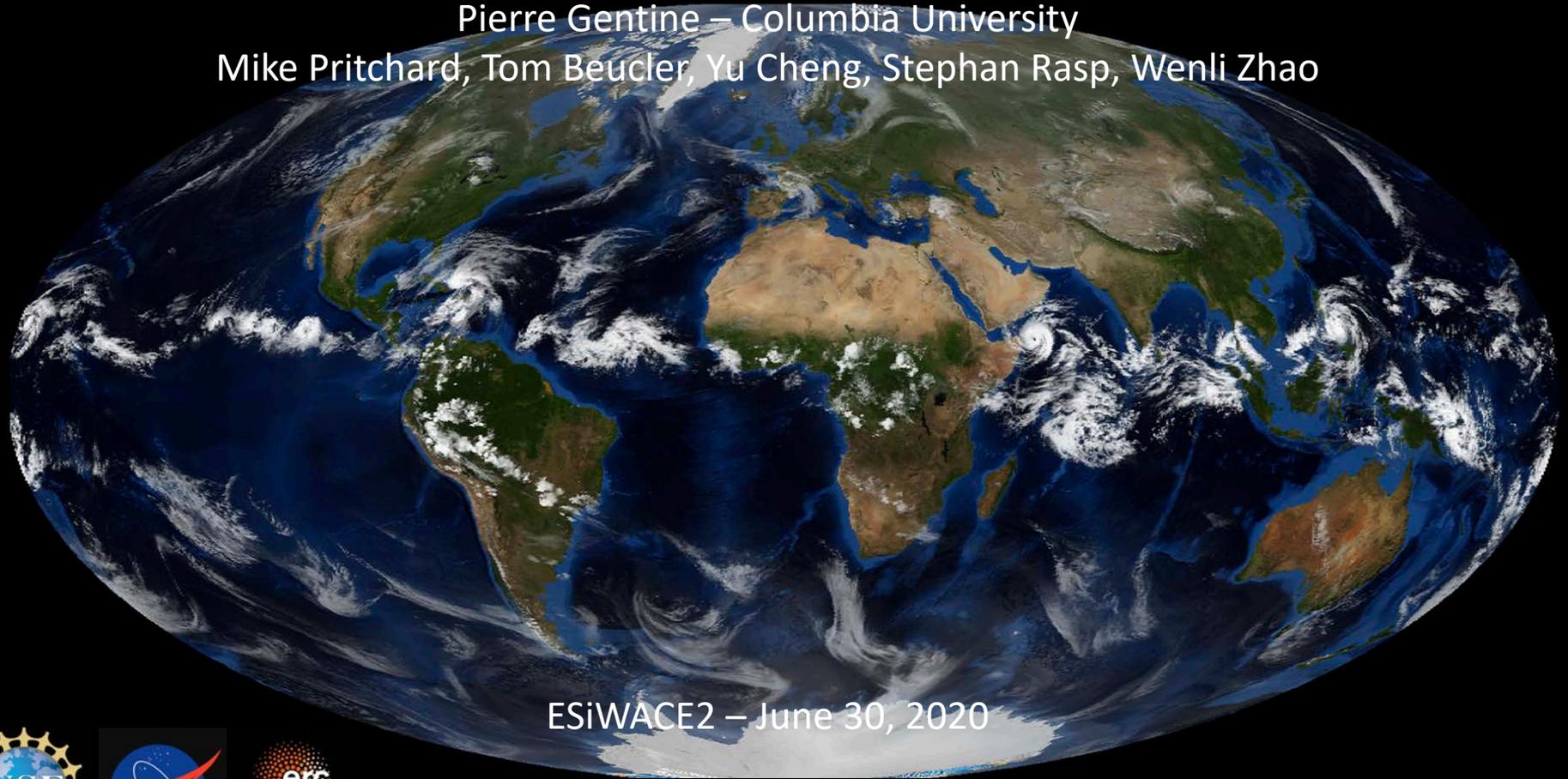


# Physics-Guided Machine Learning

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ESiWACE2 – June 30, 2020



*TRANSCENDING DISCIPLINES, TRANSFORMING LIVES*

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

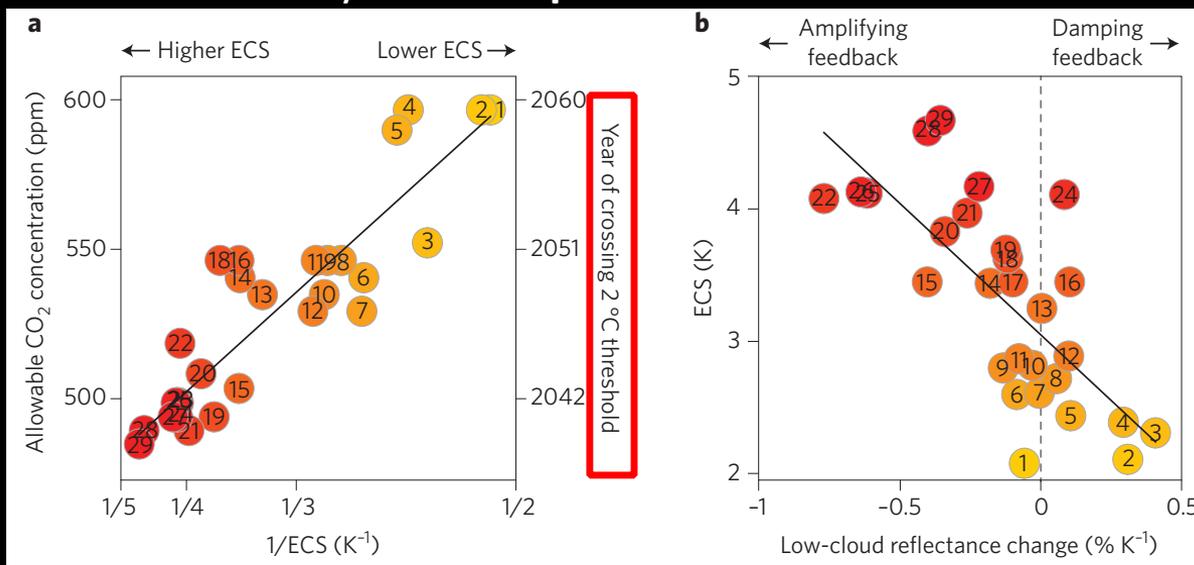
# Climate sensitivity

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

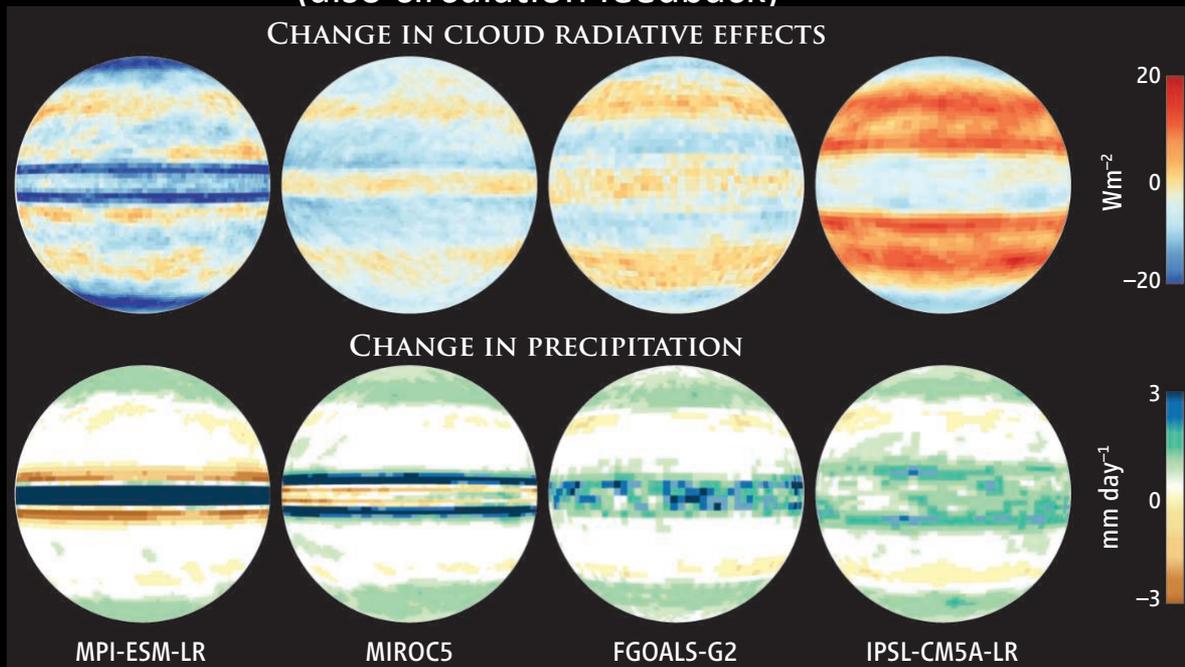


ECS = Equilibrium climate sensitivity (T response do CO<sub>2</sub> doubling)

# Regional climate sensitivity

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

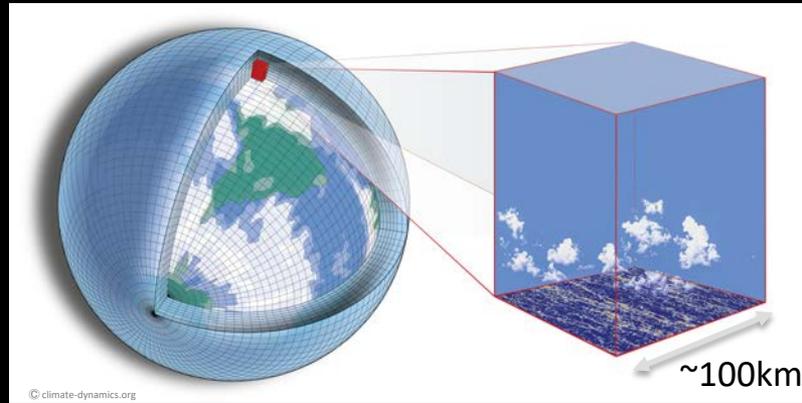
Aquaplanet  
+4K  
