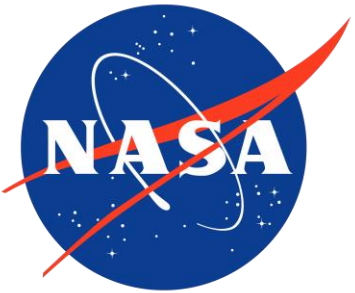


# The many benefits (and a few drawbacks) of inserting tides into general circulation models



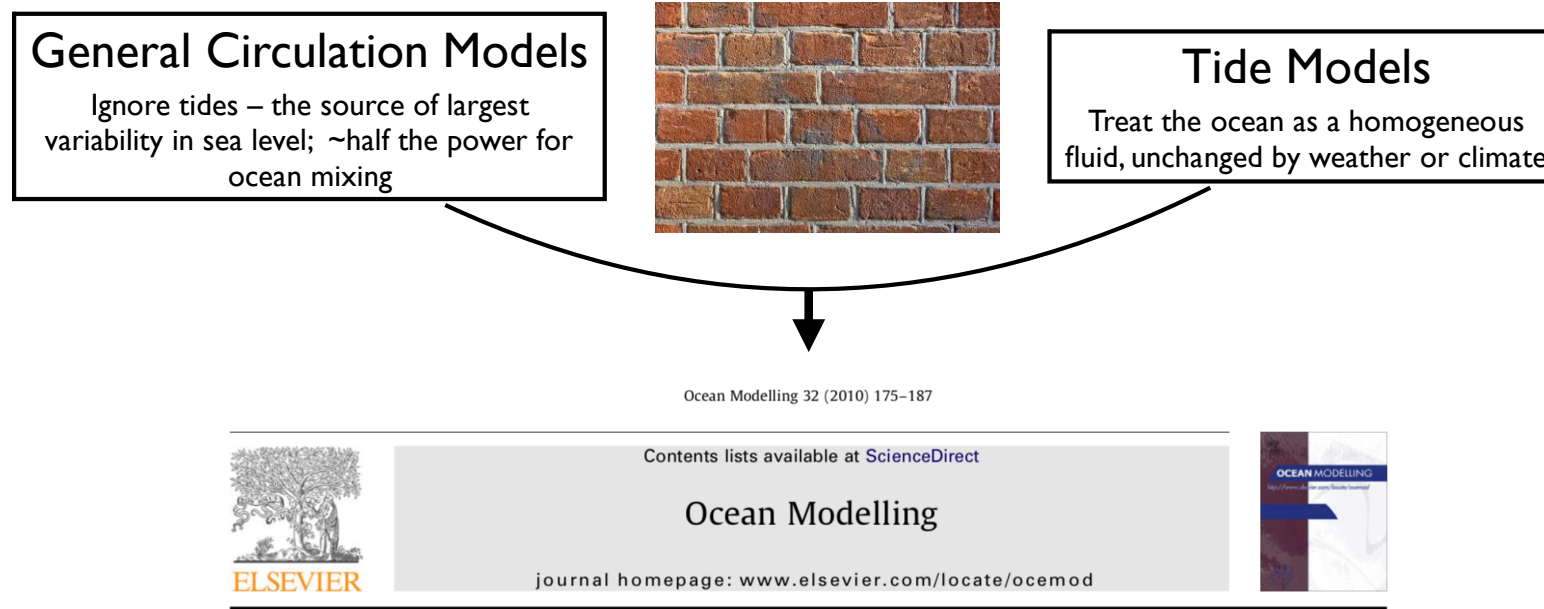
Brian K. Arbic, University of Michigan



Thanks to a very long list of collaborators, and to DOE and NOAA for additional funding.



# Slide from Richard Ray's "100 years of tides" talk at Fall 2019 AGU meeting



Concurrent simulation of the eddying general circulation and tides in a global ocean model

Brian K. Arbic<sup>a,\*</sup>, Alan J. Wallcraft<sup>b</sup>, E. Joseph Metzger<sup>b</sup>

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<sup>b</sup> Oceanography Division, Naval Research Laboratory, Stennis Space Center, MS, United States

# Insertion of tides in models

- My research group collaborates with the following groups to insert tides into ocean general circulation models
  - US Navy HYCOM global simulations
  - NASA MITgcm global simulations
  - UCLA ROMS and FSU HYCOM basin scale simulations
  - Italian effort (Federica Borile and Nadia Pinardi)
  - Australian effort (Callum Shakespeare, Andy McC. Hogg, and Adele Morrison)
  - Grenoble basin-scale NEMO simulation and Toulouse (Mercator) global NEMO simulation
  - NOAA operational modeling group
  - DOE E3SM group

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The implementation of operational oceanography in the past 15 years has provided many societal benefits and has led to many countries adopting a formal roadmap for providing ocean forecasts. Continuing the tradition of two very successful international summer schools held in France in 2004 (Chassignet and Verron, 2006) and in Australia in 2010 (Schiller and Brassington, 2011), a third international school that focused on frontier research in operational oceanography was held in Majorca in 2017.

In the coming years, graduate students and young scientists will be challenged by many new observations (SWOT, Sentinel, AUVs, floats, etc.), complex high-resolution numerical models and data assimilation (high resolution, predictability, uncertainty, changing computing platforms, etc.), and the need to work on many scales (open ocean-shelf interactions, coupled ocean-atmosphere, biogeochemistry, etc.). The latter school brought together senior experts and young researchers (pre- and post-doctorate) from across the world and exposed them to the latest research in oceanography, specifically how it will impact operational oceanography. This book is a compilation of the lectures presented at the school and presents a summary of the current state-of-the-art in operational oceanography research.

Available at [www.godae-oceanview.org](http://www.godae-oceanview.org) and [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

## A Primer on Global Internal Tide and Internal Gravity Wave Continuum Modeling in HYCOM and MITgcm

Brian K. Arbic<sup>1,2</sup>, Matthew H. Alford<sup>3</sup>, Joseph K. Ansong<sup>4,5</sup>, Maarten C. Buijsman<sup>1</sup>, Robert B. Ciotti<sup>1</sup>, J. Thomas Farrar<sup>7</sup>, Robert W. Hallberg<sup>8</sup>, Christopher E. Henze<sup>6</sup>, Christopher N. Hill<sup>9</sup>, Conrad A. Luecke<sup>10</sup>, Dimitris Menemenlis<sup>10</sup>, E. Joseph Metzger<sup>11</sup>, Malte Müller<sup>12</sup>, Arin D. Nelson<sup>1</sup>, Bron C. Nelson<sup>1</sup>, Hans E. Ngodock<sup>13</sup>, Rui M. Ponte<sup>14</sup>, James G. Richman<sup>15</sup>, Anna C. Savage<sup>1,3</sup>, Robert B. Scott<sup>11</sup>, Jay F. Shriver<sup>11</sup>, Harper L. Simmons<sup>16</sup>, Innocent Souopgui<sup>1</sup>, Patrick G. Timko<sup>14</sup>, Alan J. Wallcraft<sup>14</sup>, Luis Zanna<sup>14</sup>, and Zhongxiang Zhao<sup>17</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA; <sup>2</sup>Currently on sabbatical at Institut des Géosciences de l'Environnement (IGE), Grenoble, France, and Laboratoire des Etudes en Géophysique et Océanographie Spatiale (LEGOS), Toulouse, France; <sup>3</sup>University of California San Diego, La Jolla, California, USA; <sup>4</sup>University of Ghana, Accra, Ghana; <sup>5</sup>University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg Space Center, Mississippi, USA; <sup>6</sup>NASA Ames Research Center, Mountain View, California, USA; <sup>7</sup>Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Woods Hole, Massachusetts, USA; <sup>8</sup>Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory/NOAA, Princeton, New Jersey, USA; <sup>9</sup>Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA; <sup>10</sup>Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California, USA; <sup>11</sup>Naval Research Laboratory, Stennis Space Center, Mississippi, USA; <sup>12</sup>Norwegian Meteorological Institute, Oslo, Norway; <sup>13</sup>Atmospheric and Environmental Research, Lexington, Massachusetts, USA; <sup>14</sup>Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida, USA; <sup>15</sup>Université de Bretagne Occidentale, Brest, France; <sup>16</sup>University of Alaska-Fairbanks, Fairbanks, Alaska, USA; <sup>17</sup>University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, USA; +Now at: Welsh Local Centre, Royal Meteorological Society, UK

In recent years, high-resolution ("eddy") global three-dimensional ocean general circulation models have begun to include astronomical tidal forcing alongside atmospheric forcing. Such models can carry an internal tide field with a realistic amount of nonstationarity, and an internal gravity wave continuum spectrum that compares more closely with observations as model resolution increases. Global internal tide and gravity wave models are important for understanding the three-dimensional geography of ocean mixing, for operational oceanography, and for simulating and interpreting satellite altimetry observations. Here we describe the most important technical details behind such models, including atmospheric forcing, bathymetry, astronomical tidal forcing, self-attraction and loading, quadratic bottom boundary layer drag, parameterized topographic internal wave drag, shallow-water tidal equations, and a brief summary of the theory of linear internal gravity waves. We focus on simulations run with two models, the HYbrid Coordinate Ocean Model (HYCOM) and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology general circulation model (MITgcm). We compare the modeled internal tides and internal gravity wave continuum to satellite altimetry observations, moored observational records, and the predictions of the Garrett-Munk (1975) internal gravity wave continuum spectrum. We briefly examine specific topics of interest, such as tidal energetics, internal tide nonstationarity, and the role of nonlinearities in generating the modeled internal gravity wave continuum. We also describe our first attempts at using a Kalman filter to improve the accuracy of tides embedded within a general circulation model. We discuss the challenges and opportunities of modeling stationary internal tides, non-stationary internal tides, and the internal gravity wave continuum spectrum for satellite altimetry and other applications.

Arbic, B.K., et al., 2018: A primer on global internal tide and internal gravity wave continuum modeling in HYCOM and MITgcm. In "New Frontiers in Operational Oceanography", E. Chassignet, A. Pascual, J. Tintoré, and J. Verron, Eds., GODAE OceanView, 307-392, doi:10.17125/gov2018.ch13.

## Arbic et al. (2018) book chapter

## Arbic 2022 review article

Progress in Oceanography 206 (2022) 102824

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Progress in Oceanography

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**Review**

**Incorporating tides and internal gravity waves within global ocean general circulation models: A review**

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ARTICLE INFO	ABSTRACT
<p><b>Keywords:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ocean tides</li> <li>Internal tides</li> <li>Internal gravity waves</li> <li>General oceanic circulation</li> <li>Ocean mixing</li> <li>Ocean modeling</li> </ul>	<p>Until recently, high-resolution global modeling of tides has been done separately from high-resolution global modeling of the atmospherically-forced oceanic general circulation. Here we review the emerging class of high-resolution global models that are simultaneously forced by both atmospheric fields and the astronomical tidal potential. Such models simulate barotropic (surface) tides, internal tides, near-inertial motions, the eddyling general oceanic circulation, and a partially resolved internal gravity wave (IGW) continuum spectrum (Garrett-Munk spectrum) simultaneously. We review the technical aspects of such global models and their myriad applications, for example, in satellite oceanography, operational oceanography, boundary forcing of regional models, tidal-cryosphere interactions, and assessment of future coastal flooding hazards in a changing climate with altered tides.</p>

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**1. Introduction**

Tides have fascinated humankind for thousands of years (Cartwright, 1999). Accurate analysis and prediction of tides in ports and harbors has been practiced since the 1800s. The advent of the TOPEX/JASON satellite altimetry series (Fu & Cazenave, 2001; Stammer & Cazenave, 2017; International Altimetry Team, 2021) revolutionized physical oceanography by allowing for highly accurate global maps of surface tidal elevations (e.g., Le Provost, 2001; Egbert & Ray, 2017; Ray & Egbert, 2017) and other oceanic motions. The TOPEX/JASON tidal maps build upon work demonstrating the feasibility of tidal mapping with the earlier Seasat and Geosat altimeters (e.g., Cartwright, 1983; Mazzega, 1985; Woodworth & Cartwright, 1986; Cartwright & Ray, 1990). Despite the advent of accurate tidal maps from altimetry, many questions about tides remain, including the response of tides to climate change, the details of tide-cryosphere interactions and open-ocean tidal dissipation mechanisms, the predictability of internal tides, and the impact of tides on upcoming remote sensing missions. Some of these questions are addressable with global high-resolution simulations that incorporate tidal and atmospheric forcing simultaneously, a frontier direction in ocean modeling that is the subject of this paper.

**1.1. Background and definition of terms**

Tides are best known for effecting a periodic rise and fall of the sea

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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pocean.2022.102824>

Received 14 May 2022; Accepted 17 May 2022

Available online 27 May 2022

0079-6611/© 2022 The Author(s). Published by Elsevier Ltd. This is an open access article under the CC BY license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).

