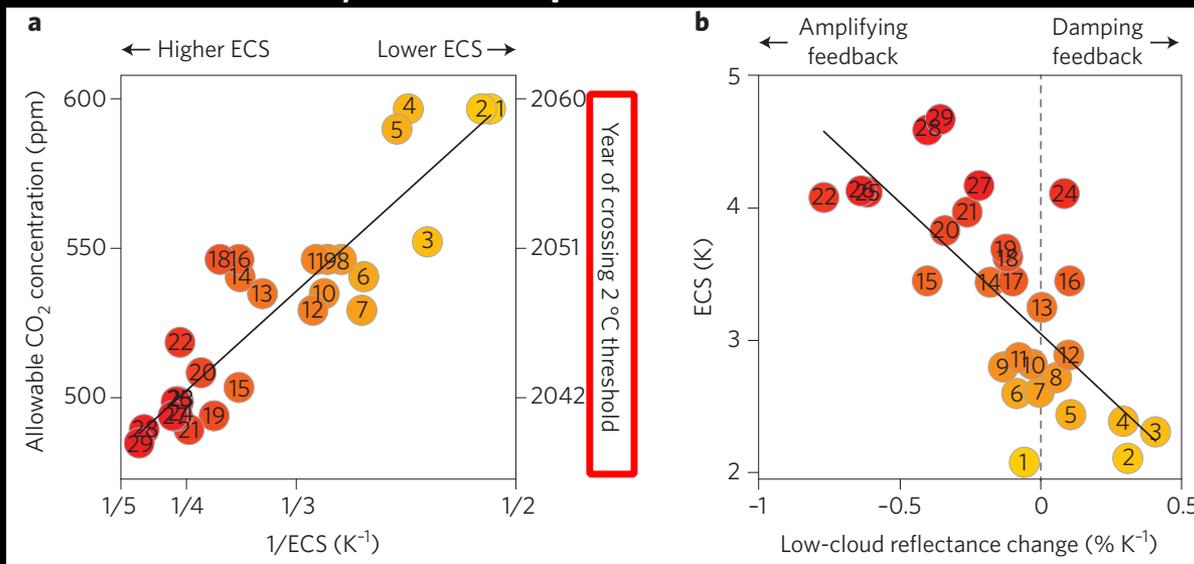
Climate sensitivity

Still substantial spread in model climate sensitivity

global $T=f(\text{greenhouse gases})$:

Limits our climate mitigation and management capacity and increases cost

Mostly due to representation of clouds

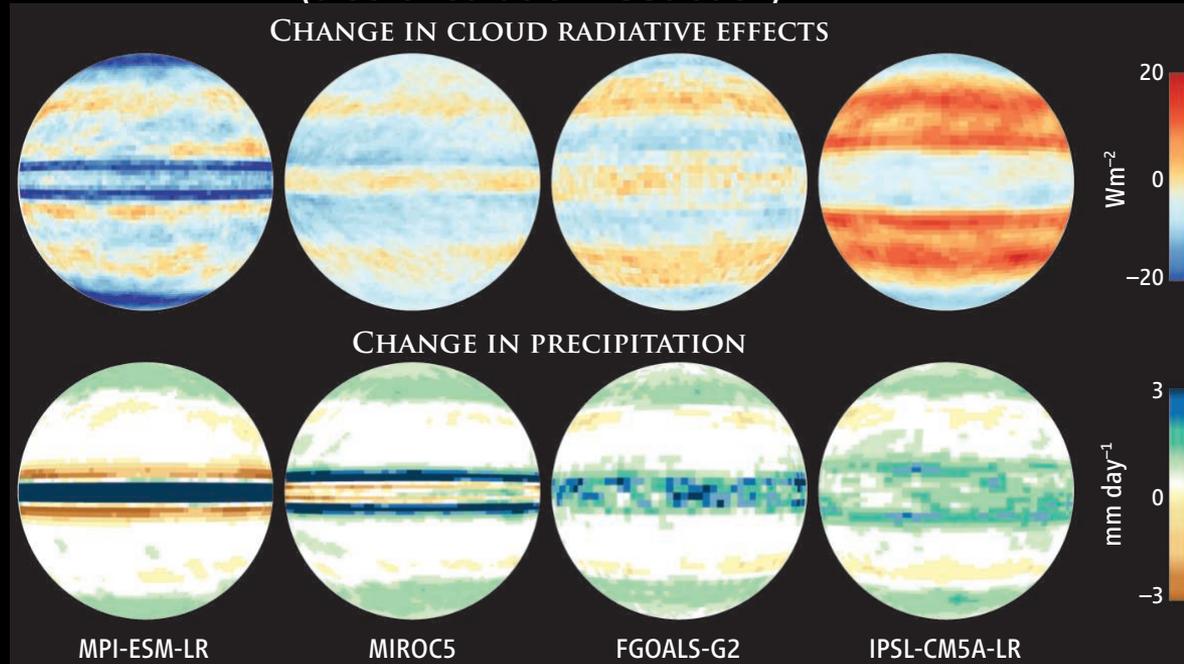


ECS = Equilibrium climate sensitivity (T response do CO₂ doubling)

Regional climate sensitivity

Cloud impact is not just global but also regional
(also circulation feedback)

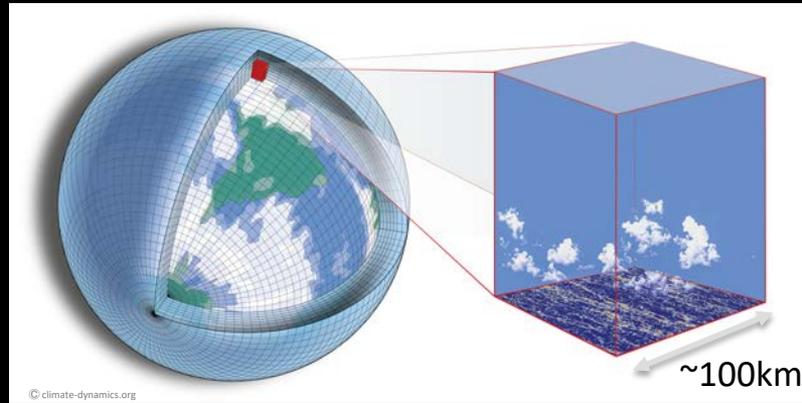
Aquaplanet
+4K
(no SST
feedback!)



Regional climate projection is too uncertain

Using ML for climate

Parameterization: represent (physically or statistically) a physical process that cannot be resolved (e.g. clouds)
Typically physically based



$$\frac{\partial \bar{X}}{\partial t} \Big|_{\text{clouds}} = f(\bar{X}) \quad \text{with } \bar{X} \text{ coarse-scale average of } X$$

However: it has failed for ~40 years (Randall et al. 2003)
This largely **explains intermodal spread in climate projection**

Using ML for climate

Parameterization: Difficulty

- Many orders of magnitude in scales: mm to 10^4 km



- Major numerical challenge for a long time to come (not just cloud resolving)
- How can we **buy us time?** and **(hopefully) learn on the way?**

Using ML for climate

Resolving scales in the atmosphere

- We can now resolve many processes
- Limited time and domain size + need subgrid scale (SGS) model
- How can we skip scales? Leap?