(no SST  
feedback!)



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?

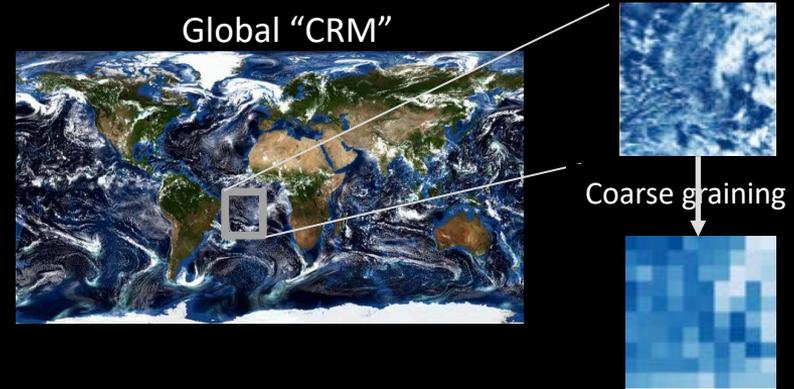


# Using ML for climate: (deep) clouds

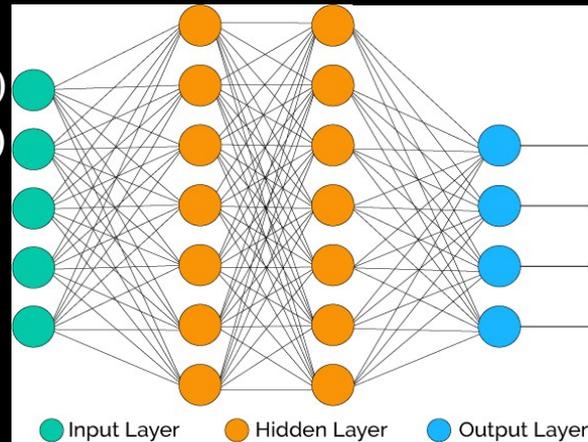
How can we solve this issue?

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

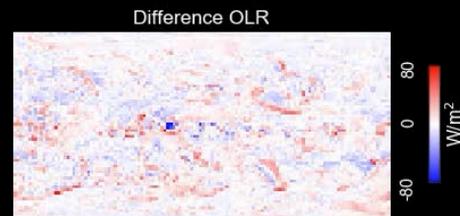
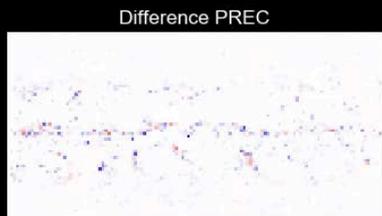
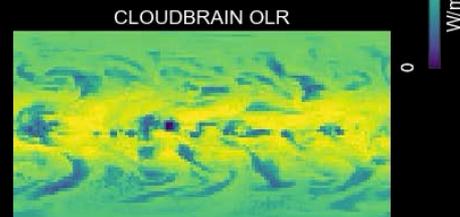
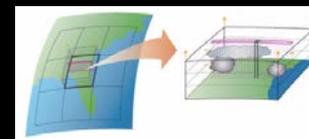
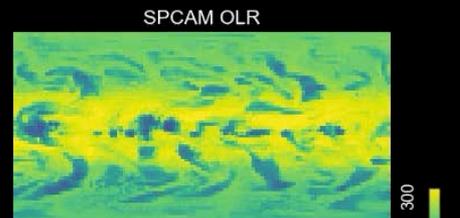
Deep Neural Net or Convolutional NN

# Using ML for climate: (deep) clouds

Day: 0 - Hour: 0.0

Coarse-grained  
Cloud-resolving  
Model  
(superparameterization)