# What is an internal gravity wave?

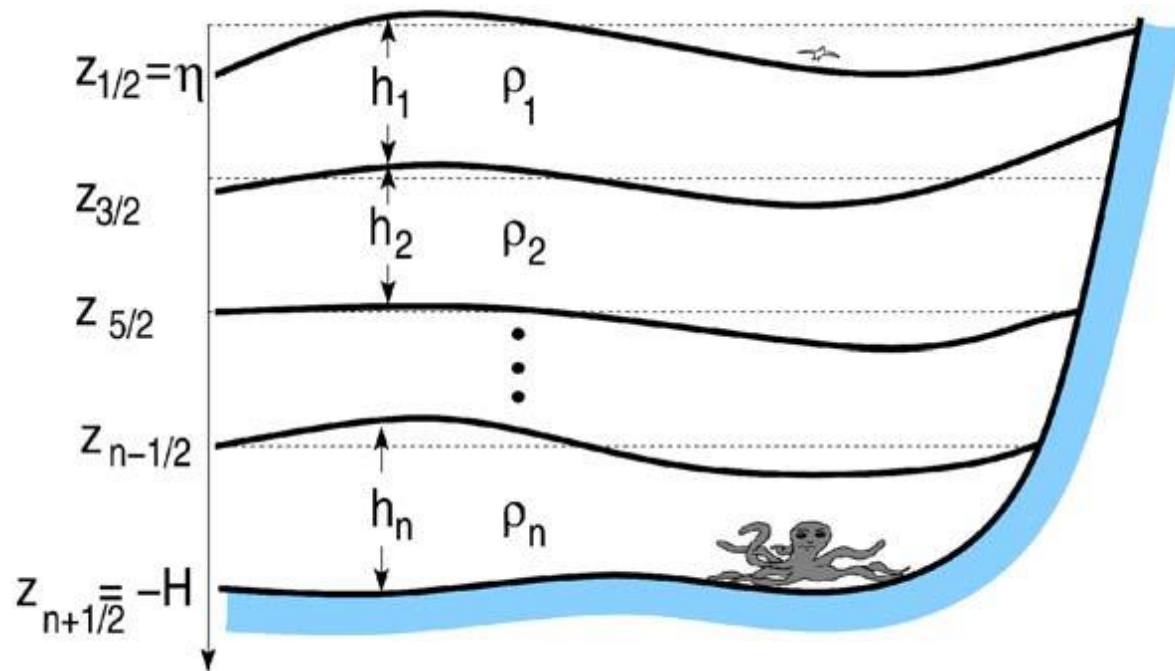
Internal gravity waves (IGWs) are gravity waves that are “internal” to the ocean

- Larger displacement signals are at depth

In a layered model, IGWs exist on the interfaces between layers.

# Schematic for layered models

IGW undulations show up as temperature variance signals



Simmons et al. (2004)

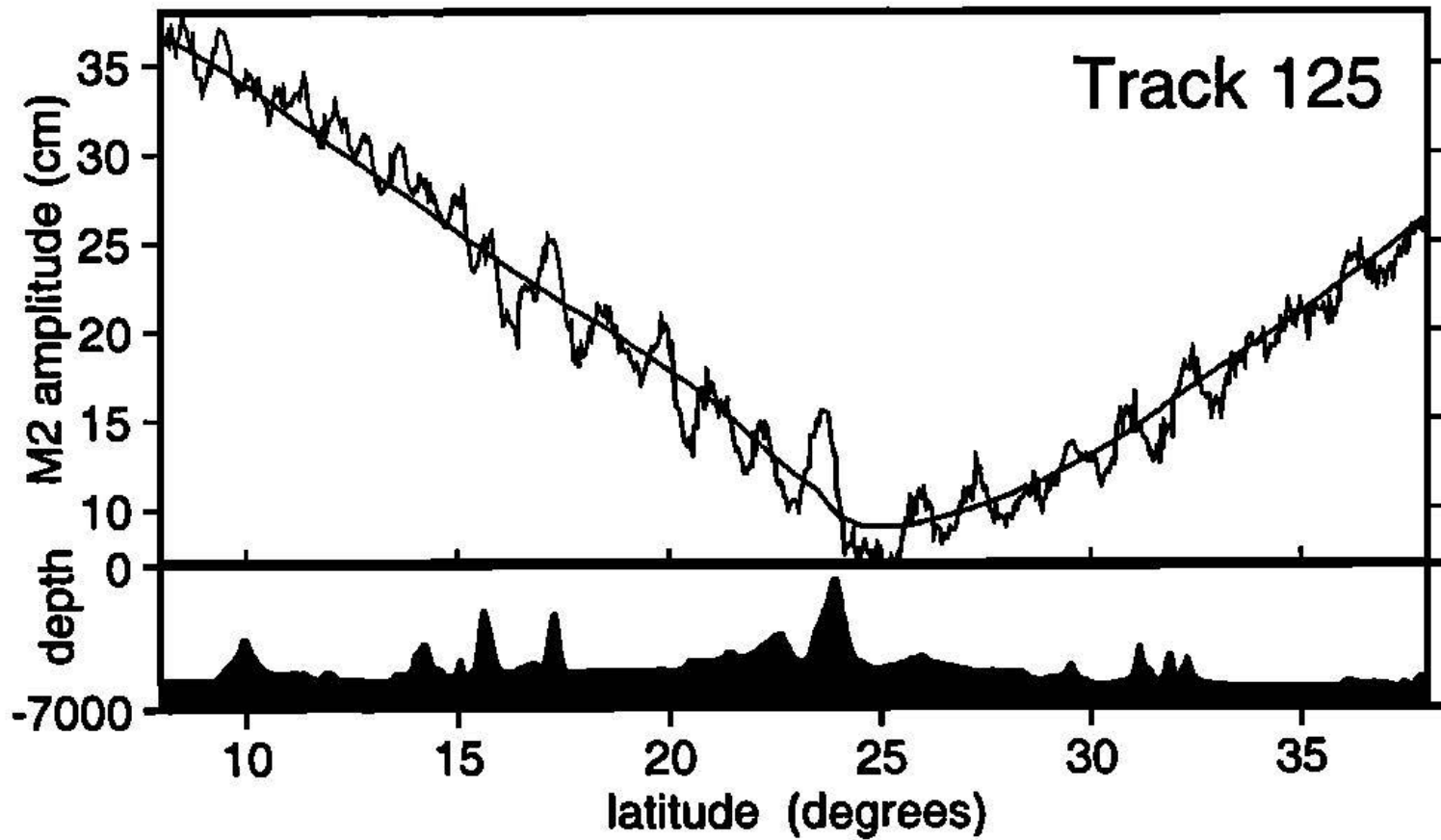


# Motivating observational studies

Evidence for radiation of coherent low-mode internal tides over long distances from acoustic tomography (Dushaw et al. 1995) and altimetry (Ray and Mitchum 1996, 1997).

Evidence that 25%-30% of 3.5 TW total tidal dissipation takes place through internal tide generation over open-ocean rough topography (Egbert and Ray 2000).

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Internal  
tides in  
altimetry

Ray and Mitchum (1996)



Show animations

# Why add tides to high-resolution global circulation models?

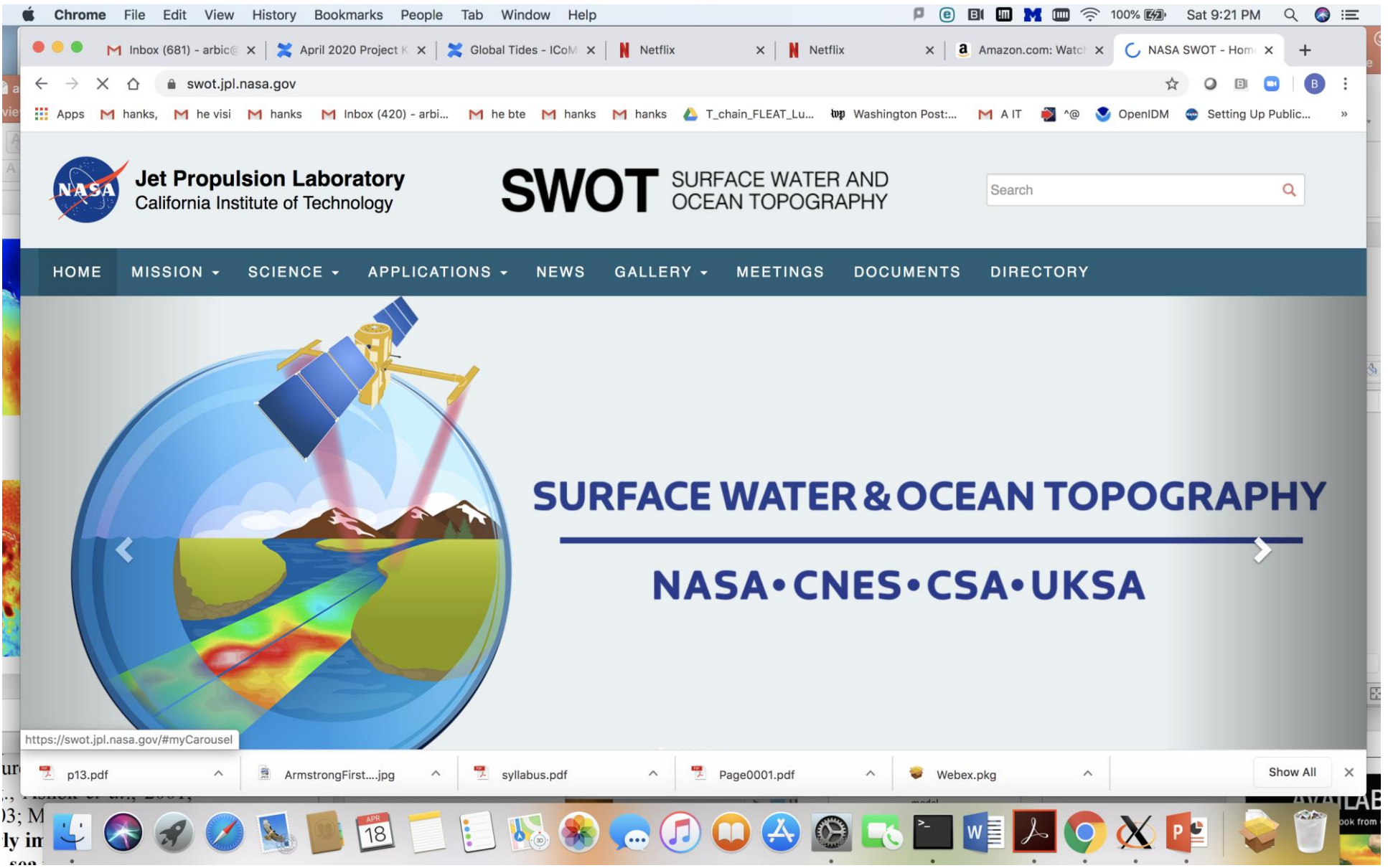
- Barotropic tidal flow over rough topography in a stratified fluid generates internal tides
- Internal tides propagate in an environment with changing stratification and eddies → yields a realistic internal tide non-stationarity (incoherence, non-phase-locking)
- Non-linear interactions between internal tides and wind-driven near-inertial waves yield a partially resolved supertidal internal gravity wave (IGW) continuum, or Garrett-Munk spectrum, as shown in Müller et al. 2015 (for **US Navy HYCOM simulations**), Rocha et al. 2016 (for **NASA MITgcm simulations**), and other papers
- Breaking IGWs drive mixing
  - can our models help us understand the space-time geography of ocean mixing?
- Internal waves impact ocean acoustics
- Remotely generated internal waves should be included in boundary conditions for regional models
- Tides interact with other components of the climate system (e.g., ice) and tides change in a changing climate
- **Global internal wave models help us plan for and interpret SWOT**

SWOT will measure surface water heights over oceans, lakes, and rivers → Joint oceanography + hydrology mission

In contrast to current nadir altimeters, SWOT measurements will be in two-dimensional swaths rather than one-dimensional tracks