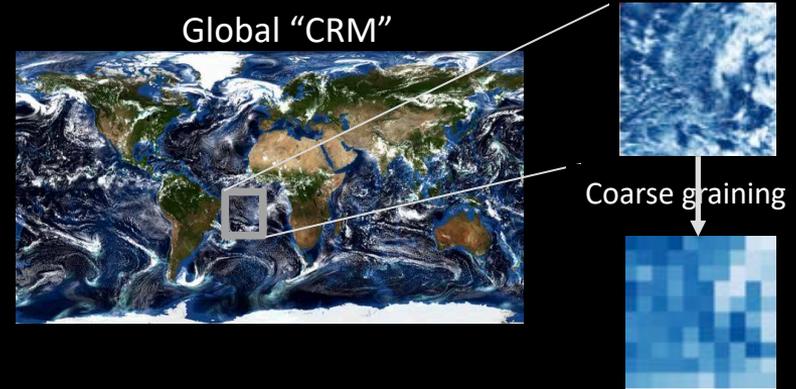


Using ML for climate: (deep) clouds

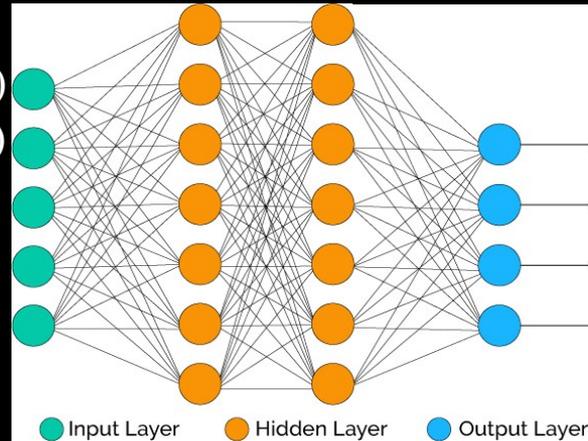
How can we solve this issue?

Take advantage of **cloud-resolving simulations**
(~1km, **alleviate most biases** but very expensive)

Not “physical” but
Data-driven approach
(informed by cloud-resolving simulations)



Temperature $\bar{T}(z)$
Specific humidity $\bar{q}(z)$
Surface sensible heat flux \overline{H}
Surface evaporation \overline{E}
Surface pressure \overline{P}_s



$$\frac{\partial \bar{T}}{\partial t} \Big|_{\text{convection}}$$

$$\frac{\partial \bar{q}}{\partial t} \Big|_{\text{convection}}$$

Precipitation

Cost function:
misfit to
coarse-grained
high-res.
model

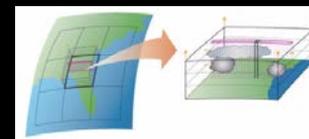
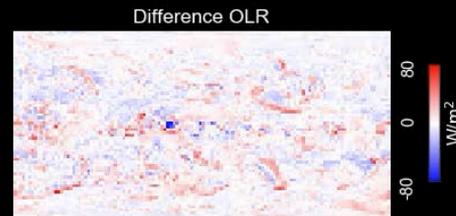
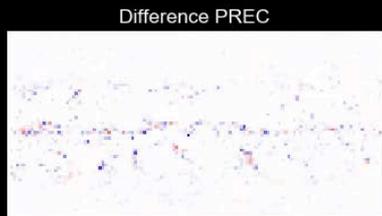
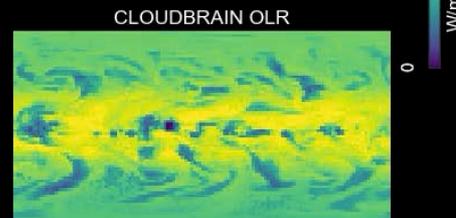
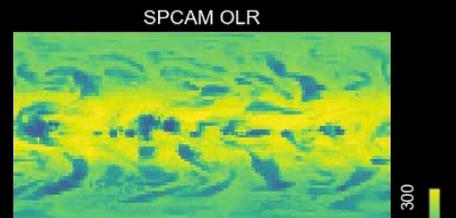
Deep Neural Net or Convolutional NN

Using ML for climate: (deep) clouds

Day: 0 - Hour: 0.0

Coarse-grained
Cloud-resolving
Model
(superparameterization)

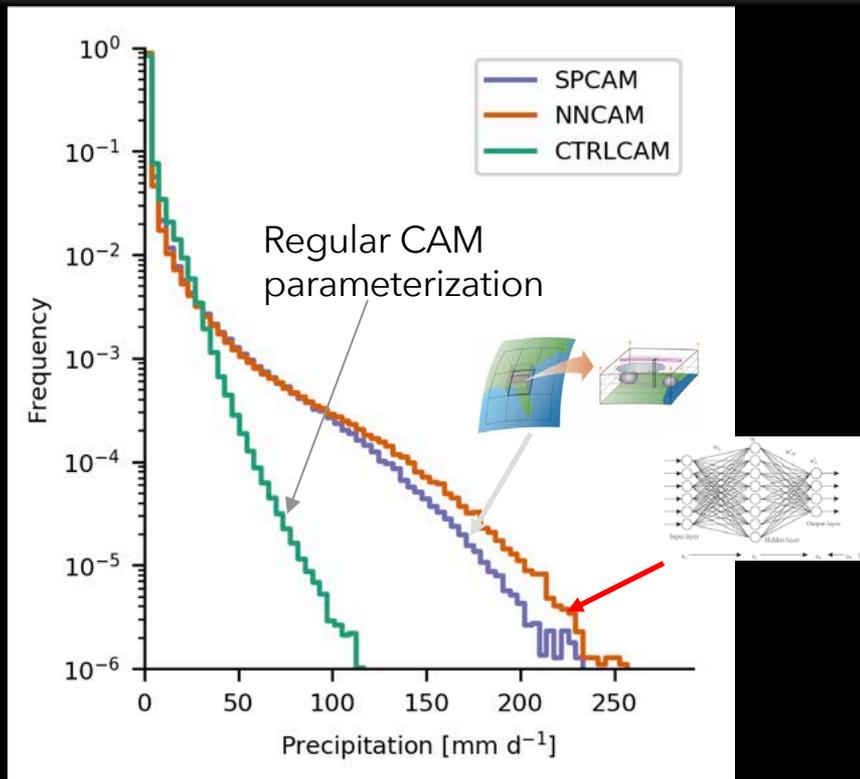
Machine
learning
Coarse-resolution
model