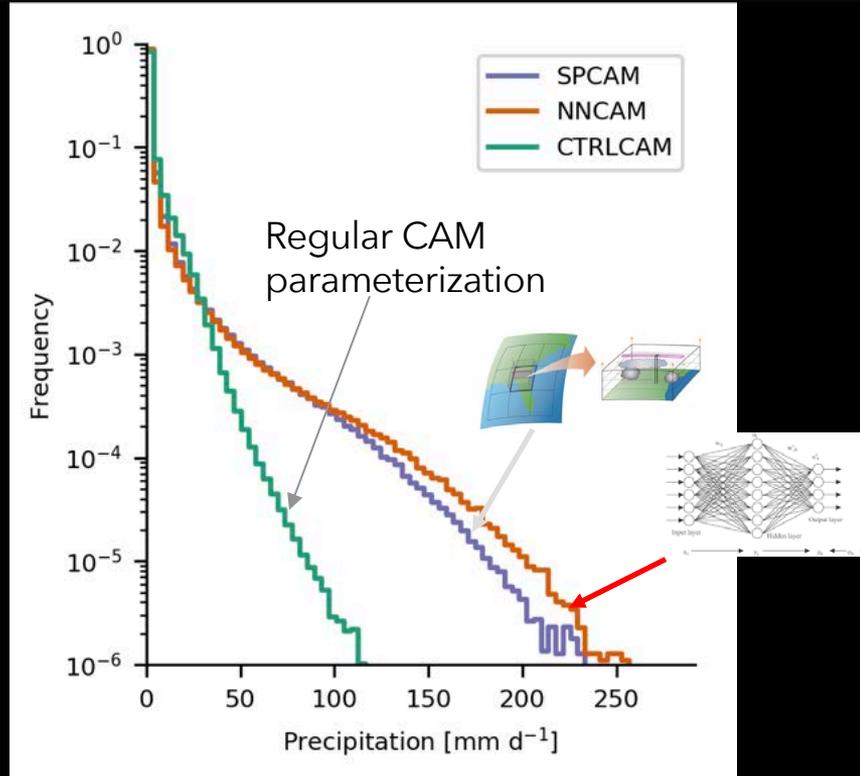
Machine  
learning  
Coarse-resolution  
model