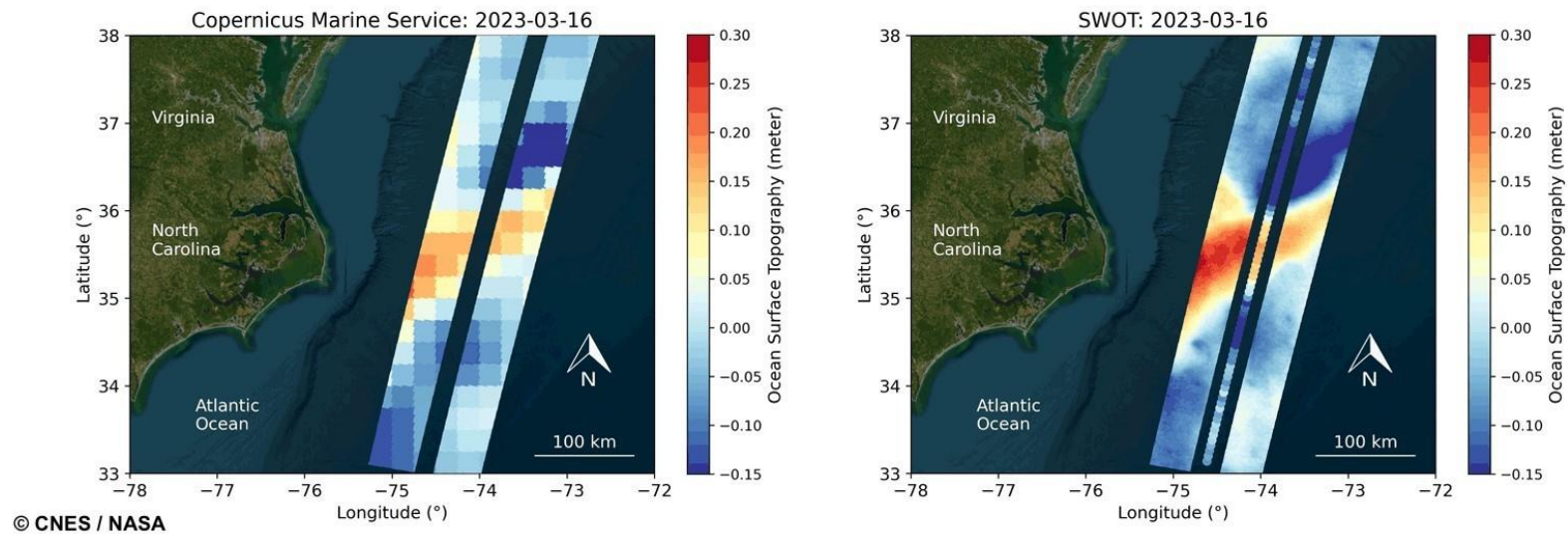
Feature resolution will be much higher

Launched in December 2022



# First release of SWOT data on sea surface heights

## Le Gulf Stream vu par Copernicus et le satellite SWOT



# Why do global internal wave models matter for SWOT?

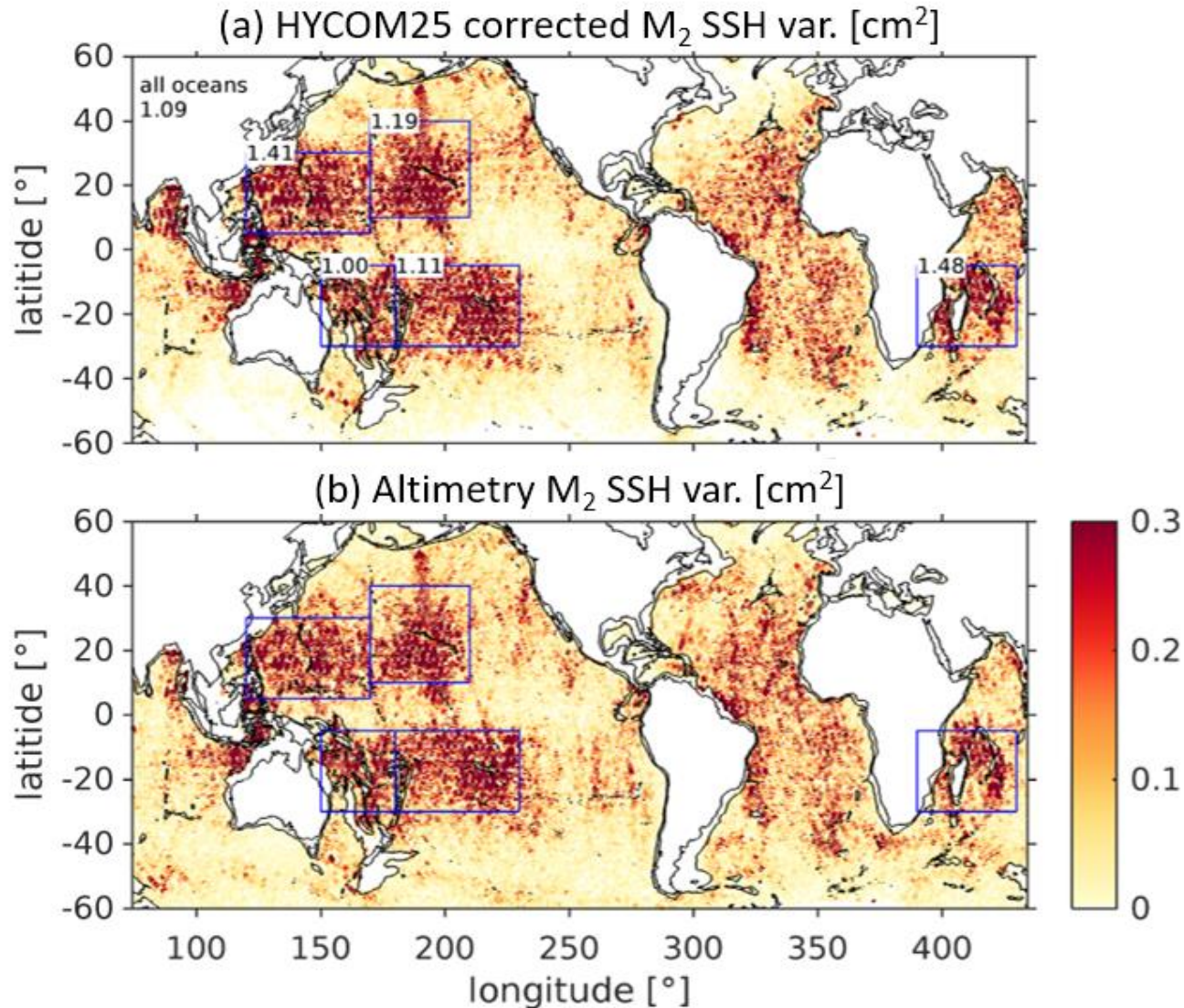
SWOT will measure sea surface heights at high resolution

Therefore, small-scale internal tides and waves will be measured, and will represent a “noise” from the point of view of someone who wants to study the eddies

# Characterization vs. Correction

- The HYCOM group, and other modeling groups, have used global internal wave models to **characterize** the internal tide and internal wave fields.
- Recently we have raised the bar and shown that we can phase-predict internal tides and waves
  - HYCOM therefore could be used for internal wave **corrections** to SWOT and nadir altimetry
    - Tidal forcing yields phase-locked internal tides which then interact with eddies
    - Assimilation of altimetry data improves stratification and puts eddies in the correct locations

# Characterization: phase-locked internal tides

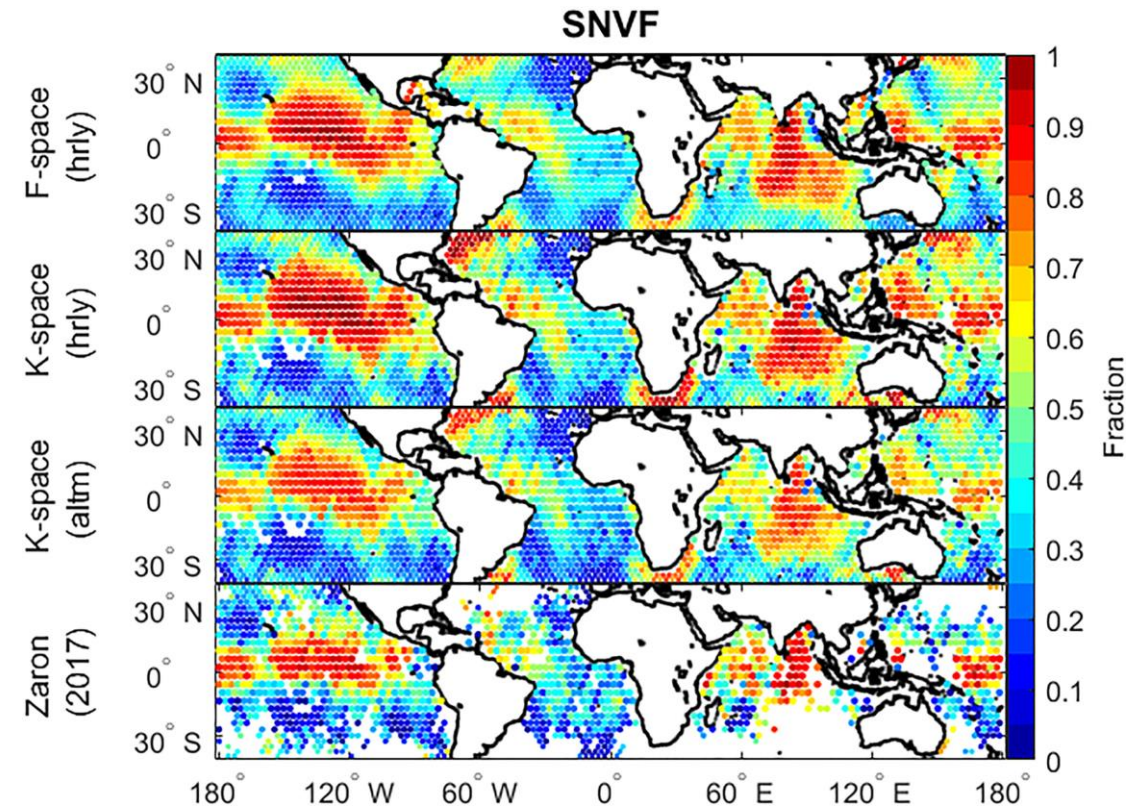


- Sea surface height (SSH) variance of the phase-locked principal lunar semidiurnal tide  $M_2$  in **non-assimilative** HYCOM (top) and altimetry (bottom).
- The HYCOM variances have been corrected for the effects of the short duration of the model output record.
- Numbers represent the fraction of HYCOM variance to altimetry variance.
- Determined by spatially high-passing amplitudes of total tidal SSH (as in Ray and Mitchum 1996)

**Buijsman et al., Ocean Modelling, 2020**

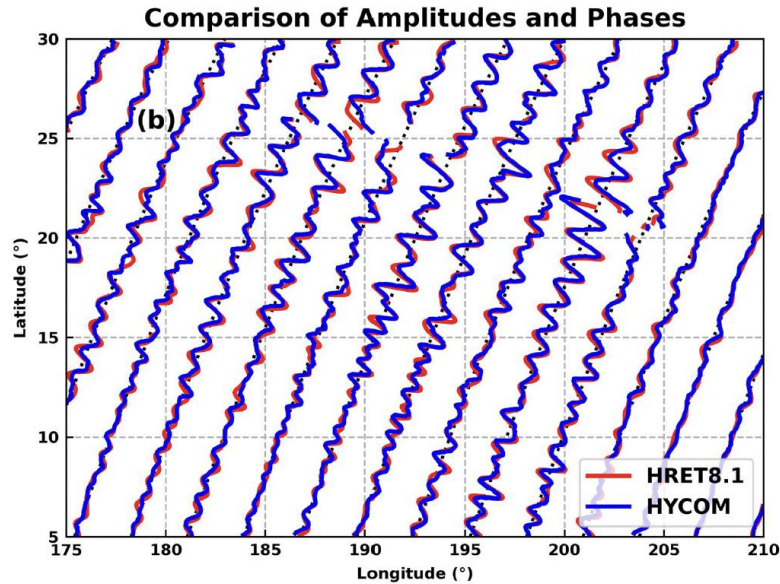
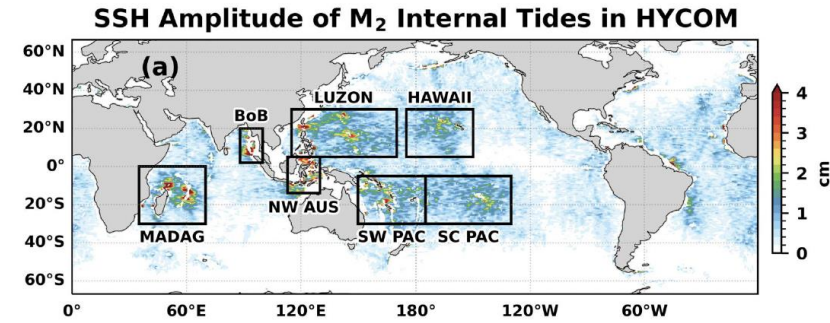
Characterization:  
semi-diurnal non-  
phase-locked  
variance fraction  
(SNVF) in non-  
assimilative HYCOM  
vs. altimetry (Nelson  
et al., 2019)

- Large non-stationarity in equatorial regions examined in detail in Buijsman et al. (2017)

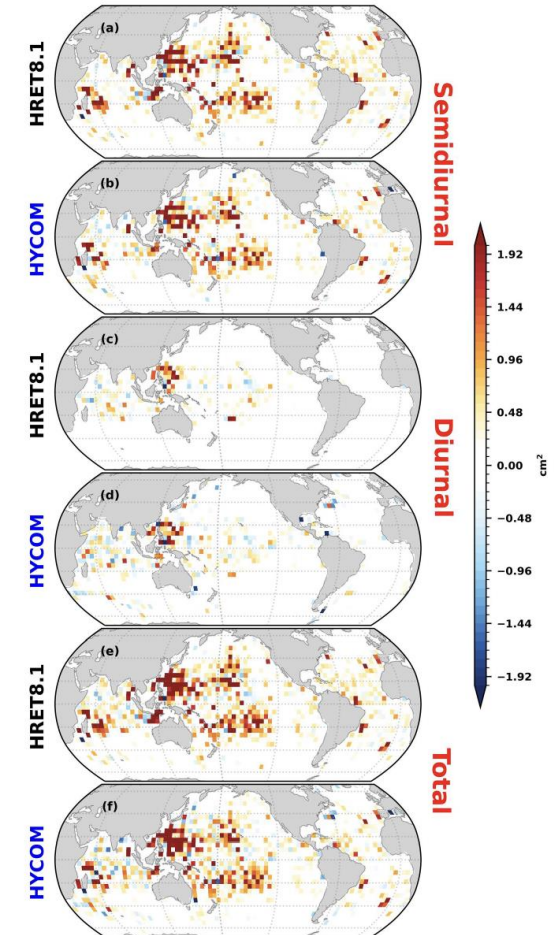




# Internal tide correction: Data assimilative system shows skill in phases



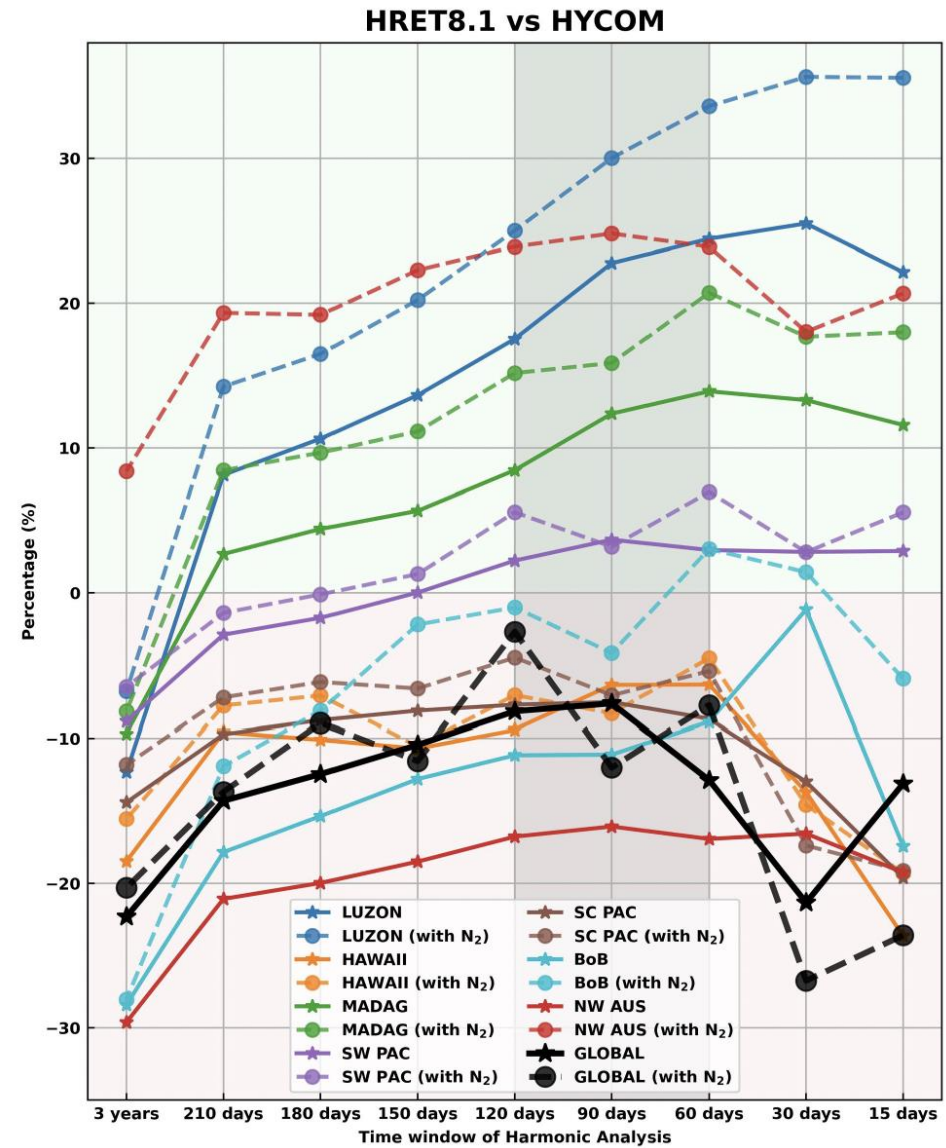
Bottom: amplitude \* sin (phase)