10 times cheaper than original coarse model, 1000 less expensive than high-res model

Question: generalization to unforeseen conditions? Climate change

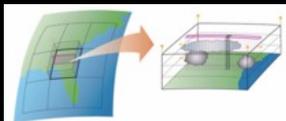
Using ML for climate: (deep) clouds



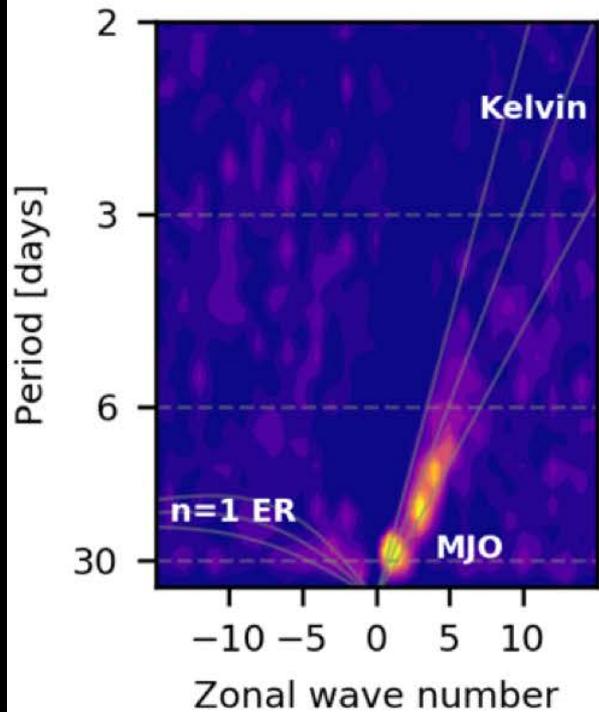
Good hydrologic cycle

Using ML for climate: (deep) clouds

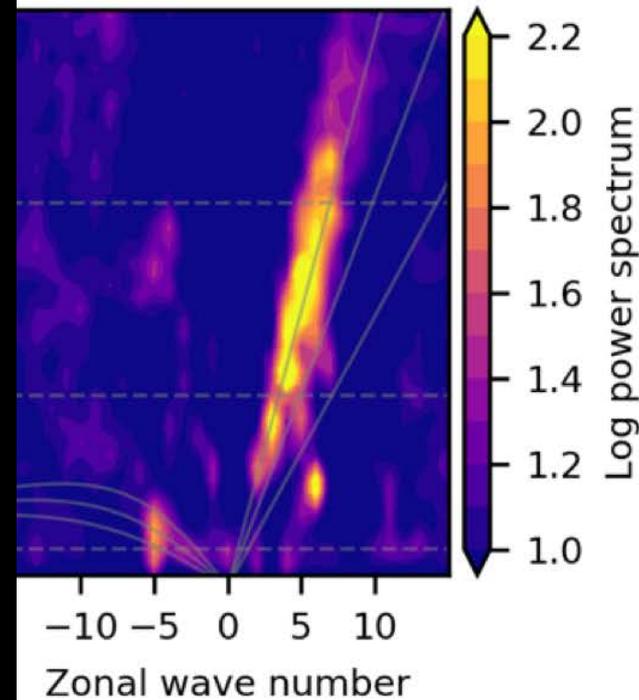
Spectra



SPCAM

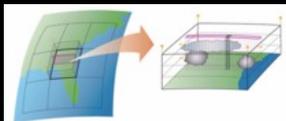


CTRLCAM