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



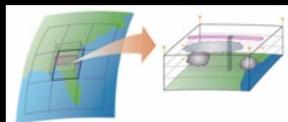
Interactive model

Now we have good boundary condition to study hydrology 😊

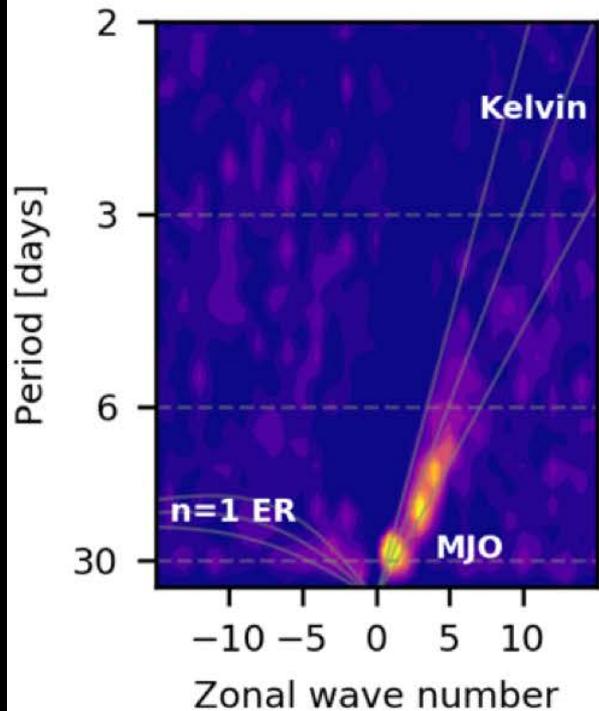
Good hydrologic cycle

# Using ML for climate: (deep) clouds

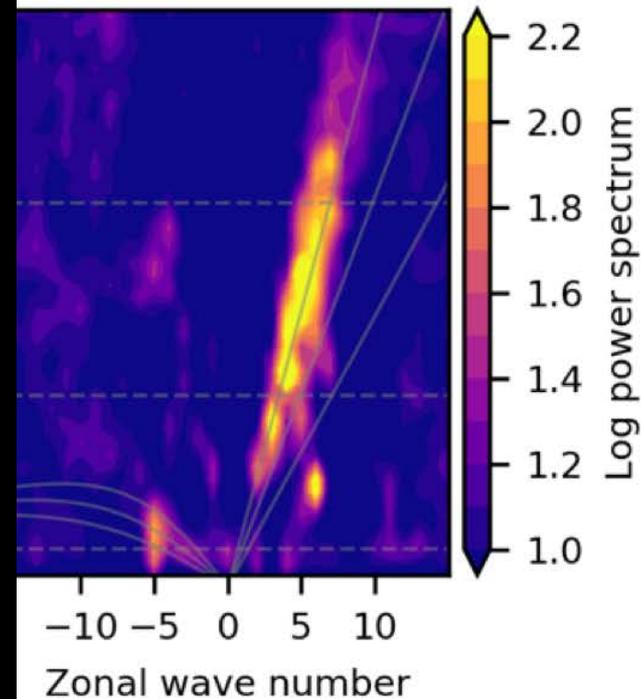
Spectra



SPCAM

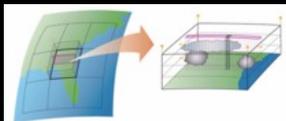


CTRLCAM



# Using ML for climate: (deep) clouds

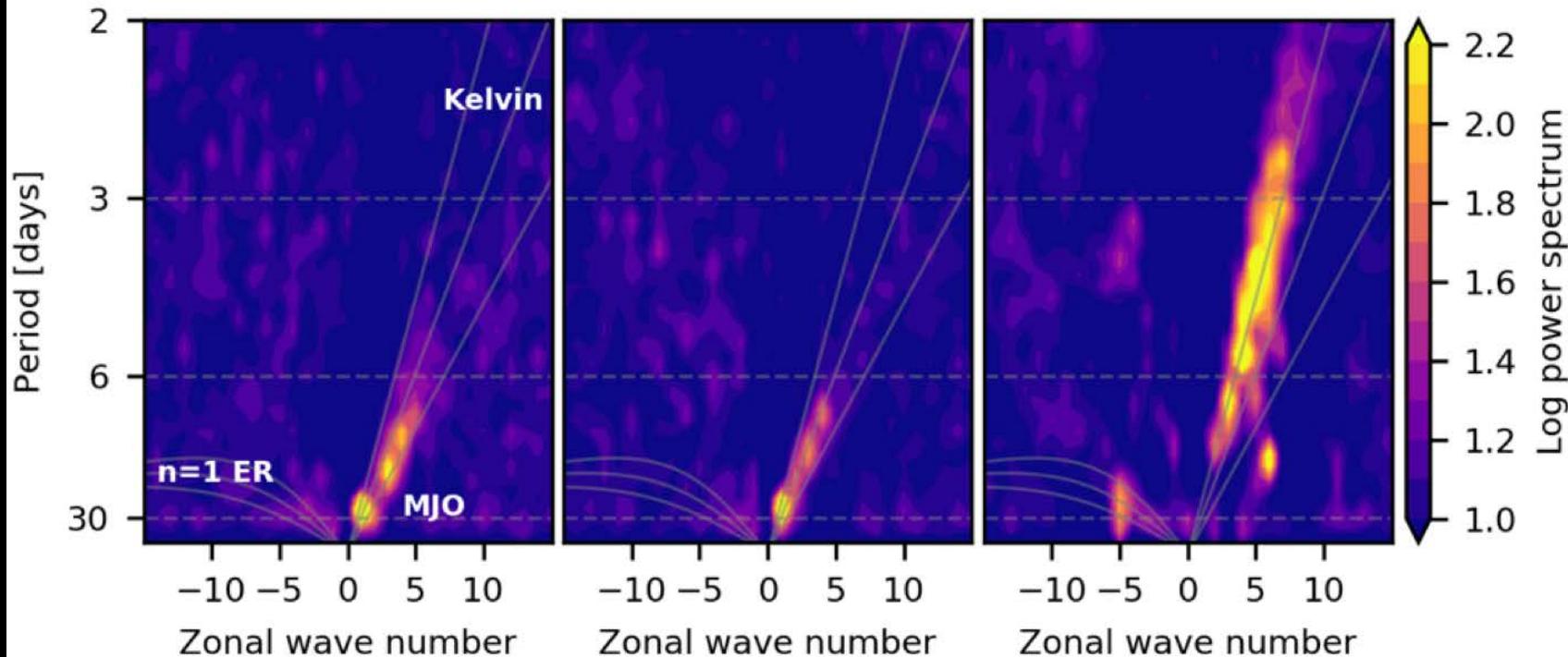
Spectra



SPCAM

NNCAM

CTRLCAM



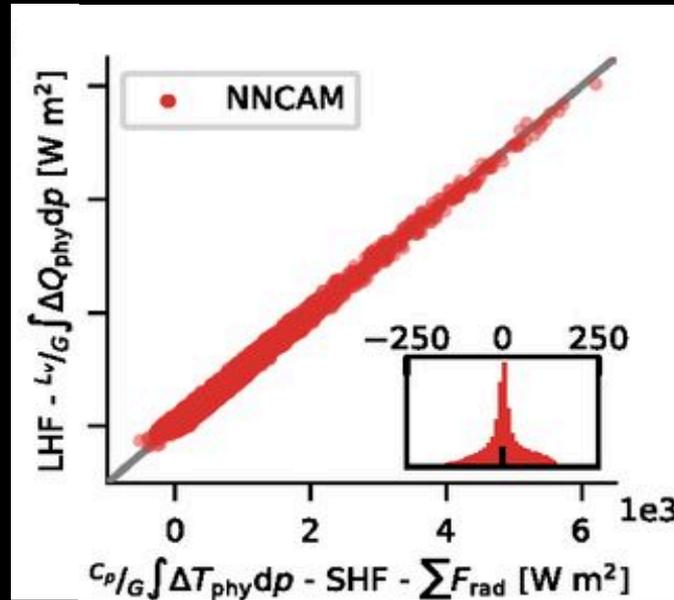