Variance reduction from nadir altimetry

Yadidya et al. 2024

# Internal tide correction: Data assimilative system shows skill in phases

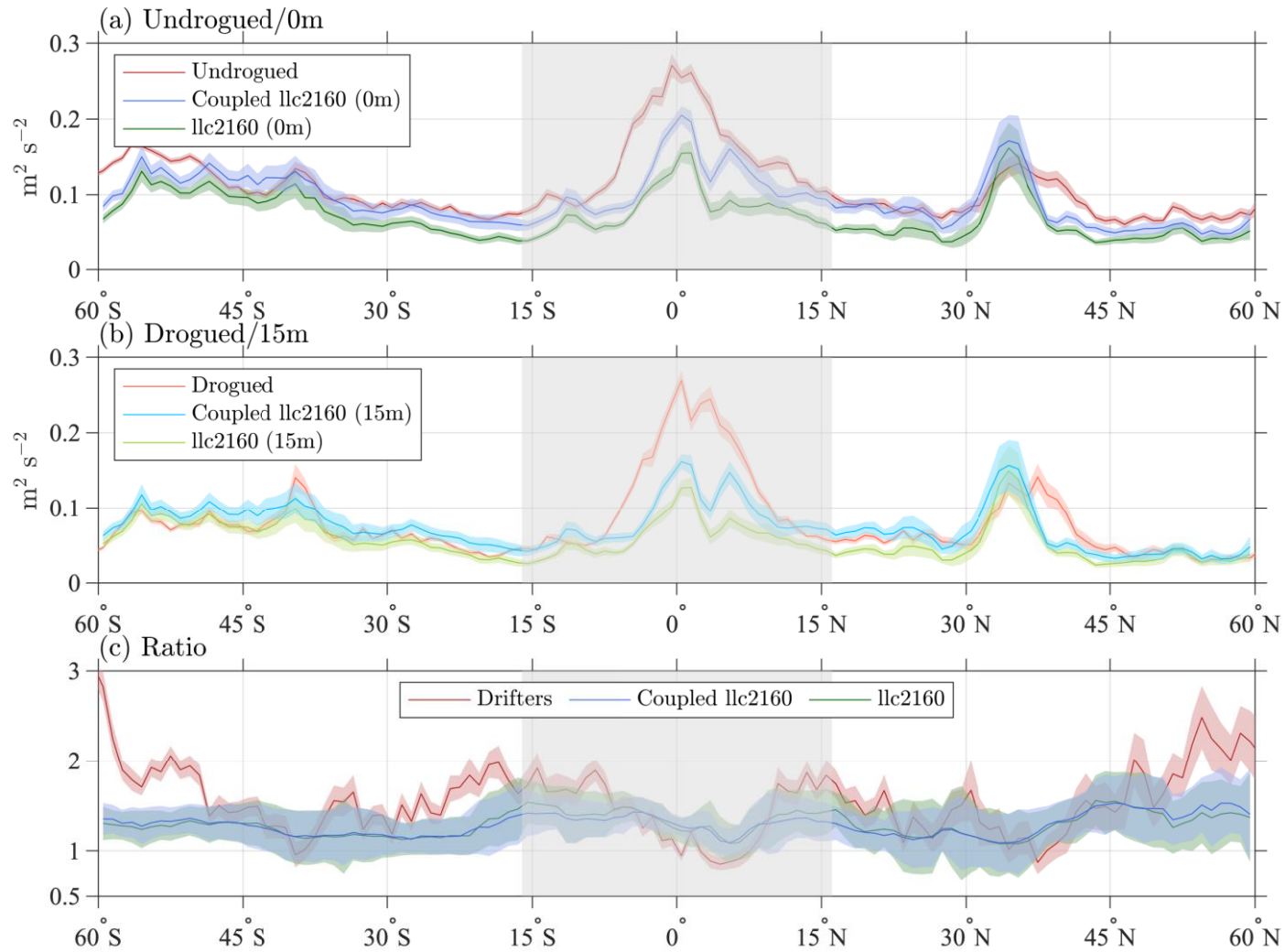


**Figure 3.** Comparison of variance reduction achieved in HYCOM versus HRET8.1, as a function of the time window of the HYCOM harmonic analysis, measured in percentages. Results are given for the regions of strong internal tide activity shown in Figure 1 as well as for the global average. Positive values imply that HYCOM reduced a larger amount of variance, while negative values imply that HYCOM reduced a smaller amount of variance. The results shown in this figure are computed over both semidiurnal and diurnal bands. Results are shown with and without the inclusion of the N<sub>2</sub> constituent in HYCOM.

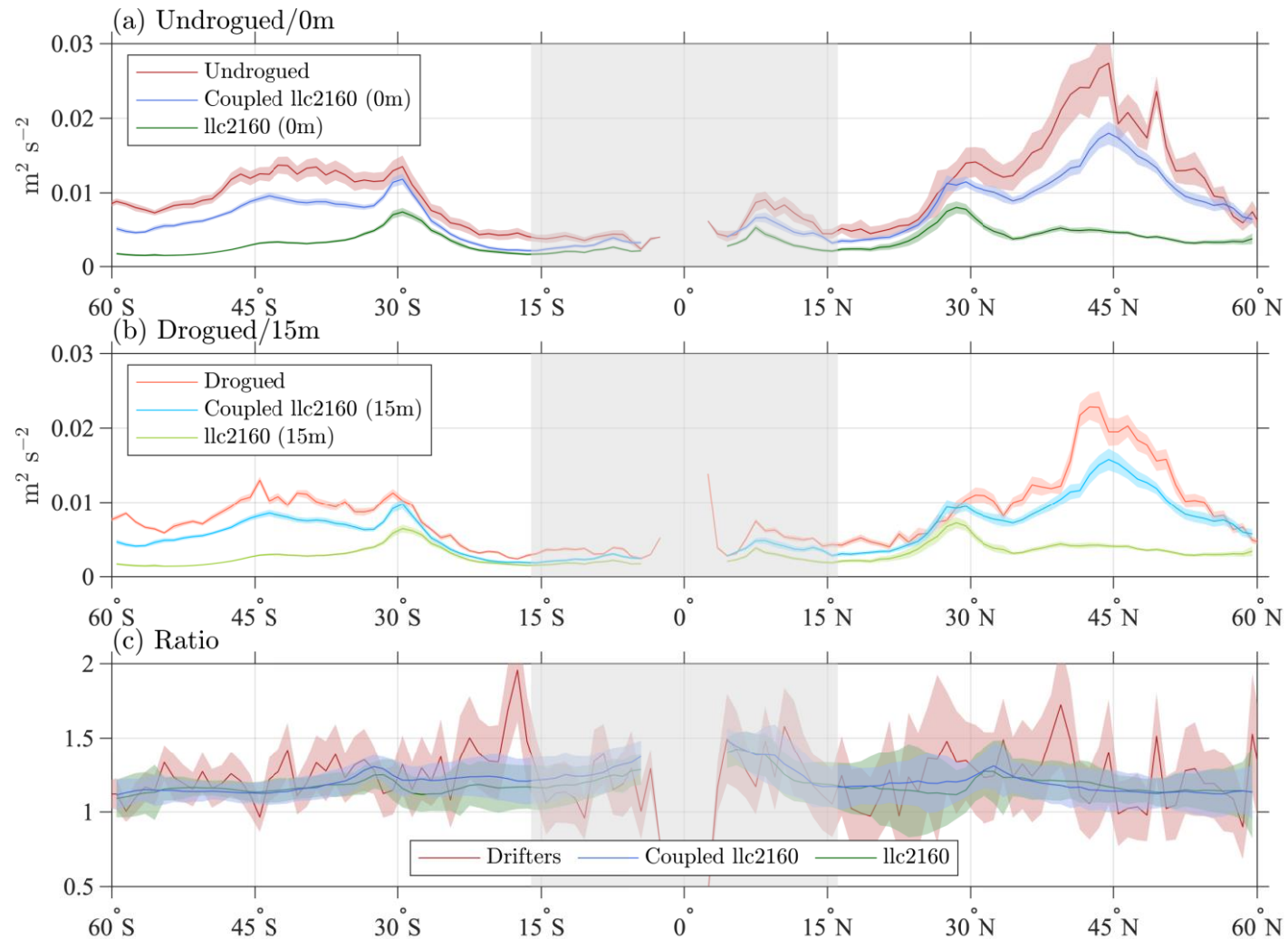
# On to other topics

- Aside from the potential of using HYCOM for SWOT internal tide corrections, we continue to work on other SWOT-relevant topics, including:
  - Model – observational comparisons
    - Moorings (Ansong et al. 2017, Luecke et al. 2020, Nelson et al. 2020, Thakur et al. 2022)
    - Drifters (Arbic et al. 2022, Caspar-Cohen et al. in preparation, other ongoing work)
  - Boundary forcing regional models
  - Applications to mixing

# Models vs. near-surface drifters: Low-frequency band (Arbic et al., 2022, Arbic new results)



# Models vs. near-surface drifters: Near-inertial band (Arbic et al., 2022, Arbic new results)



# Models vs. near-surface drifters: Semidiurnal band (Caspar-Cohen et al. in preparation)

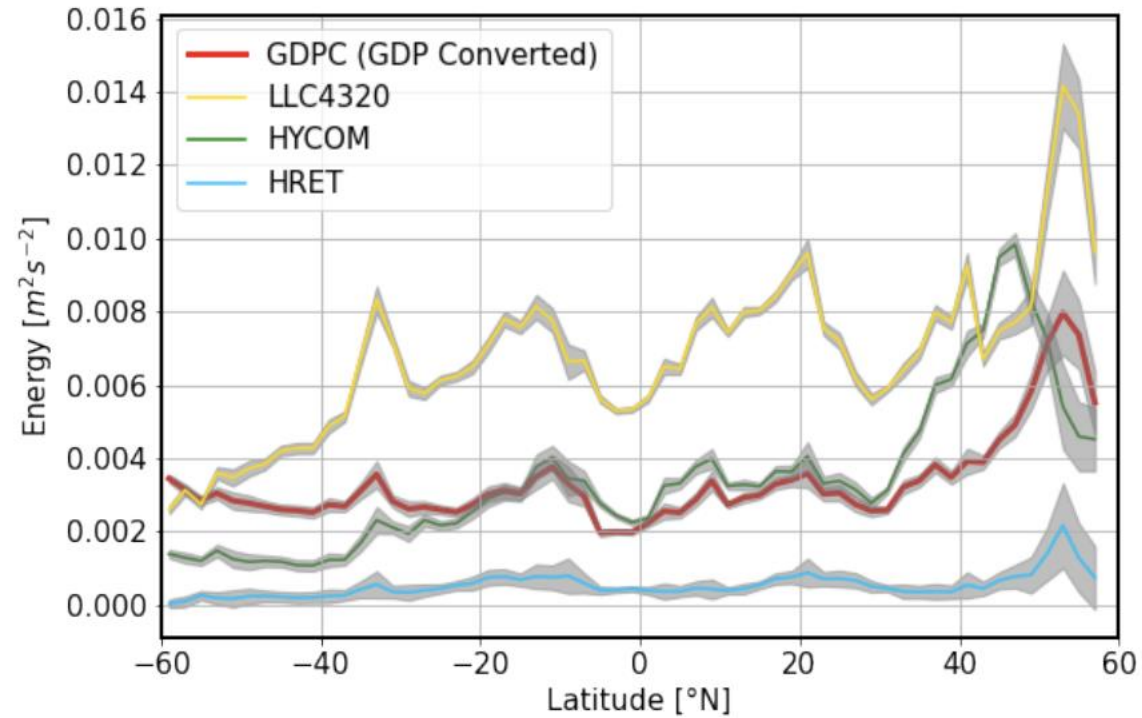
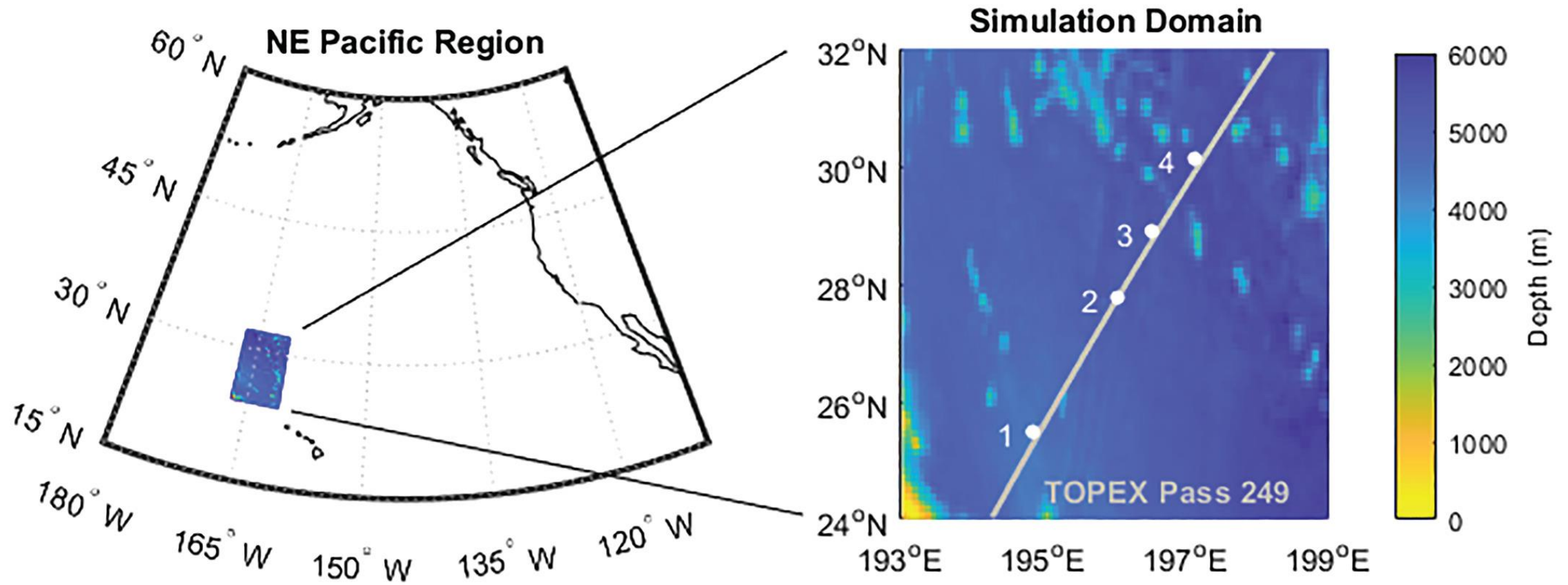