Using ML for climate: (deep) clouds

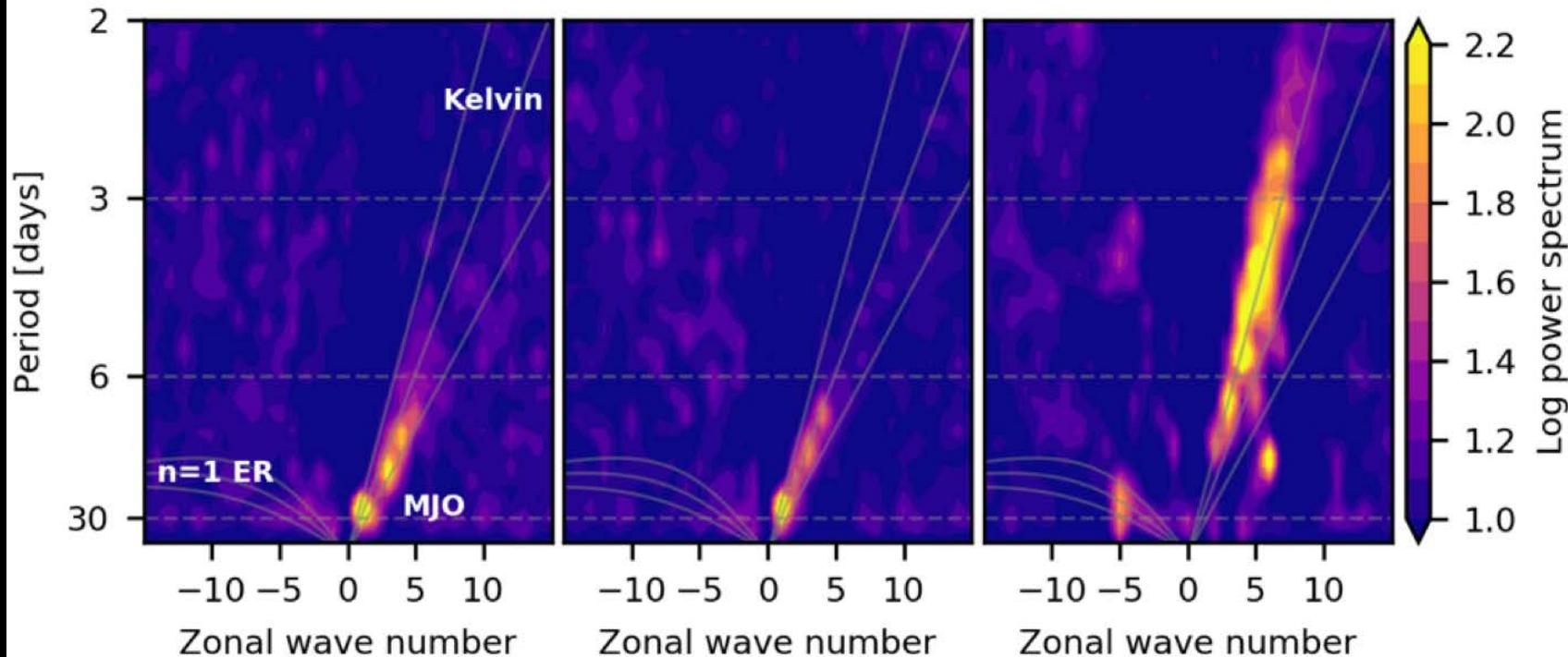
Spectra



SPCAM

NNCAM

CTRLCAM



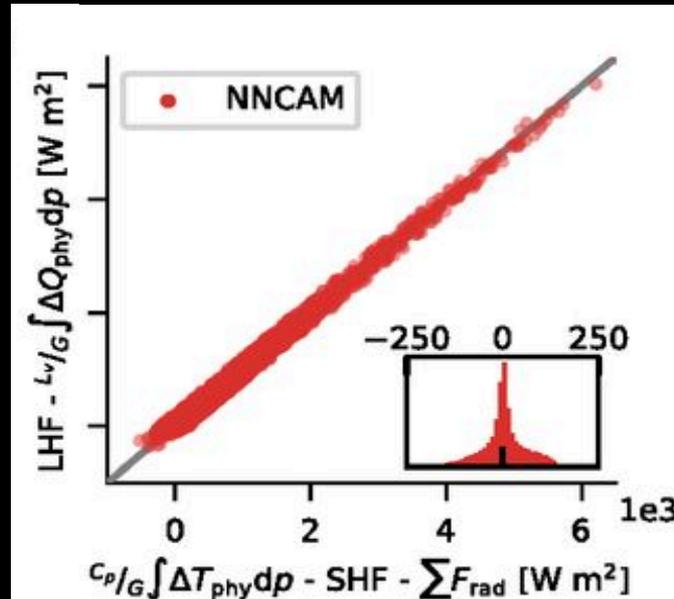
Issues

1. Physical Constraints

Energy conservation

Mass conservation

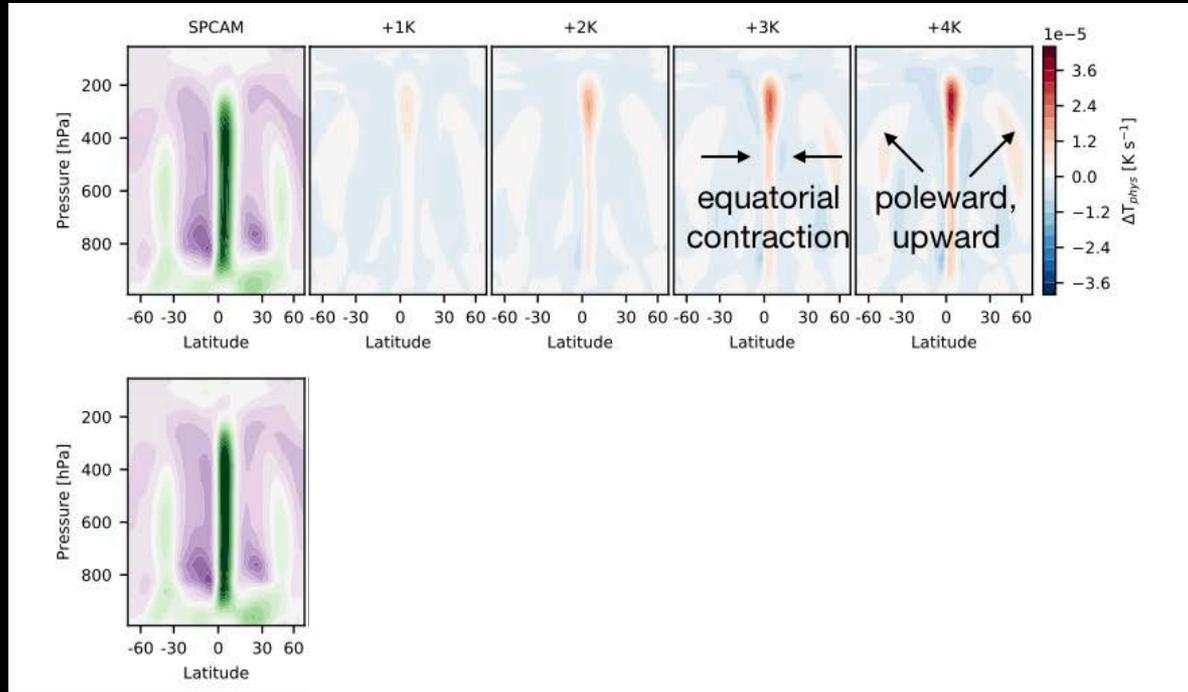
Only approximate with ML



Issues

2. Generalization

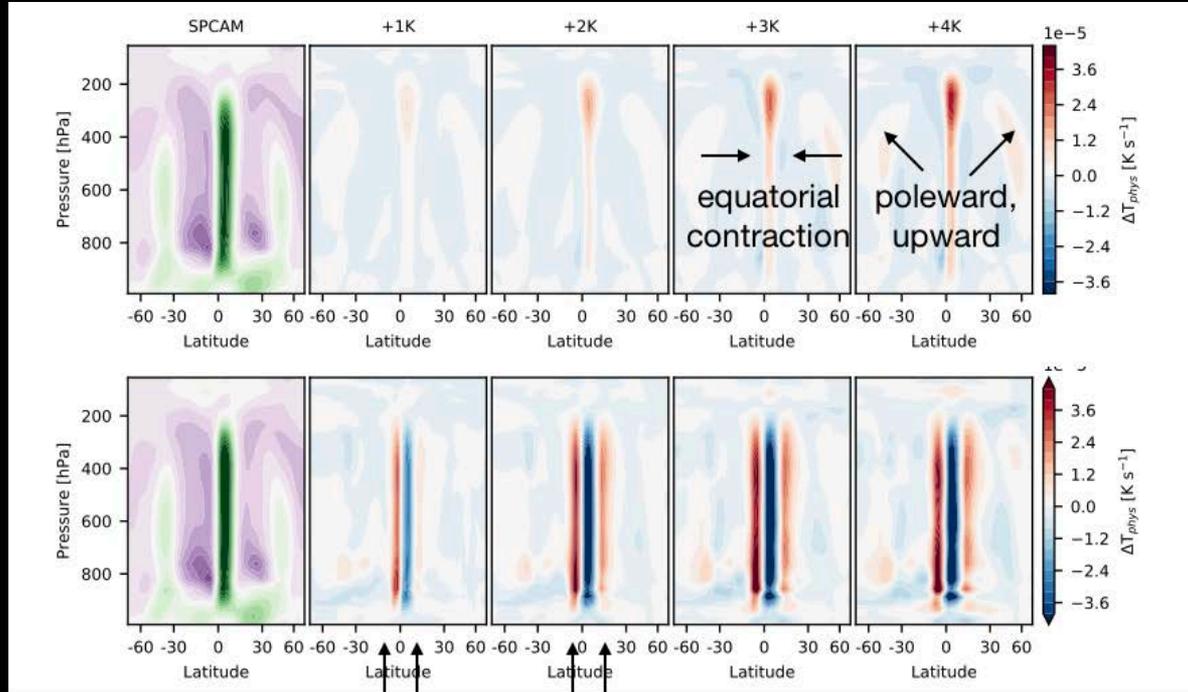
ML has mostly been about interpolations
using lots of data, poor extrapolation