# Issues

## 1. Physical Constraints

Energy conservation

Mass conservation

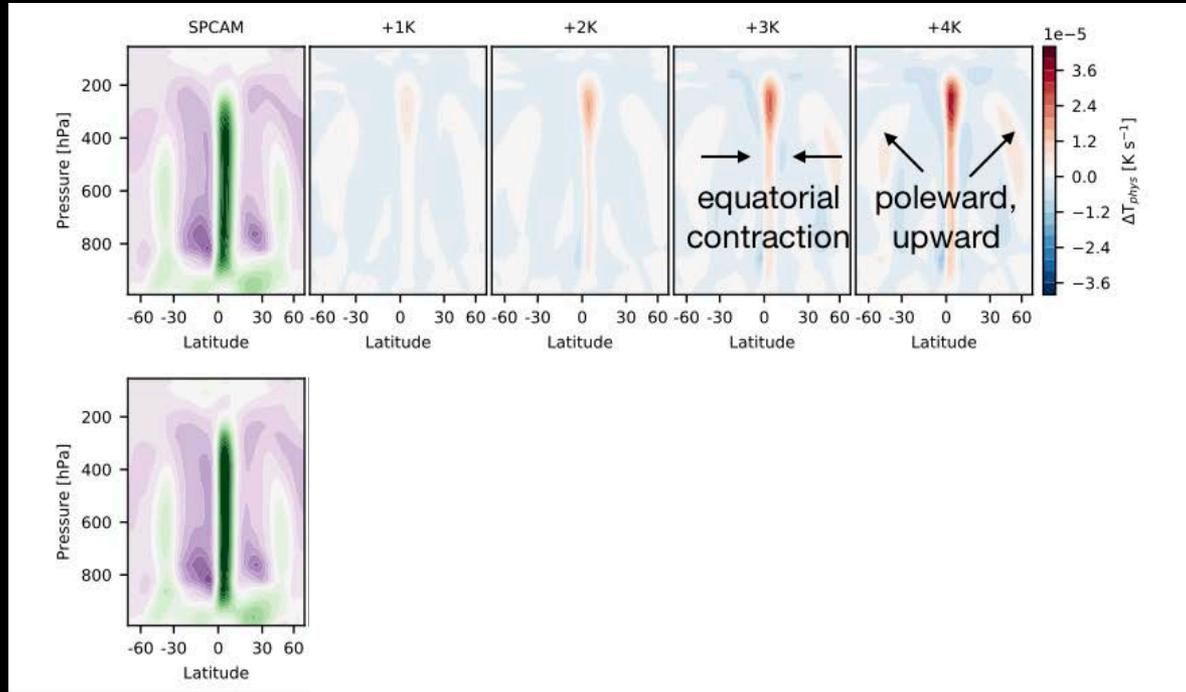
Only approximate with ML



# Issues

## 2. Generalization

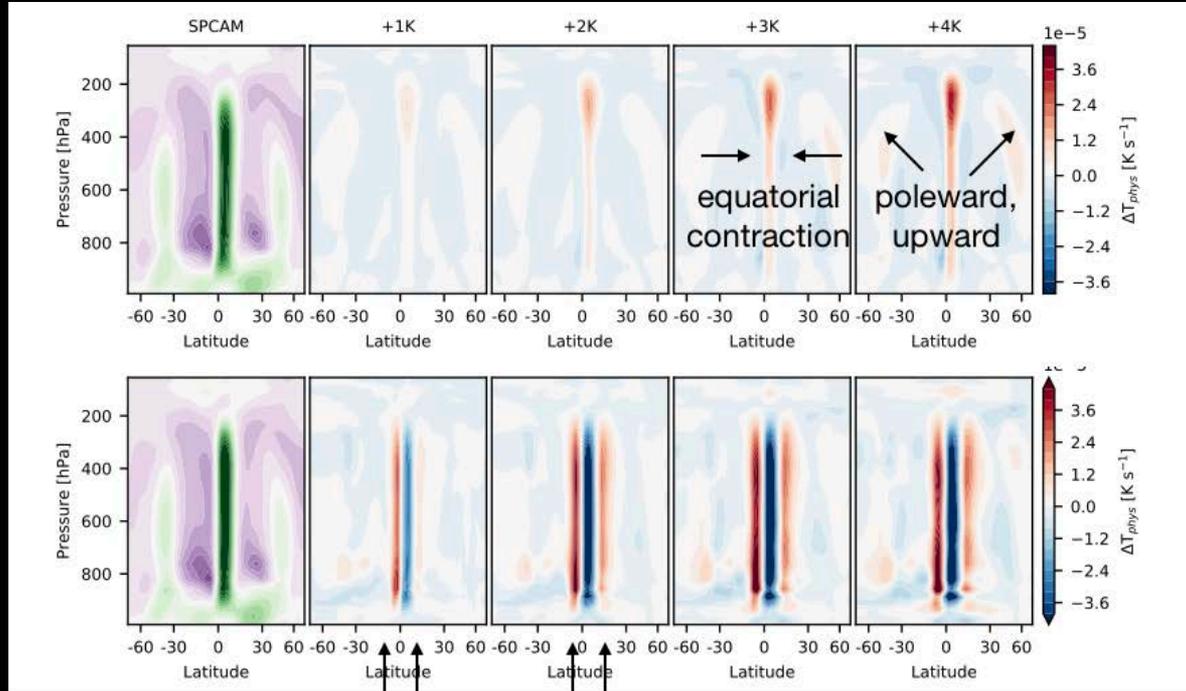
ML has mostly been about interpolations  
using lots of data, poor extrapolation



# Issues

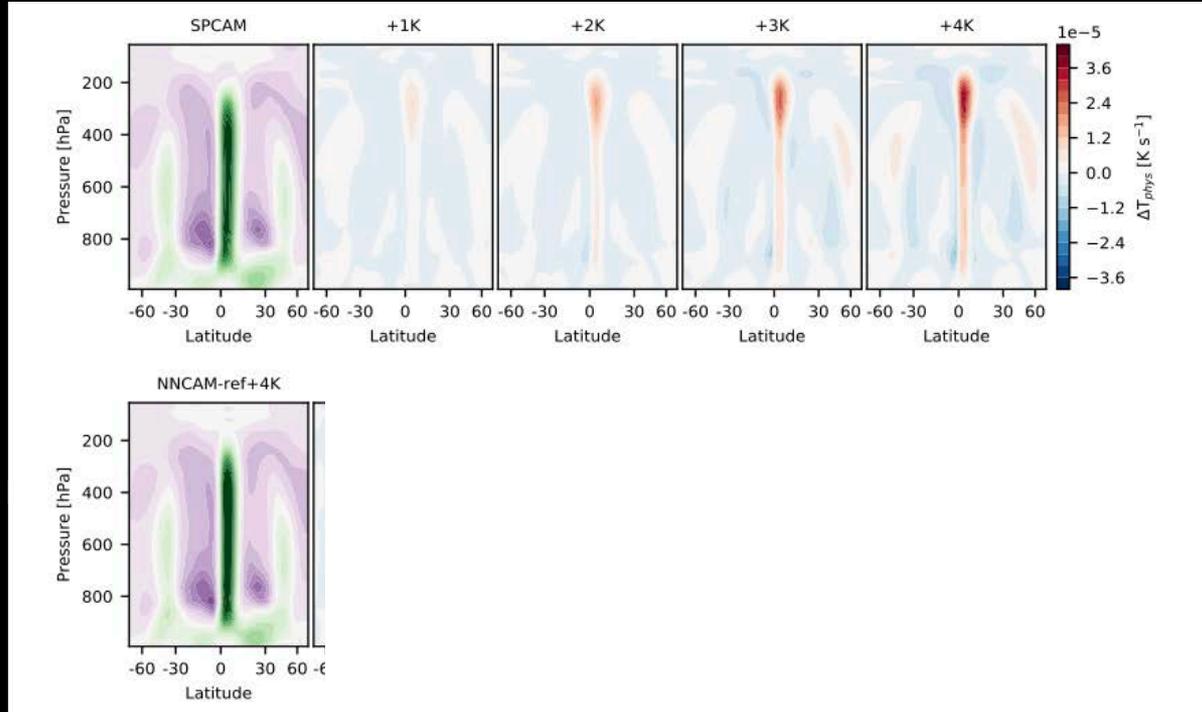
## 2. Generalization

ML has mostly been about interpolations  
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# Issues

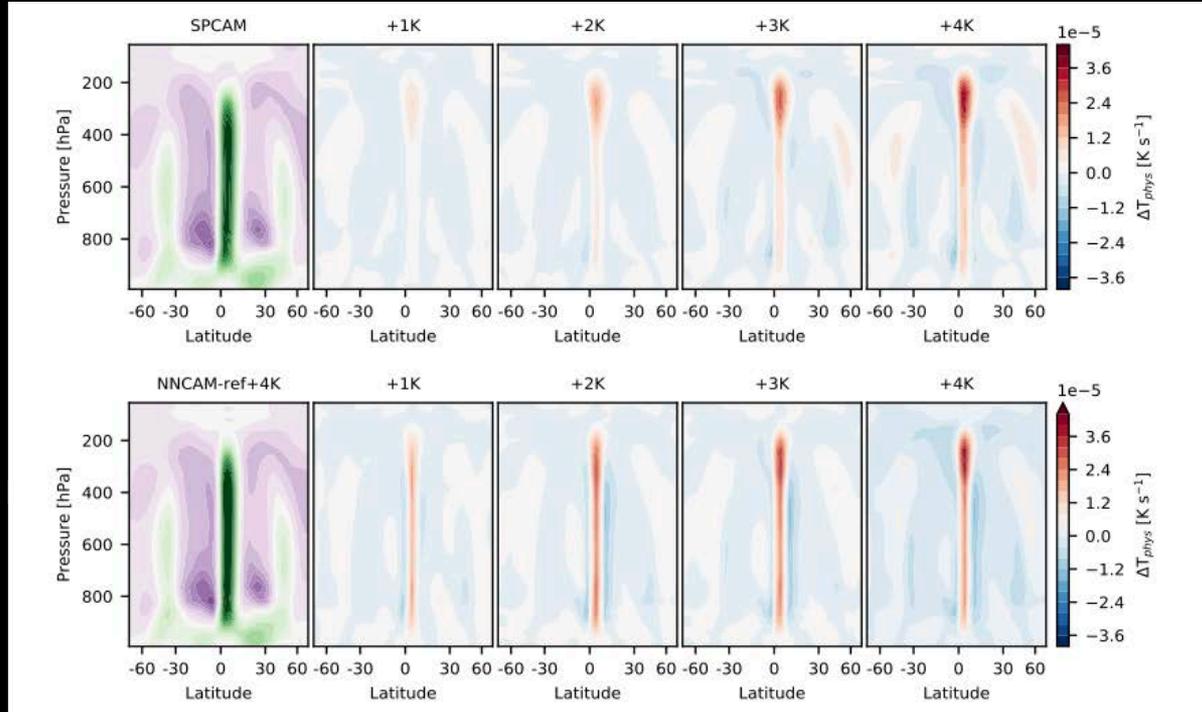
## 2. Generalization Interpolating works