Figure 5: Zonal average of the surface semi-diurnal kinetic energy estimated from LLC4320, HYCOM, converted GDP and HRET. Grey shading correspond to error due to spatial sampling (i.e. standard deviation)

# Boundary forcing very- high resolution regional simulations

- SWOT mission motivates running regional models at the highest possible resolutions
- "Pilot" project in collaboration with Dimitris Menemenlis, Dick Peltier (University of Toronto) and others.
- Another Dimitris Menemenlis "hero run", done on Canadian supercomputer Niagara (courtesy of collaboration with Dick Peltier).
- Use Dimitris' global  $1/48^\circ$  MITgcm simulation to boundary force a  $6^\circ$  by  $8^\circ$  MITgcm patch near Hawai'i, with 8X higher horizontal and 3X higher vertical resolutions (Nelson et al. 2020, Pan et al. 2020)
- Alternatively, can use same resolution in regional domain as in global domain to explore parameter sensitivities in much cheaper regional domain (Thakur et al. 2022, Skitka et al., Momeni et al. in review).

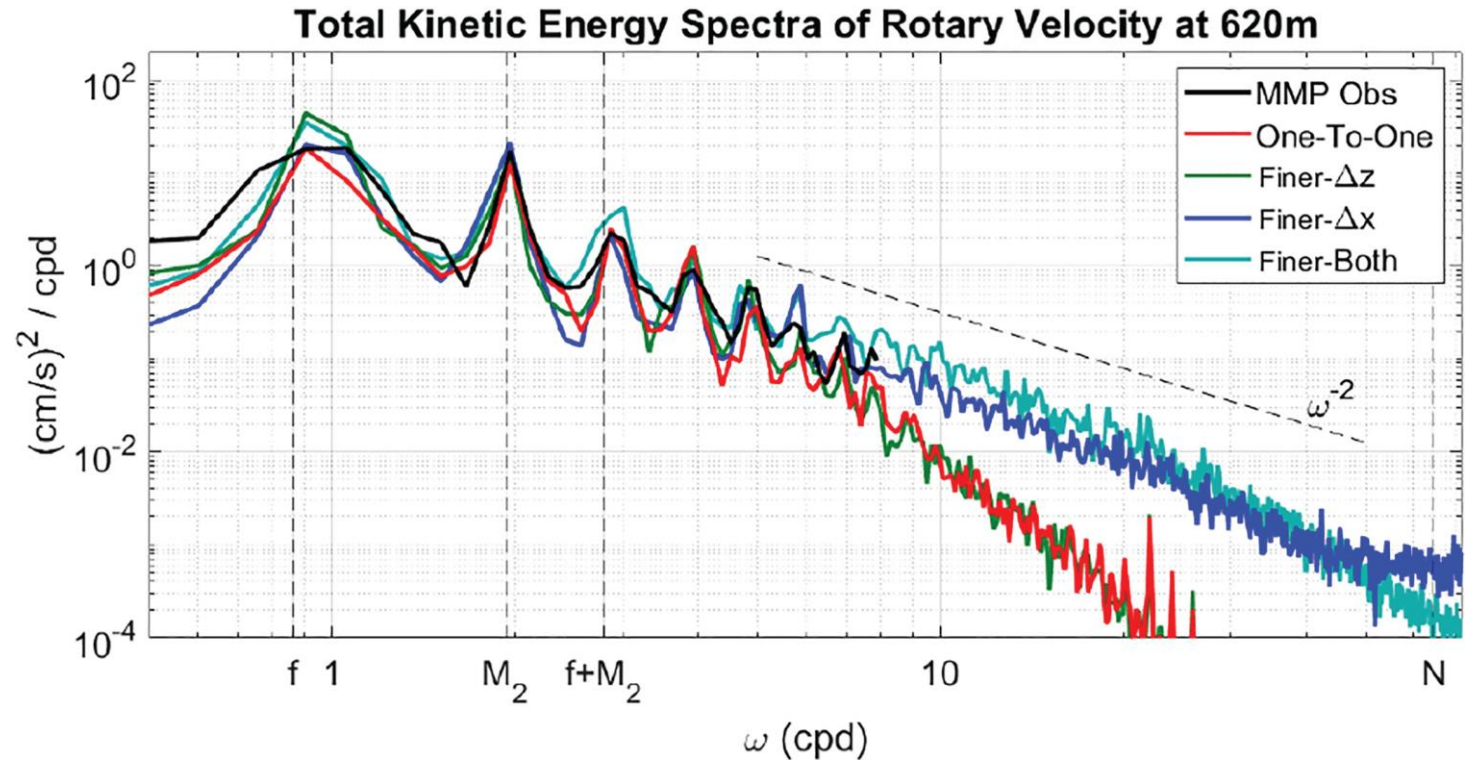
# Model domain, high-resolution regional simulation (Nelson et al., 2020)





Improved IGW frequency spectra in a regional model forced by the global MITgcm simulation (Nelson et al., 2020)

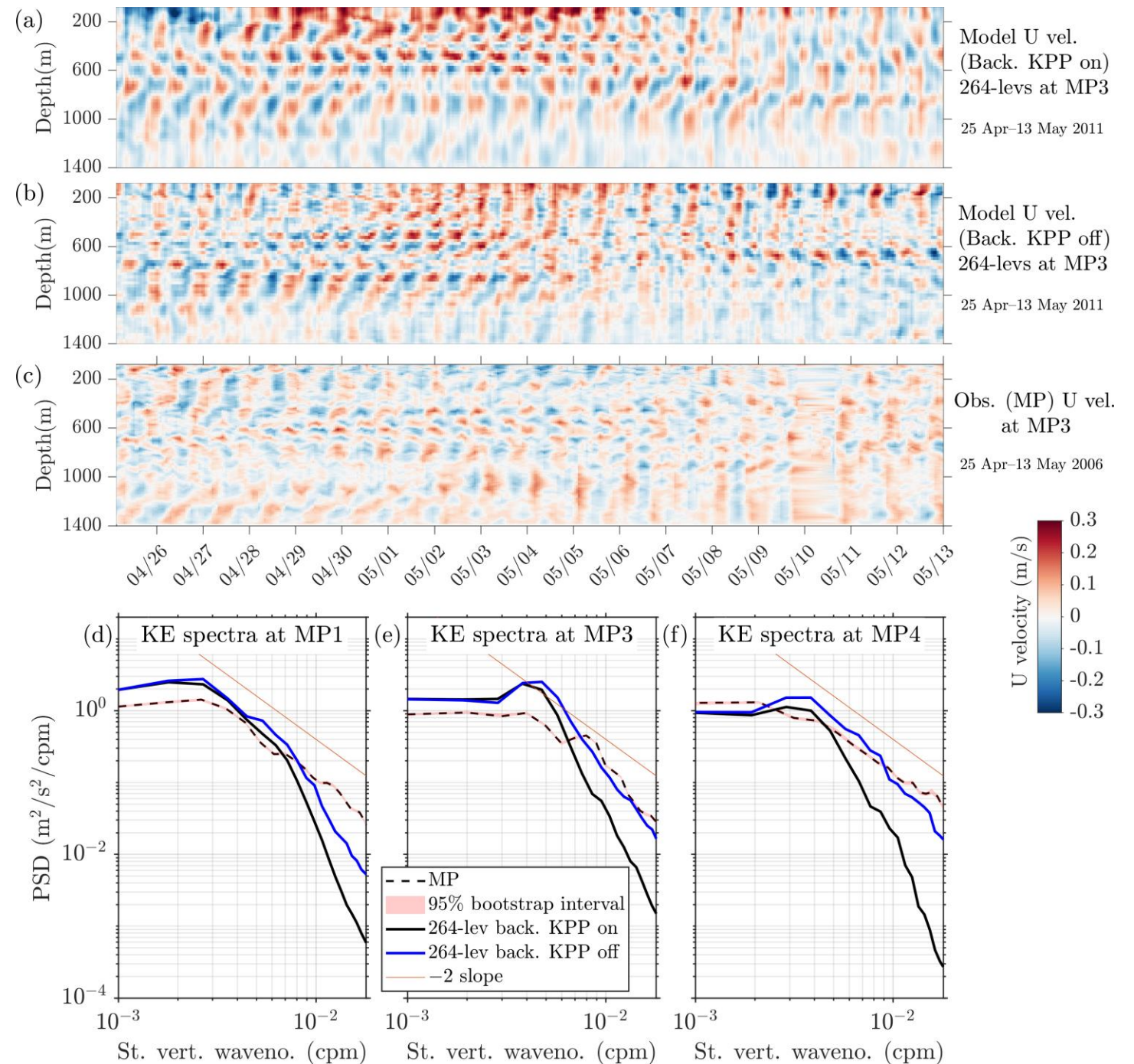
- Mazloff et al.: w/o internal tide boundary conditions, a regional model has an insufficiently energetic IGW spectrum
- This work: with internal tide boundary conditions + increase in resolution, IGW continuum energy goes up



# Improved IGW vertical wavenumber spectra in a regional model forced by the global MITgcm simulation (Thakur et al., in review)

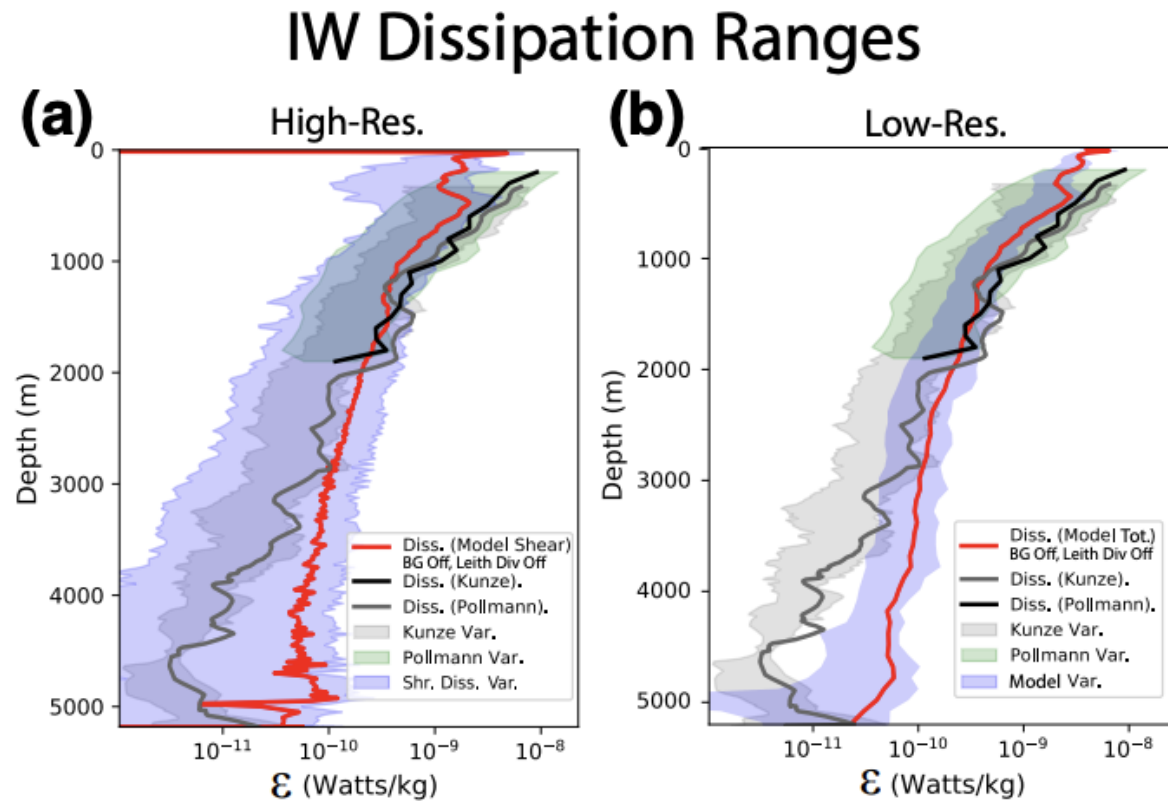
KPP was developed for models that do not resolve internal waves

In models that partially resolve internal waves, turning off the KPP background yields a vertical structure that agrees more closely with observations



## Vertical profile of IGW dissipation (Skitka et al., in review)

The model damping operators are  
dissipating energy at rates that are  
comparable to those seen in  
observations.