Issues

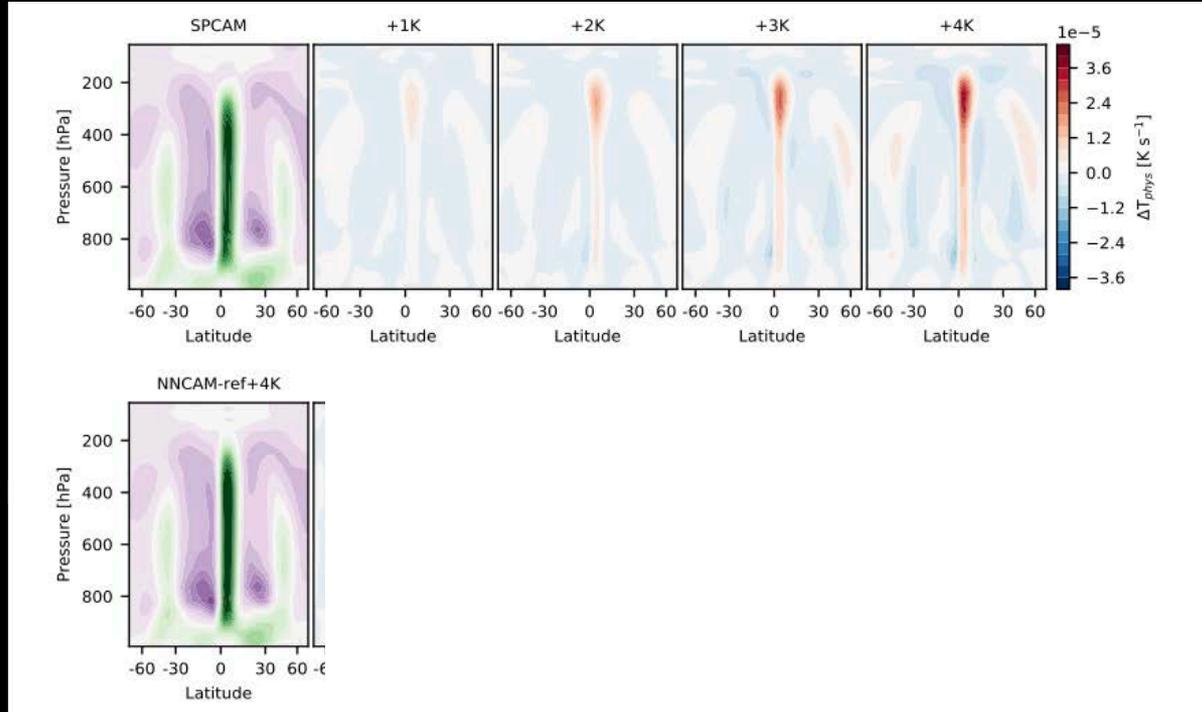
2. Generalization

ML has mostly been about interpolations
using lots of data, poor extrapolation



Issues

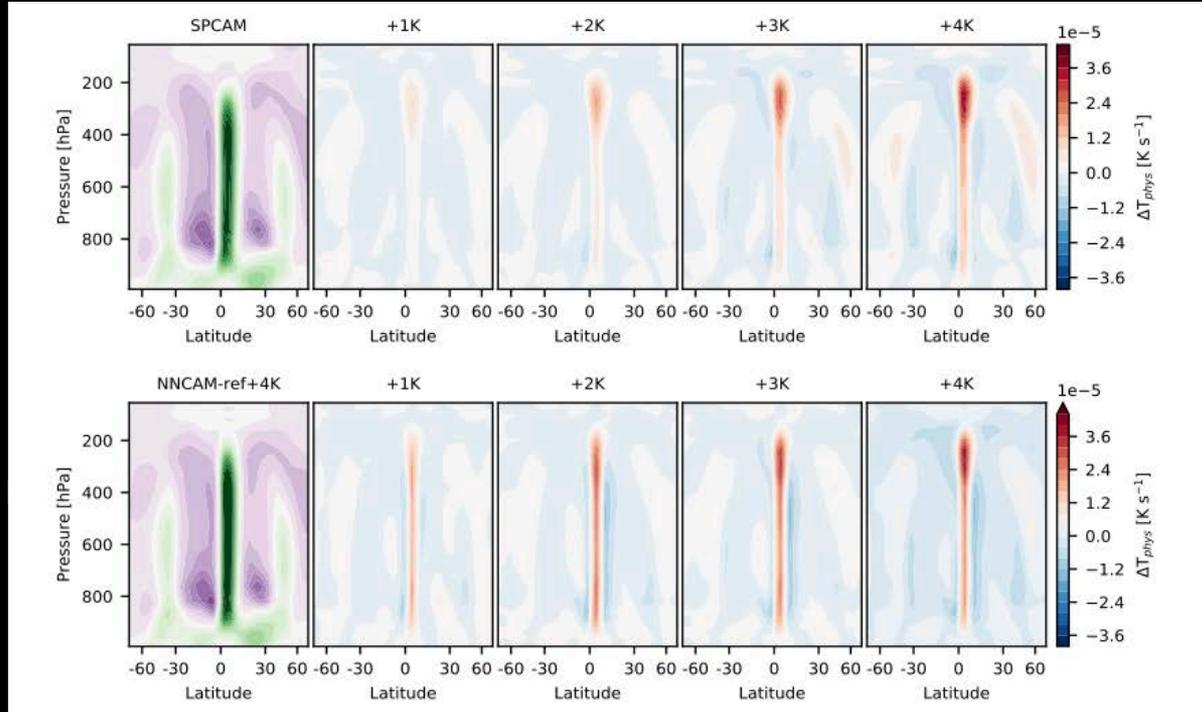
2. Generalization Interpolating works



Using both 0K
and +4K

Issues

2. Generalization Interpolating works

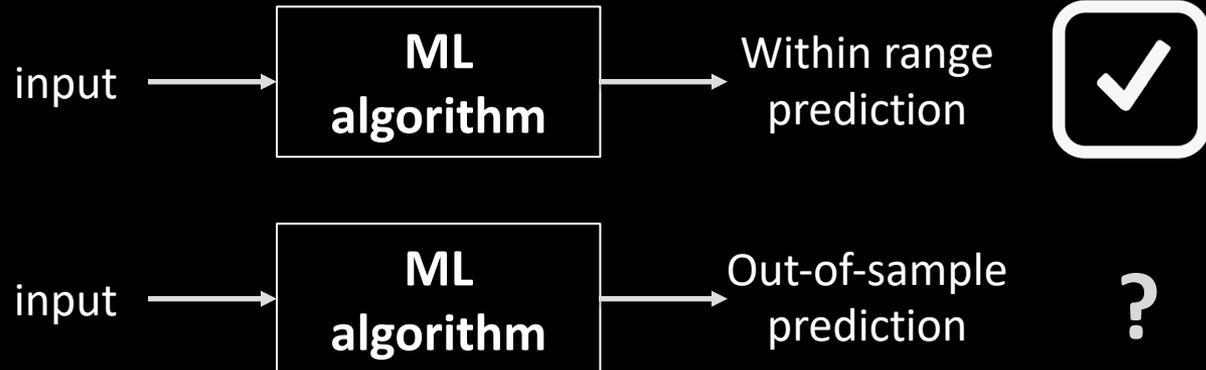


Using both 0K
and +4K

Summary of issues with brute force ML

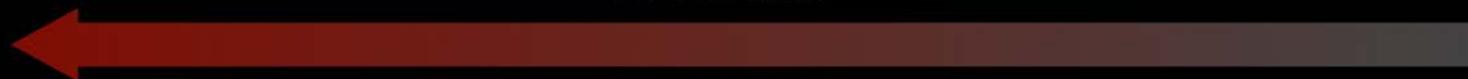
1. **Do not respect physical laws**
e.g. conservation of energy and mass
→ strict requirement

2. **Issue with out-of-sample generalization**
Important for many climate applications
e.g. extremes, climate change



Potential Overcoming Strategies

Use of data