Using both 0K  
and +4K

# Issues

## 2. Generalization Interpolating works

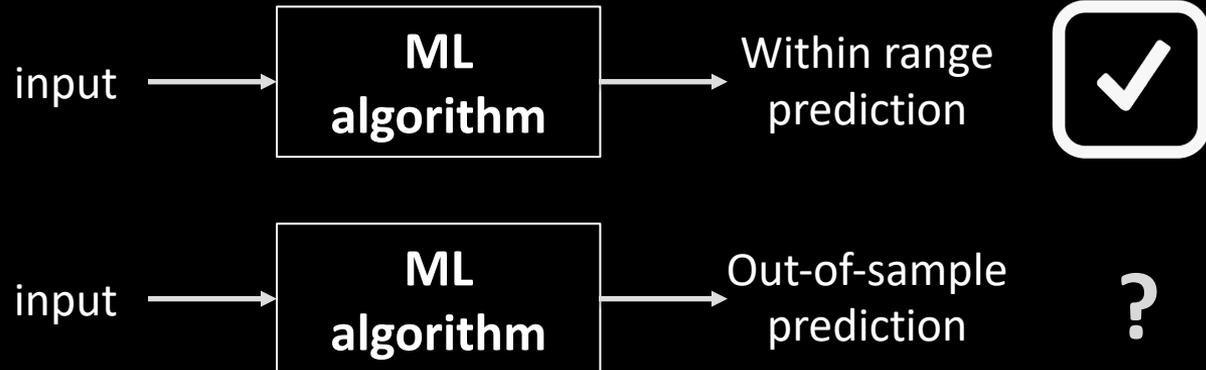


Using both 0K  
and +4K

# 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

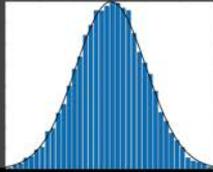
Hybrid

Knowledge-Driven

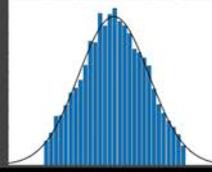
Interpolation

Extrapolation

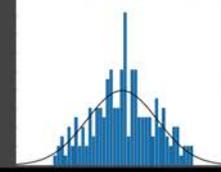
Data Rich



Moderate Data



Data Poor



Use of domain knowledge



# Hybrid approaches

## Constraining physics within ML

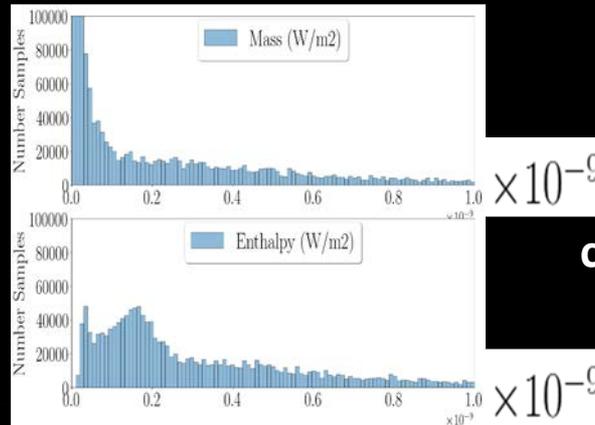
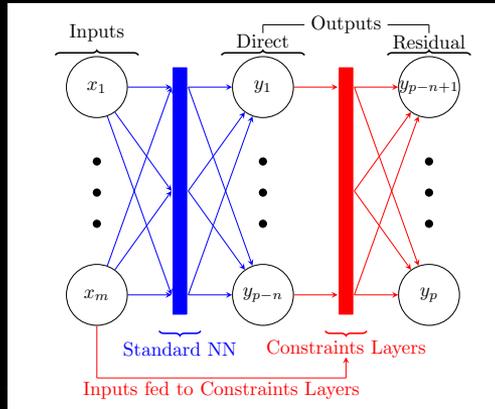
### 1. Convection

#### Energy and mass conservations

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

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

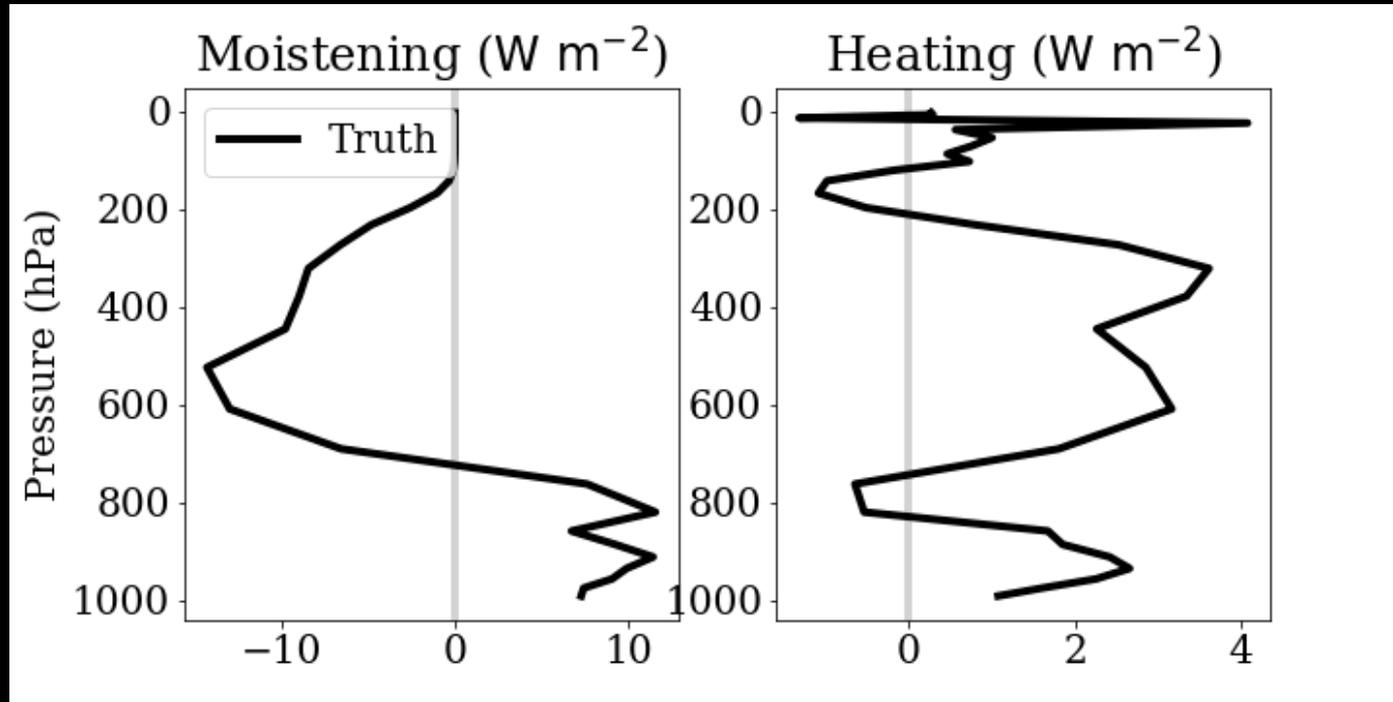
**2 equations:** reduce NN degrees of freedom to  $n-2$  degrees of freedom