**Figure 4.** Dissipation profiles with the 16th - 84th percentile highlighted around the mean for high- and low- resolution KPP-BG-off/Leith-div.-off cases. In the high-resolution case, we choose to display the shear term from the model output as it exhibits better agreement with observations.

# ROMS simulation in California Current region

Lateral boundary condition: global HYCOM

## Papers

Siyanbola et al. 2023, Delpech et al. 2023, 2024

In review: Siyanbola et al. 2024

## Collaborators

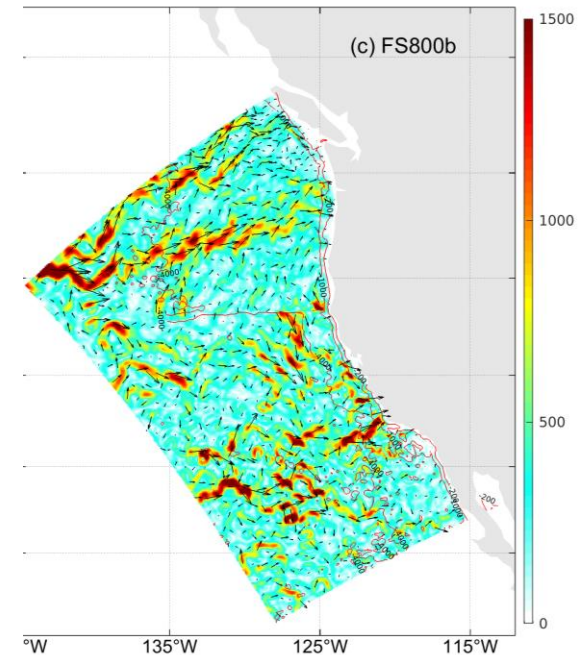
Maarten Buijsman, Oladeji Siyanbola: U-Southern Mississippi

Roy Barkan, Audrey Delpech, Jim McWilliams: UCLA (Roy also at Tel Aviv U)

Brian Arbic, Ritabrata Thakur: U-Michigan

Jay Shriver: NRL Stennis Space Center

Lionel Renault: LEGOS

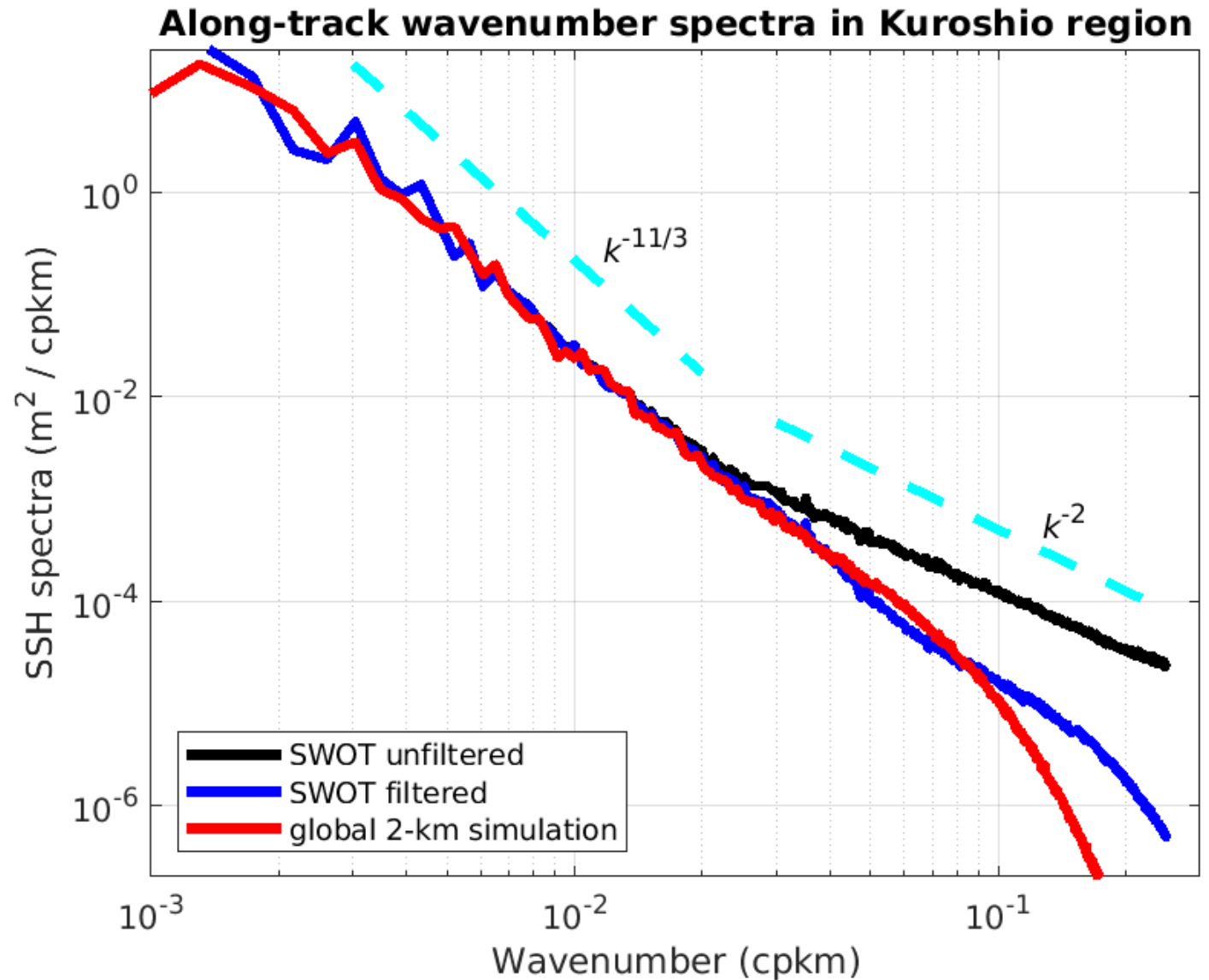


# Comparisons with SWOT observations

# SWOT/global model comparison: Kuroshio region

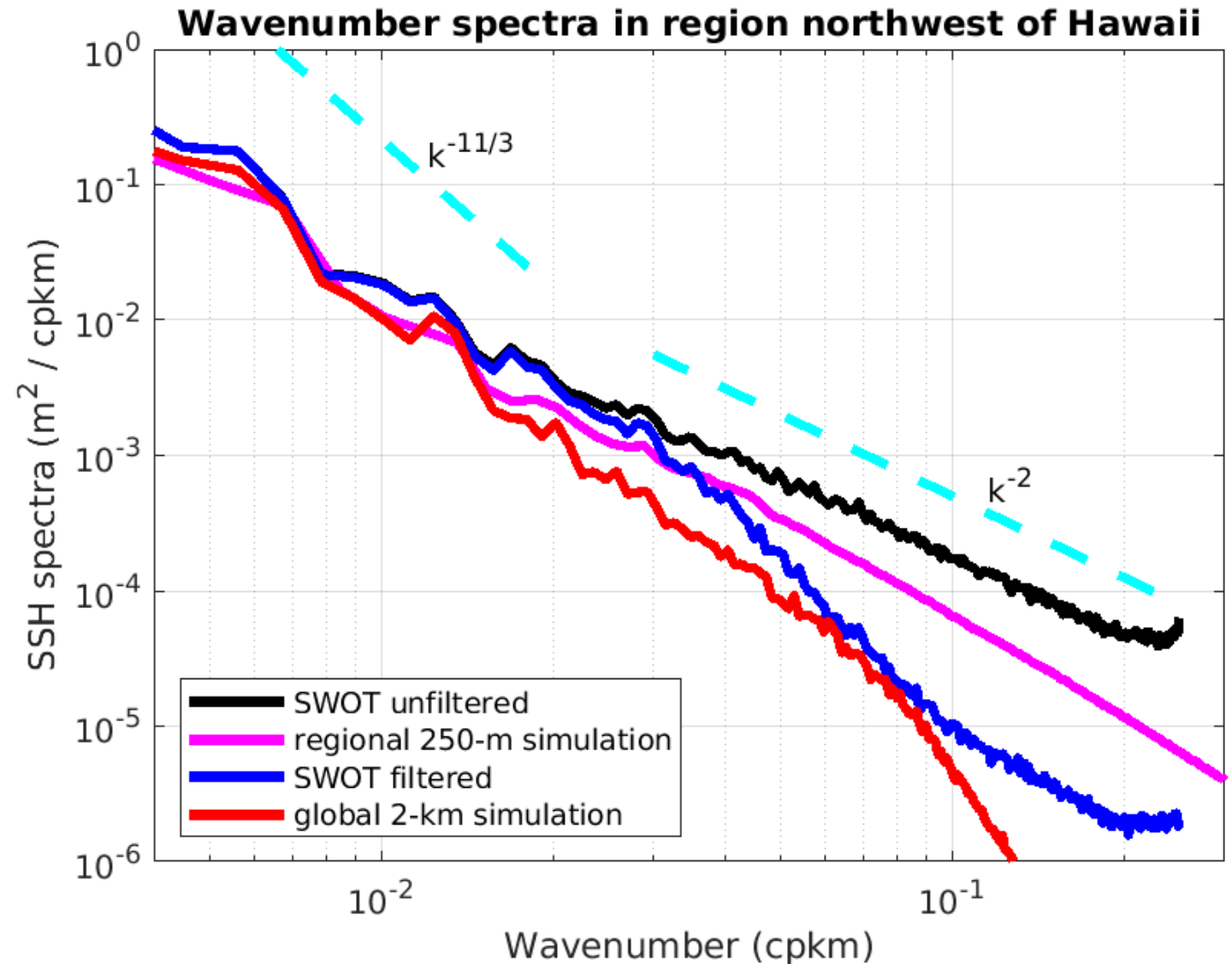
SSH wavenumber spectra from 1-day  
phase in Kuroshio region

- SWOT Level 3 (L3) 1-day repeat phase
  - Calibrated (Unfiltered)
  - Filtered
- 2km global LLC4320 simulation



# SWOT + global model + regional model comparison: Hawai'i region

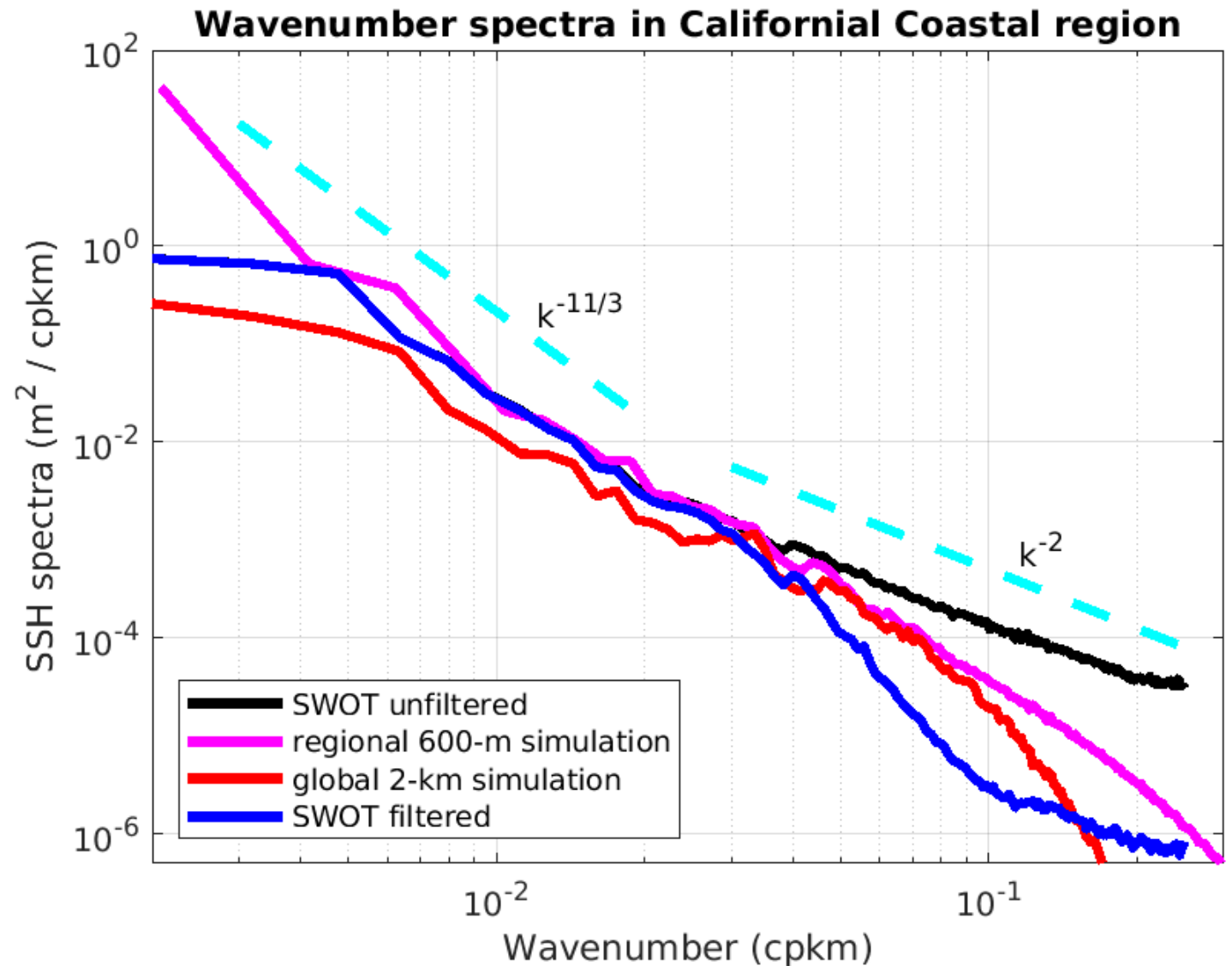
- SSH wavenumber spectra in Hawai'i region from
  - --SWOT Level 3 (L3) science phase
  - --Calibrated (Unfiltered)
  - --Filtered
  - --250 m regional MITgcm simulation
  - --2km global LLC4320 simulation