Data-driven ML

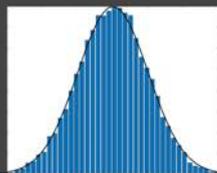
Hybrid

Knowledge-Driven

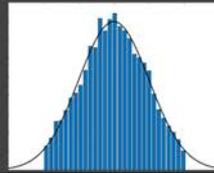
Interpolation

Extrapolation

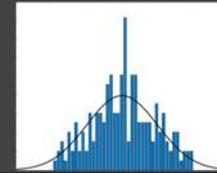
Data Rich



Moderate Data



Data Poor



Use of domain knowledge



Hybrid approaches

Constraining physics within ML

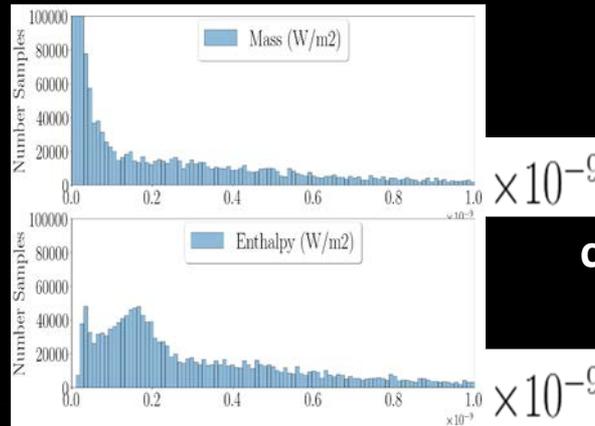
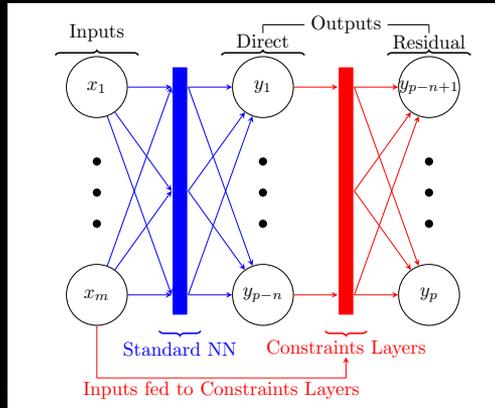
1. Convection

Energy and mass conservations

Impose them within NN as function of inputs (x) and outputs (y):

$$\left\{ C \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = 0 \right\}$$

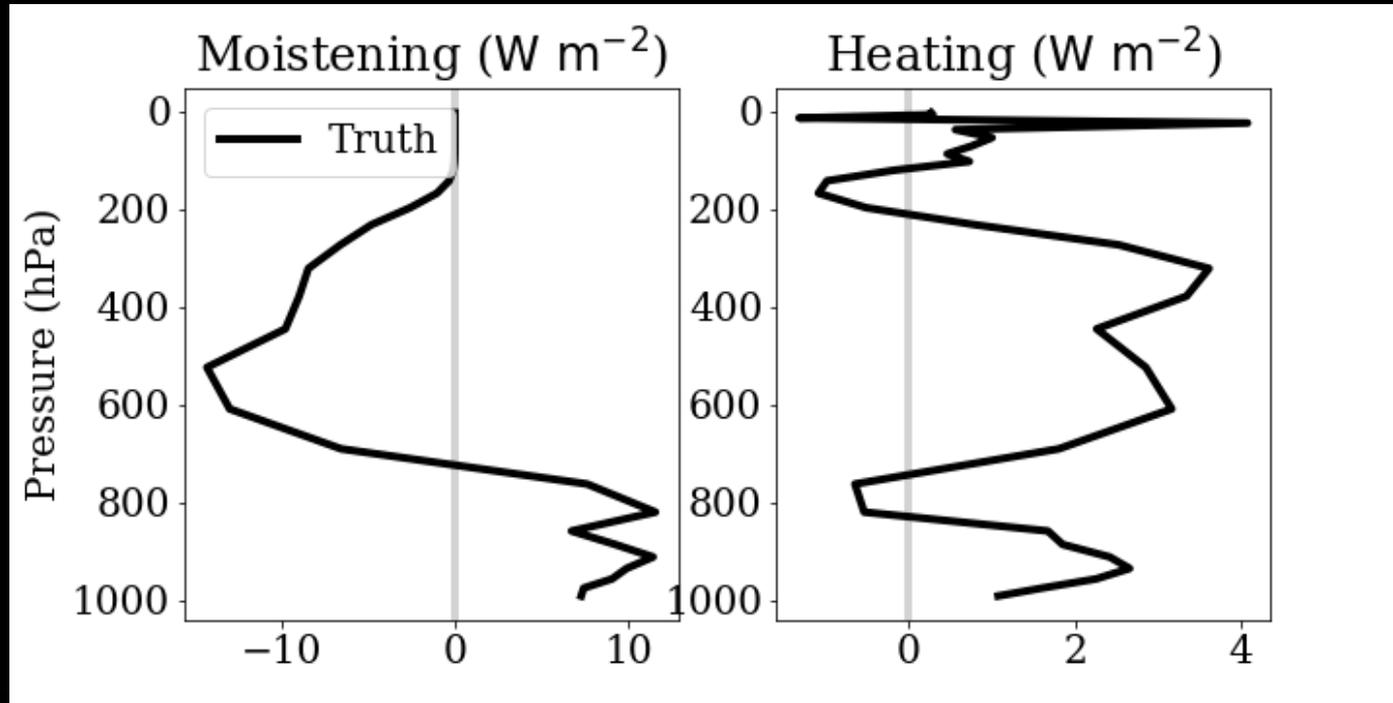
2 equations: reduce NN degrees of freedom to $n-2$ degrees of freedom