**Exact  
conservations**

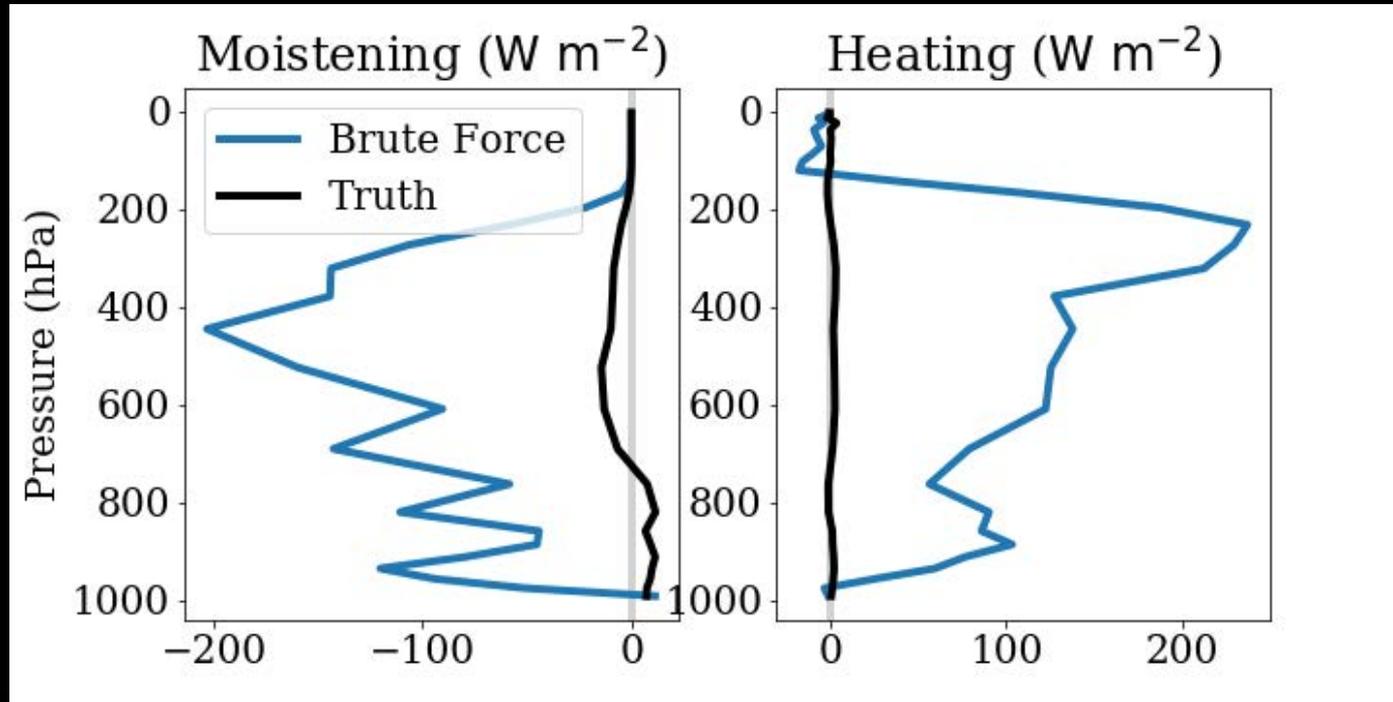
# Generalization

## Warm climate +8K generalization experiment



# Generalization

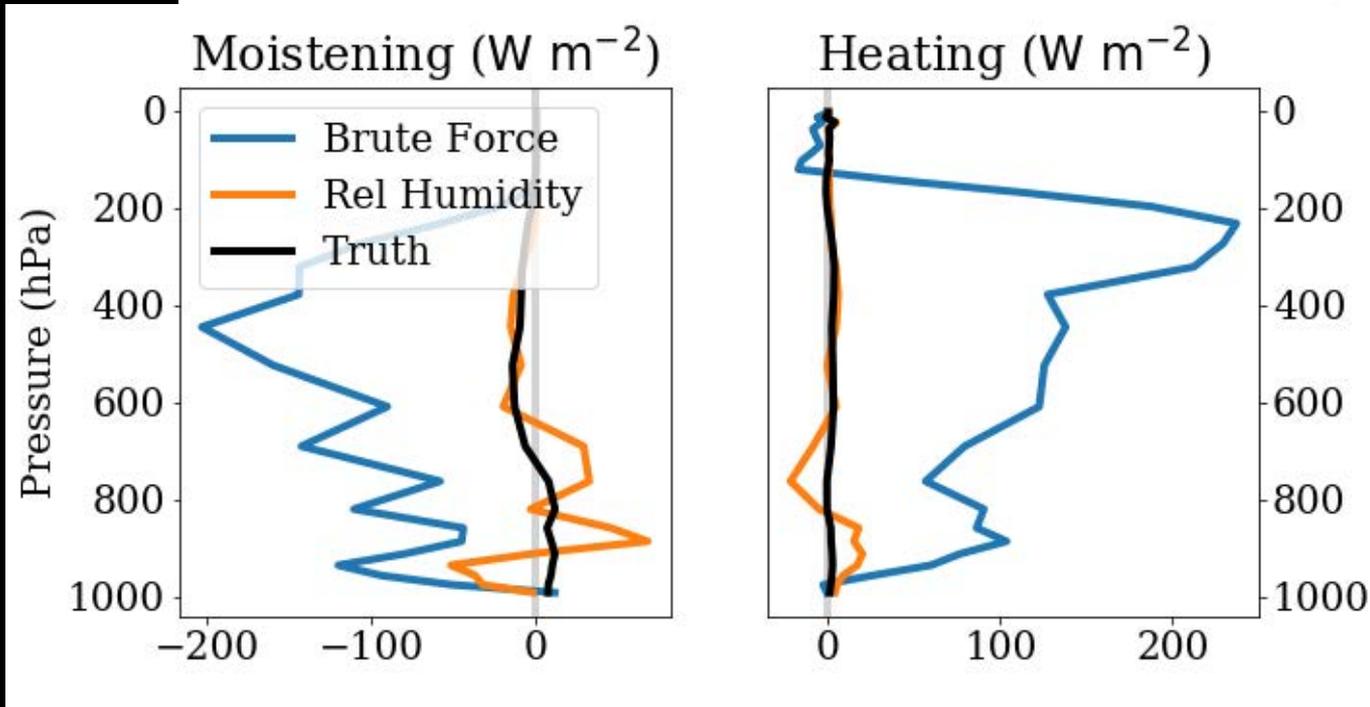
Warm climate +8K generalization experiment  
Pure ML (deep NN)