# SWOT + global model + regional model comparison: California Current region

• SSH wavenumber spectra in California Current region from

- --SWOT Level 3 (L3) science phase
- --Calibrated (Unfiltered)
- --Filtered
- --600 m regional ROMS simulation
- --2km global LLC4320 simulation



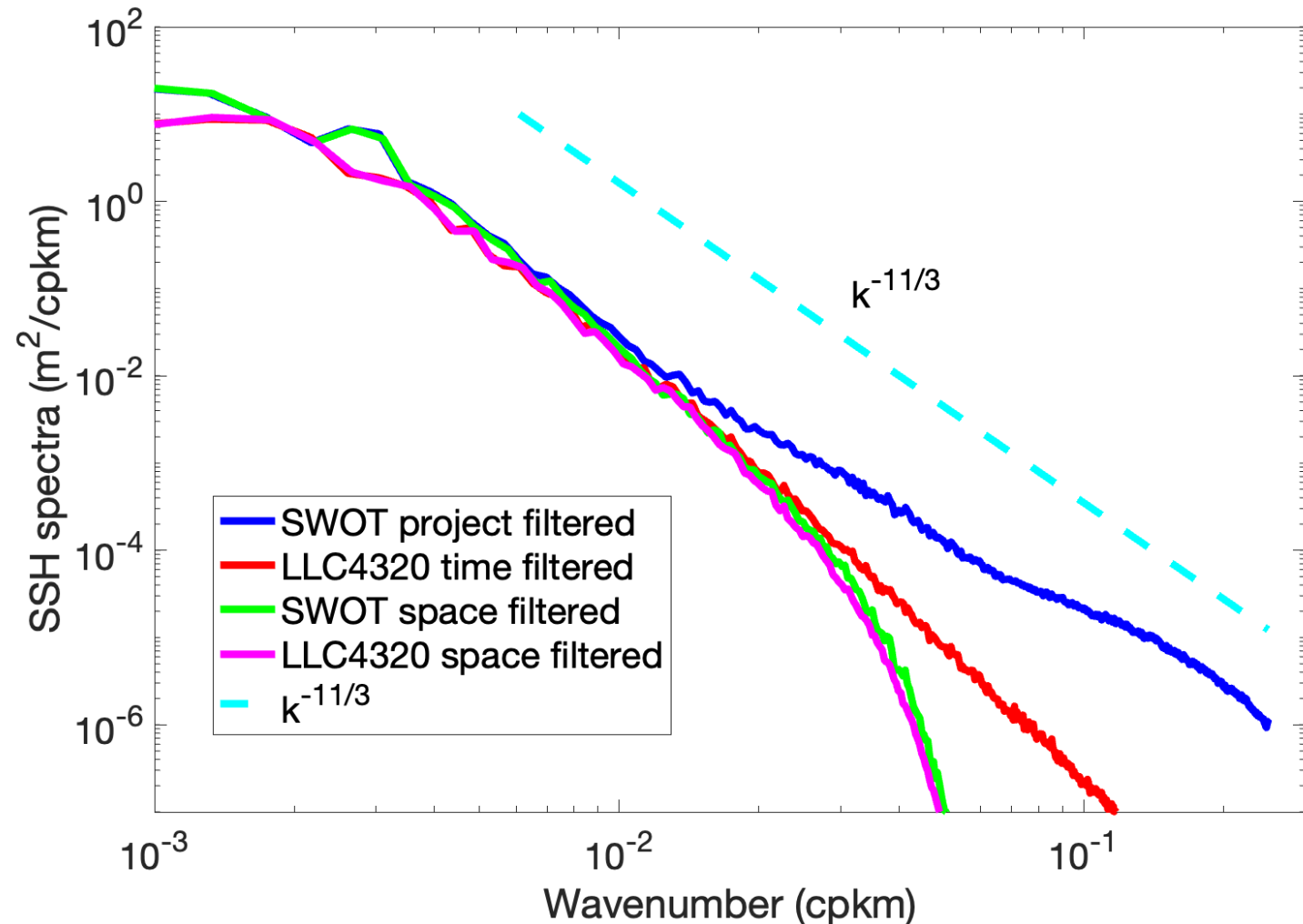


# Can space or time filtering provide us with geostrophic SSH?

Pass 19 of 1-day phase,  
Kuroshio region

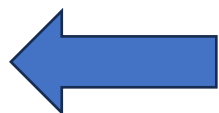
Space filter: Blackman filter  
going to zero 11 grid points away  
from center

Time filter: 3-day low-pass  
fourth-order Butterworth filter



# Visualization: Effects of differentiation

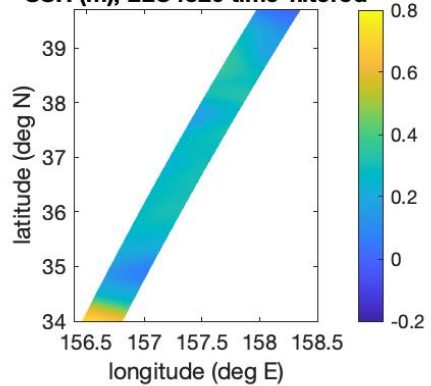
LLC4320 snapshots



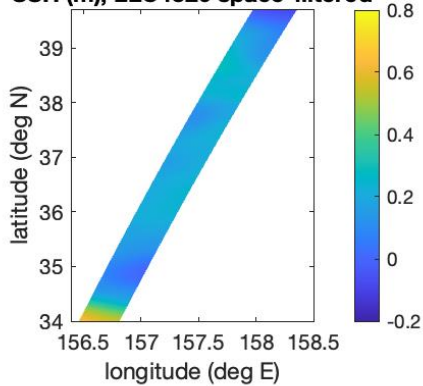
SWOT snapshots



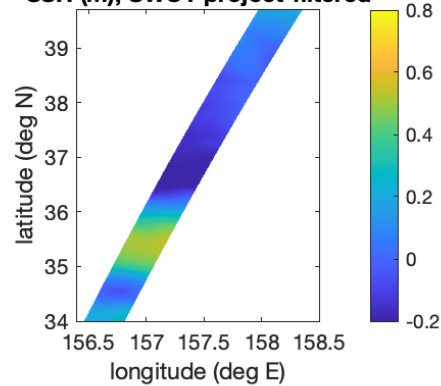
SSH (m), LLC4320 time-filtered



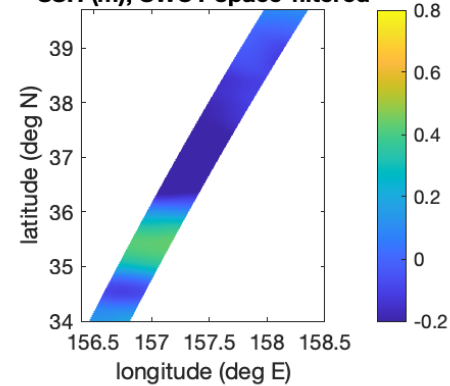
SSH (m), LLC4320 space-filtered



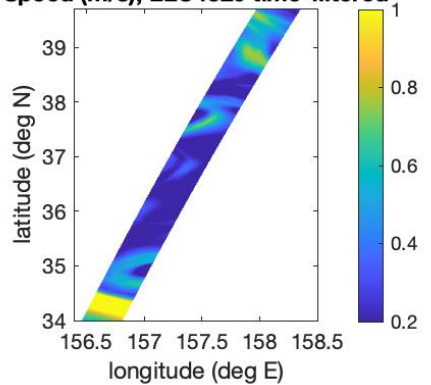
SSH (m), SWOT project-filtered



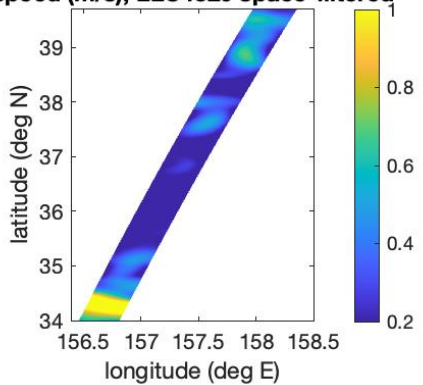
SSH (m), SWOT space-filtered



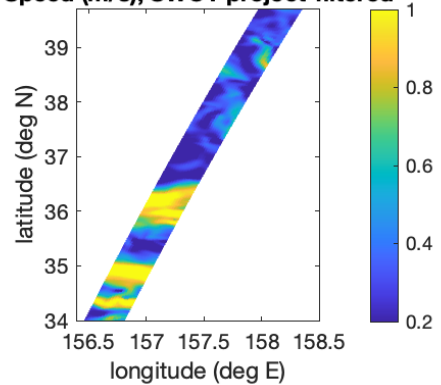
Speed (m/s), LLC4320 time-filtered



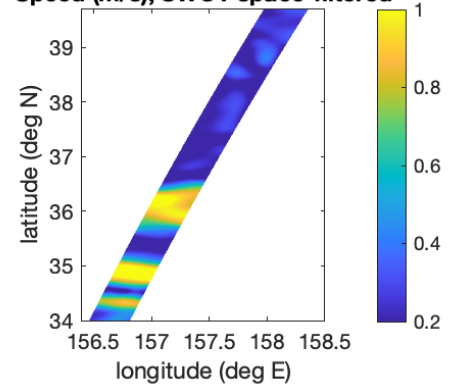
Speed (m/s), LLC4320 space-filtered



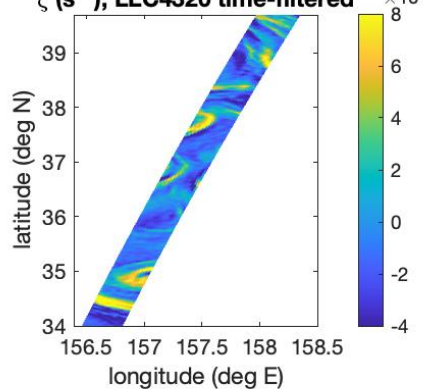
Speed (m/s), SWOT project-filtered



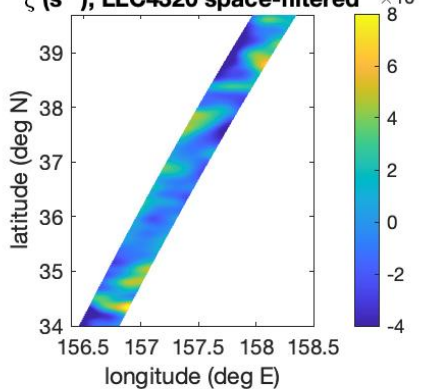
Speed (m/s), SWOT space-filtered



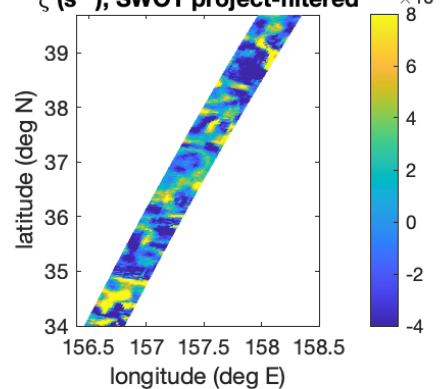
$\zeta$  ( $s^{-1}$ ), LLC4320 time-filtered  $\times 10^{-5}$



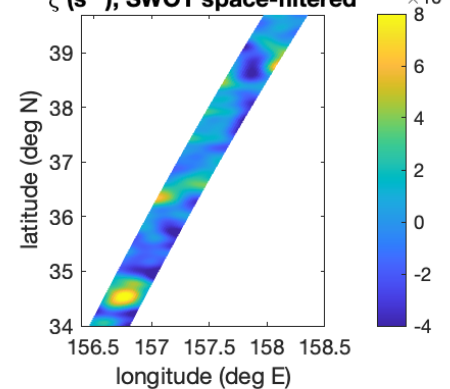
$\zeta$  ( $s^{-1}$ ), LLC4320 space-filtered  $\times 10^{-5}$



$\zeta$  ( $s^{-1}$ ), SWOT project-filtered  $\times 10^{-5}$



$\zeta$  ( $s^{-1}$ ), SWOT space-filtered  $\times 10^{-5}$



# Impact of climate change on tides (Barton et al. in preparation)

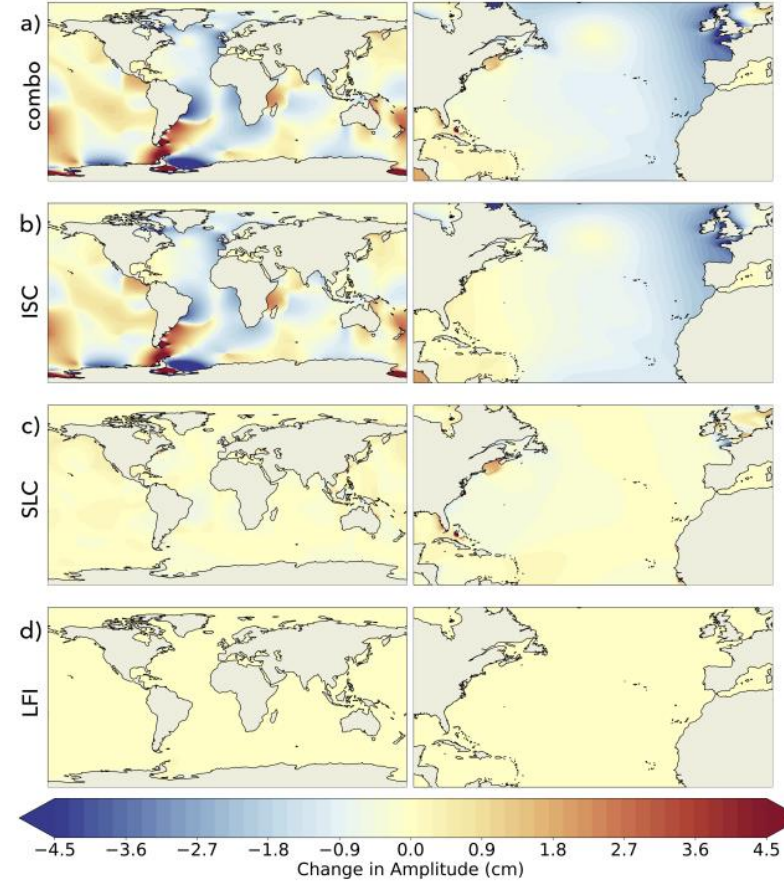


Figure 1: Change in  $M_2$  amplitude (cm) at 2100 using AE03 ice sheet data due to a) combination of SLC, ISC changes, and LFI reduction; b) ISC changes only; c) SLC only; d) LFI reduction only. SLC impacts the coastal areas, but the ice-shelf cavity changes have much larger amplitude changes in the open-ocean. The left four plots show the global changes, while the right four plots focus on the North Atlantic region, demonstrating the spatially smaller-scale influence on coastal tides from sea level.