**Exact
conservations**

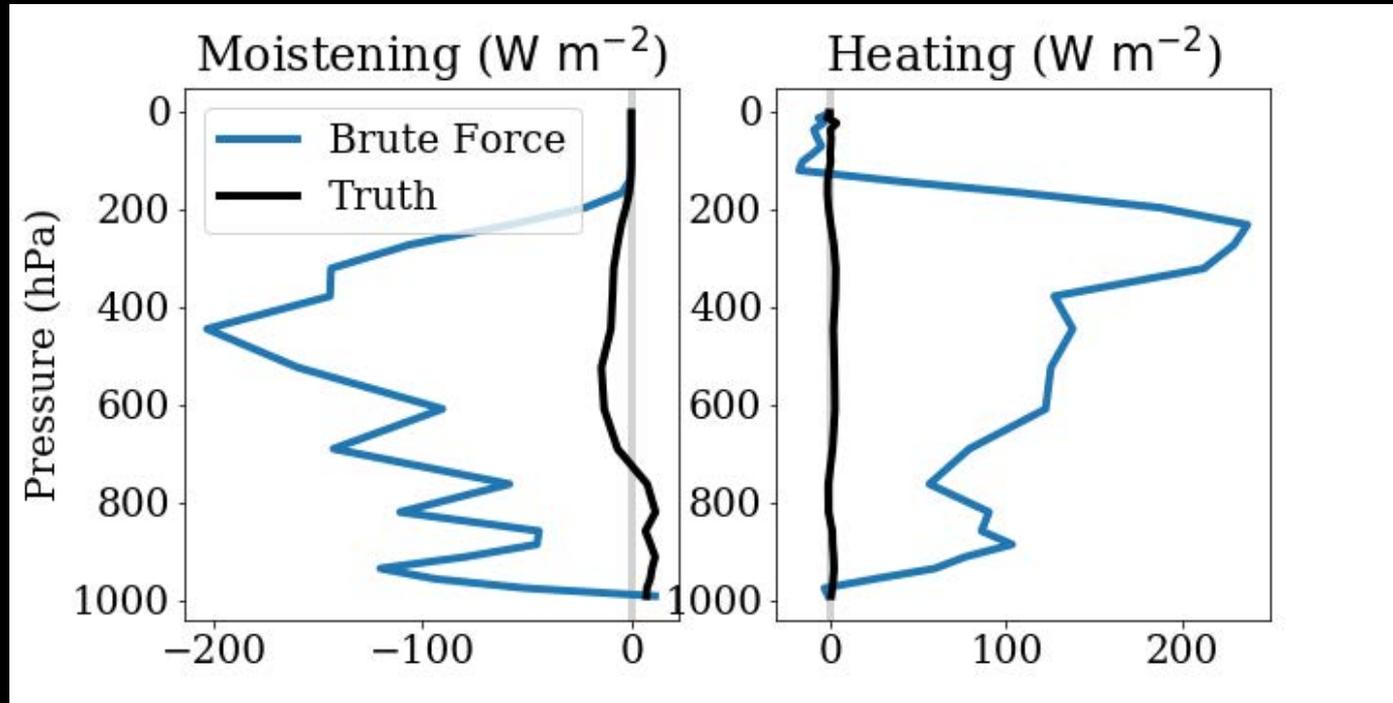
Generalization

Warm climate +8K generalization experiment



Generalization

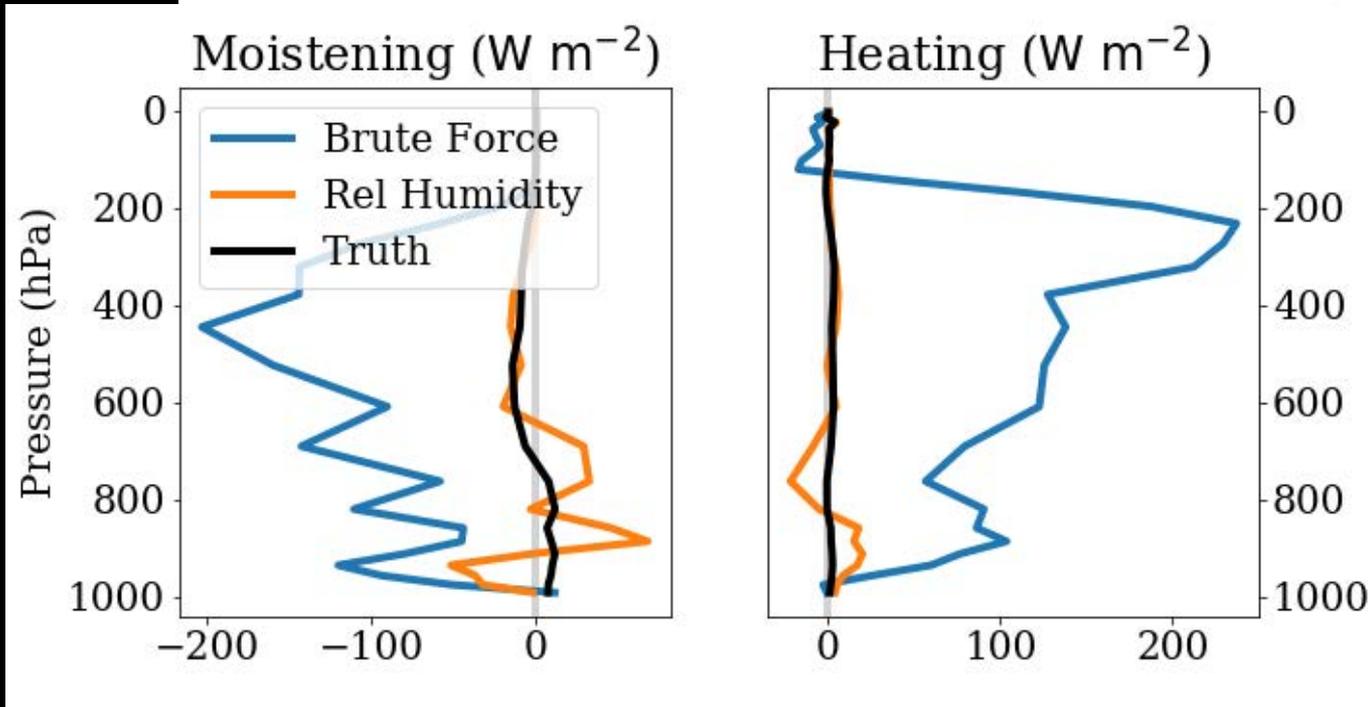
Warm climate +8K generalization experiment
Pure ML (deep NN)