# Generalization

Use physical knowledge

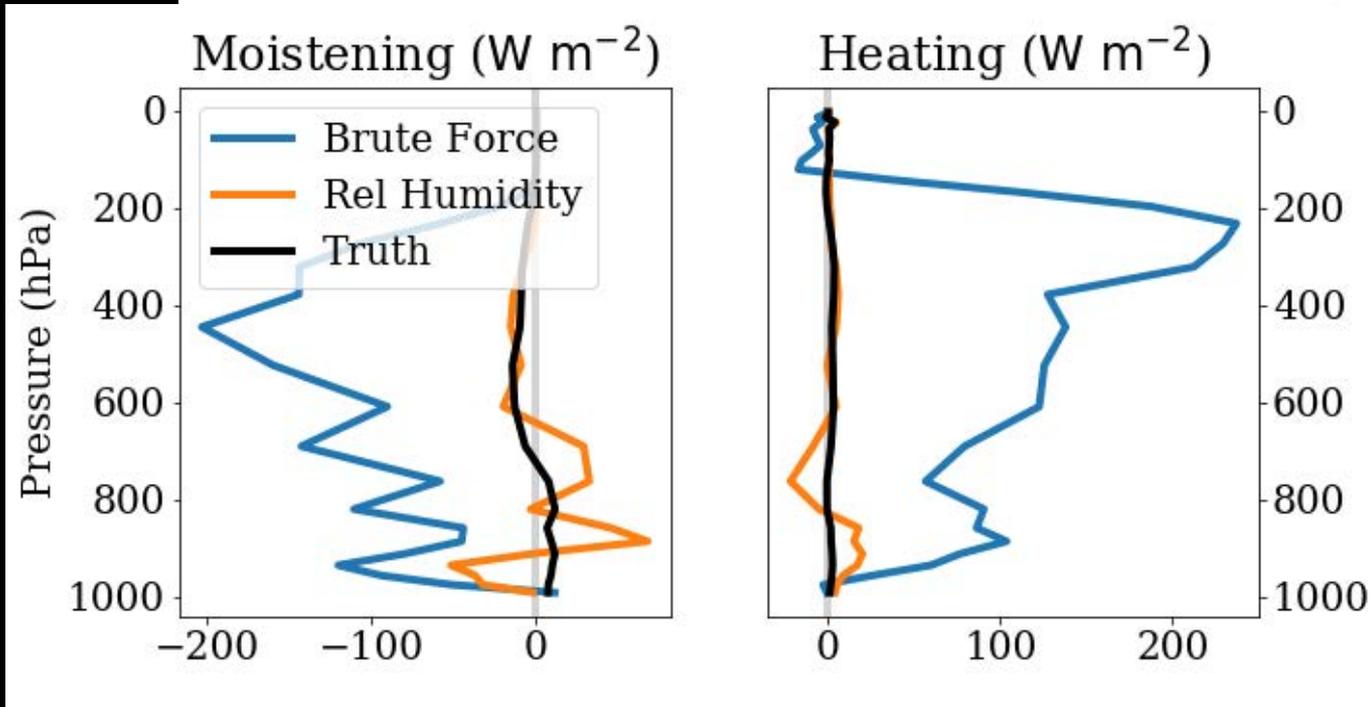
$$\text{Relative humidity } (z) = \frac{\text{Partial water vapor pressure } (z)}{\text{Saturation water vapor pressure } (T, p)}$$



# Generalization

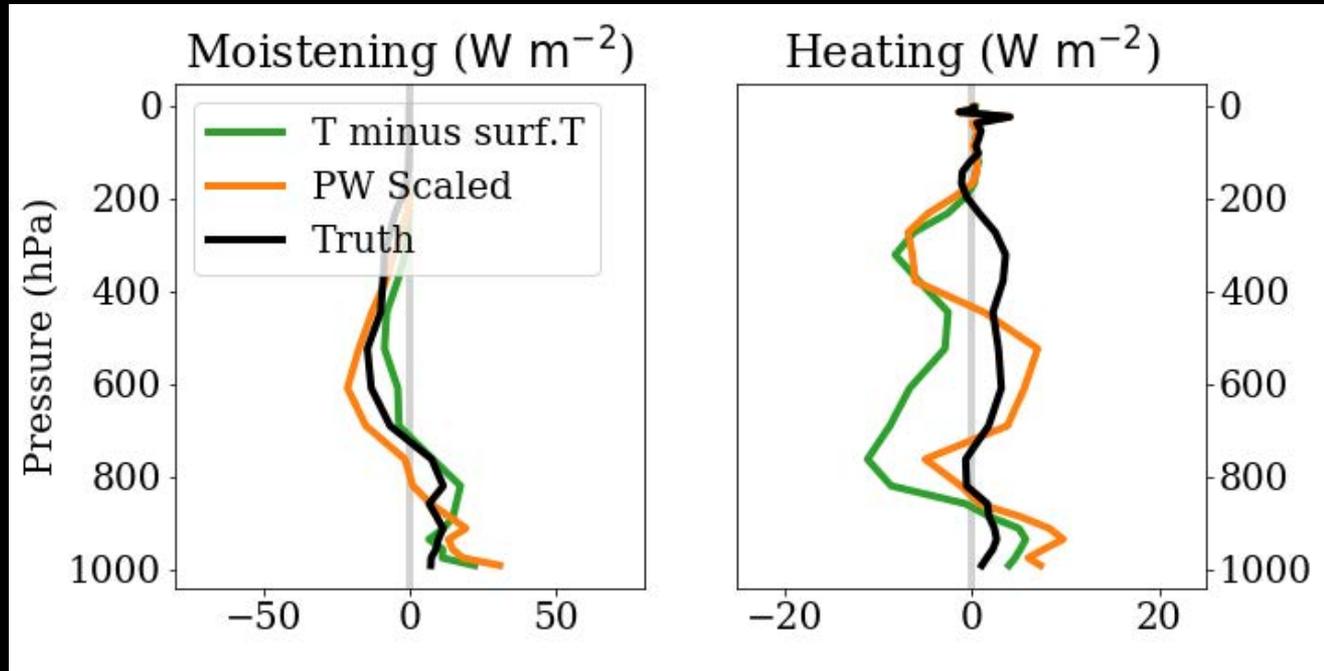
Use physical knowledge

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



# 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