Generalization

Use physical knowledge

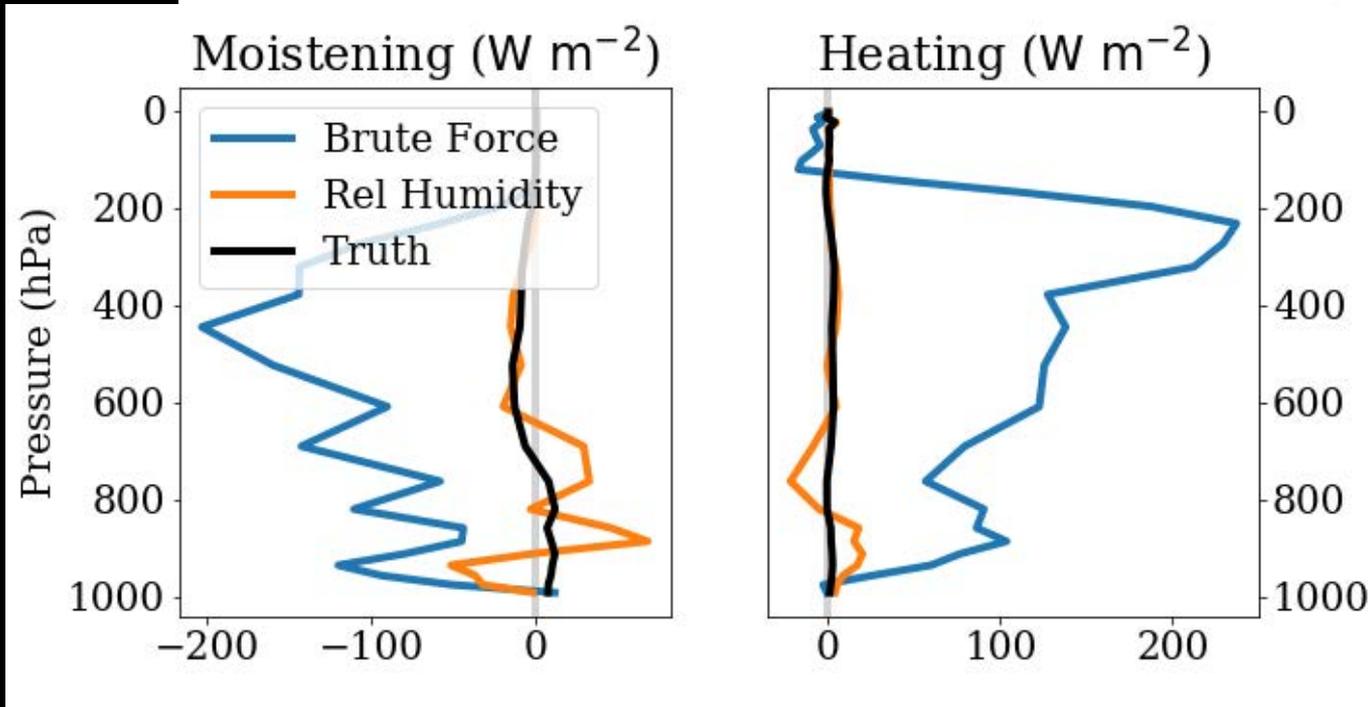
$$\text{Relative humidity } (z) = \frac{\text{Partial water vapor pressure } (z)}{\text{Saturation water vapor pressure } (T, p)}$$



Generalization

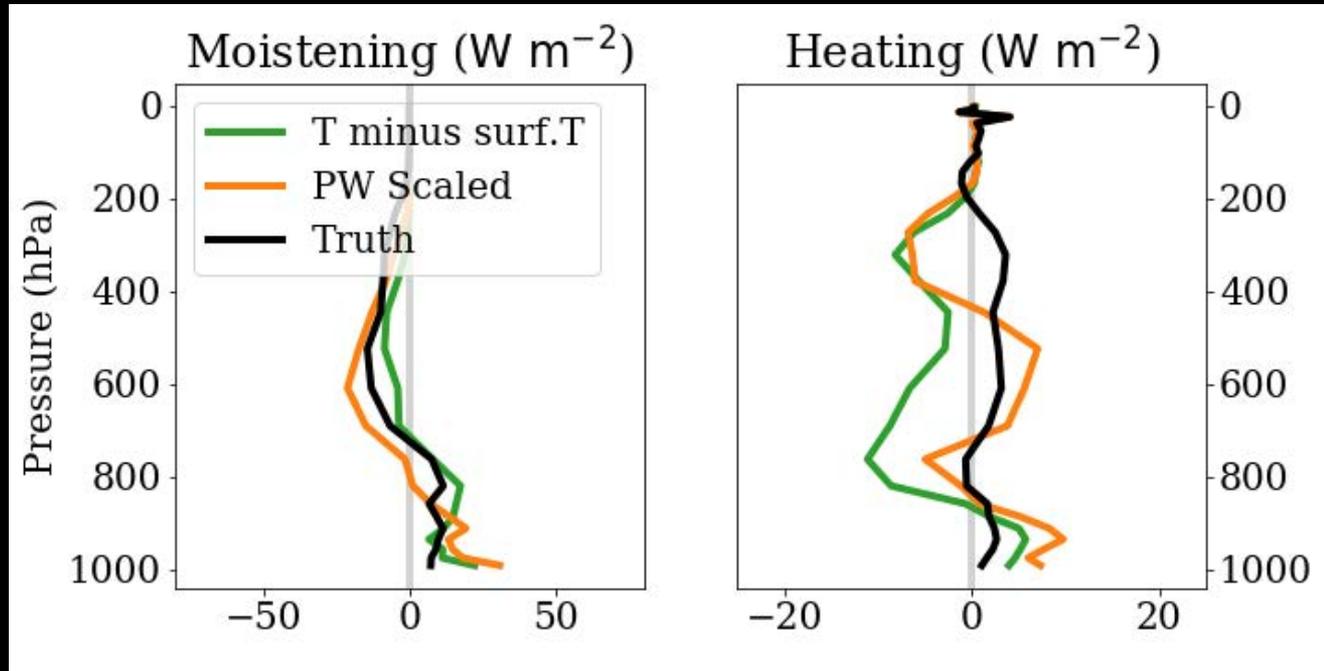
Use physical knowledge

$$\text{Relative humidity } (z) = \frac{\text{Partial water vapor pressure } (z)}{\text{Saturation water vapor pressure } (T, p)}$$



Hybrid approaches

Using physical knowledge – ... – output flux rescaling
Further improvements



Constrained physics
+ improved
generalization 😊

Conclusions

**Machine learning is an appealing approach
for subgrid parameterizations**

**Working example
Deep clouds (convection)**

Issues:

- 1. Conservations, physical invariances, physical laws**
- 2. Generalization**

Solution:

**Hybrid physical+ML approaches appear
as powerful tool to tackle this**

THANK YOU

Questions?

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@PierreGentine

A hope