# Disadvantages of including tides in OGCMs

- Need for high-frequency output
  - BUT note that there are other reasons to analyze high frequencies (e.g., diurnal cycle, high frequencies in precipitation)
- Analysis of low-frequency motions is “contaminated” by high-frequency motions
- Need some additional expertise to analyze high-frequency motions

## Summary

Global internal wave models continue to progress and will be useful for many reasons

Lots of work left to do

Extra slides

Task Force  
Ocean (TFO)  
and NOPP  
projects

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We have two relatively new ONR projects:

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Task Force Ocean (TFO) project on impact of internal waves on basin-scale propagation of acoustic waves

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NOPP project to test global internal wave models with arrays of in-situ instruments (and altimetry)

# HYCOM/ROMS regional modeling effort in California Current region (Siyanbola et al. 2023)

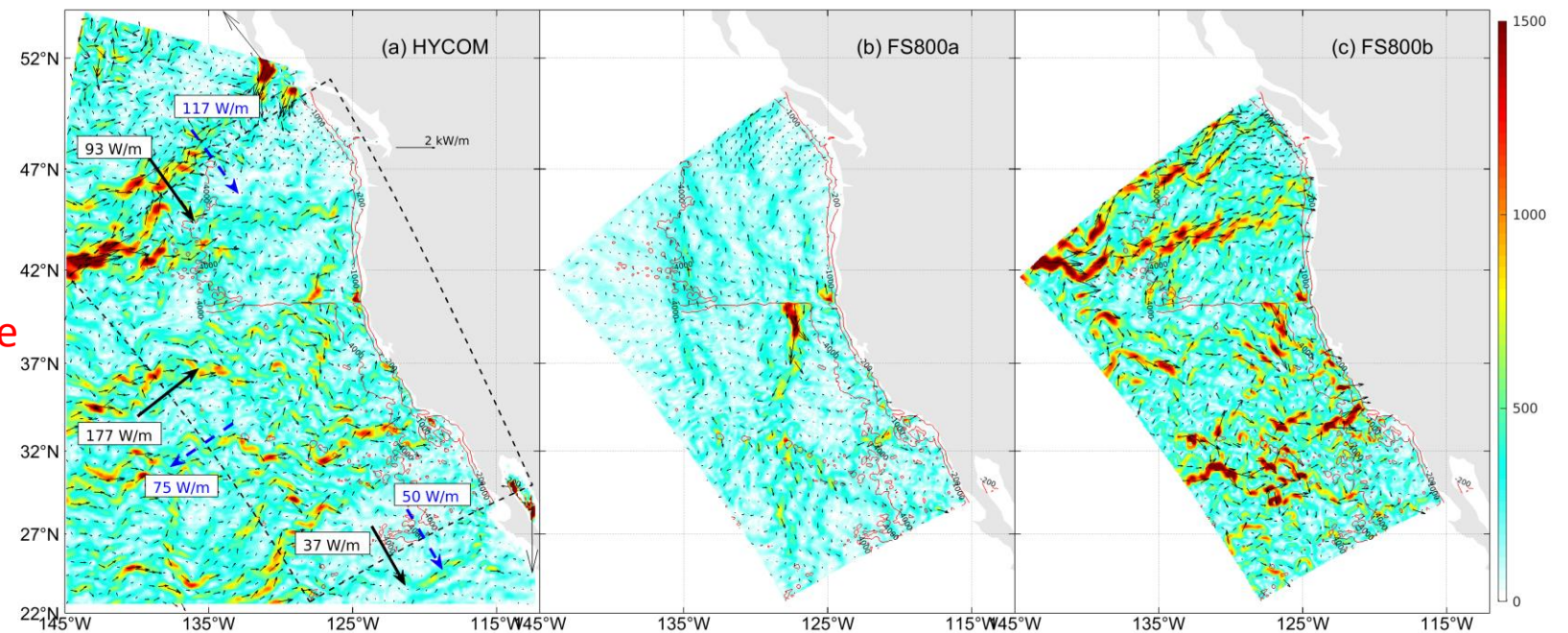
Left: depth-integrated semidiurnal fluxes for HYCOM

Middle: FS800a - ROMS run without remote internal wave forcing from HYCOM

Right: FS800b - ROMS run with remote internal wave forcing from HYCOM.

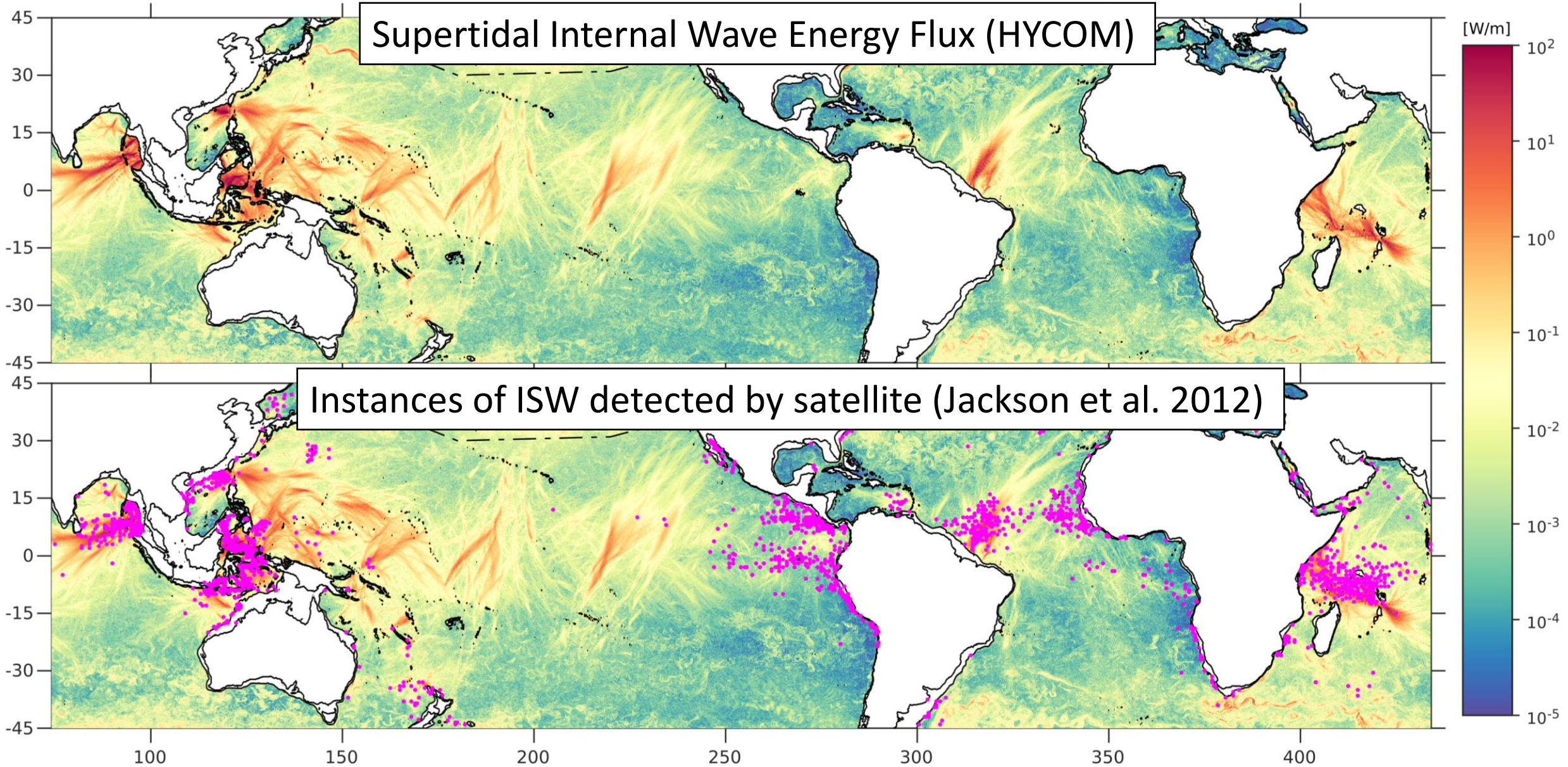
Our domain gets more energetic with the inclusion of high-frequency baroclinic forcings at the open boundaries.

See also Delpech et al. 2023, 2024



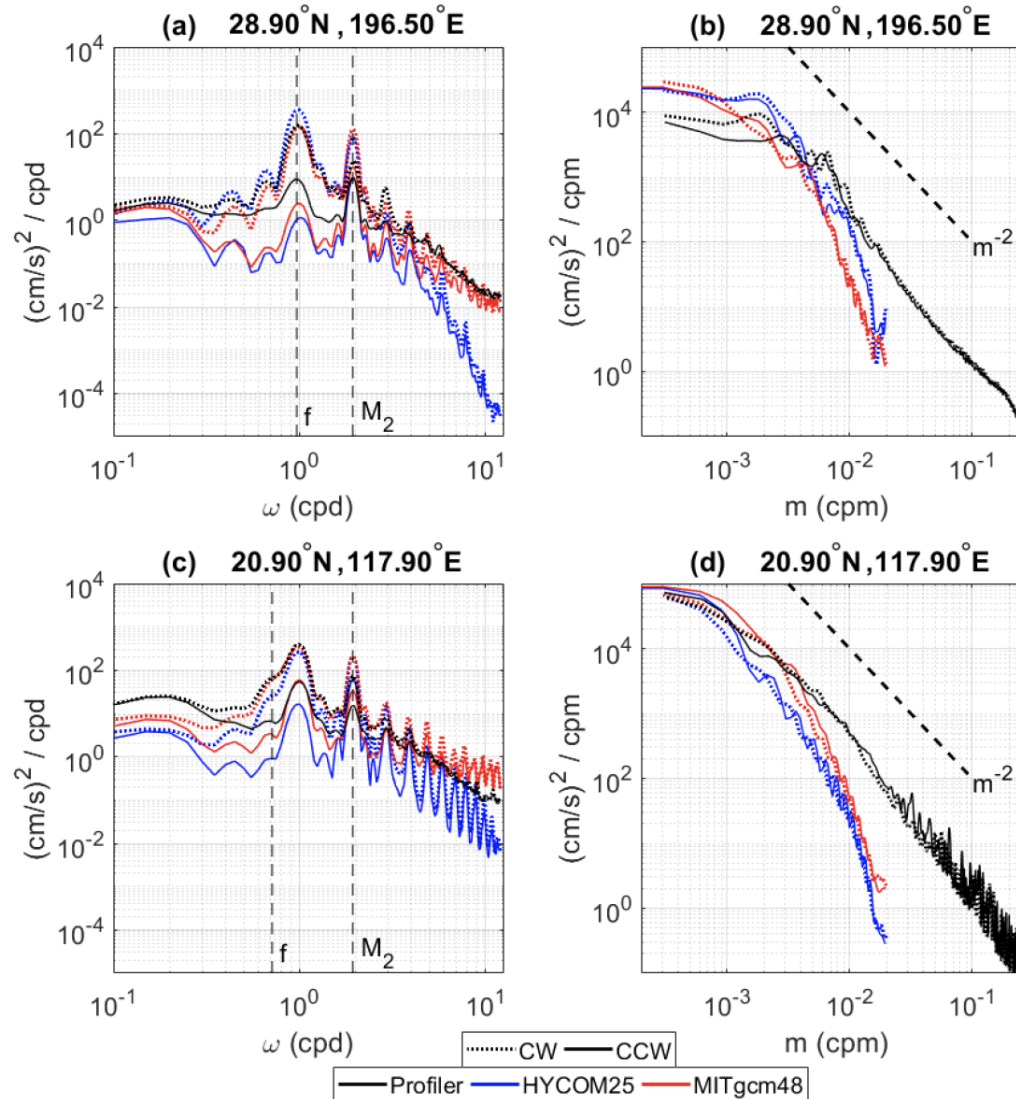


# Internal Solitary Waves (ISW)

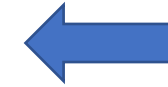


# Models vs. McLane profilers (Ansong et al., in preparation)

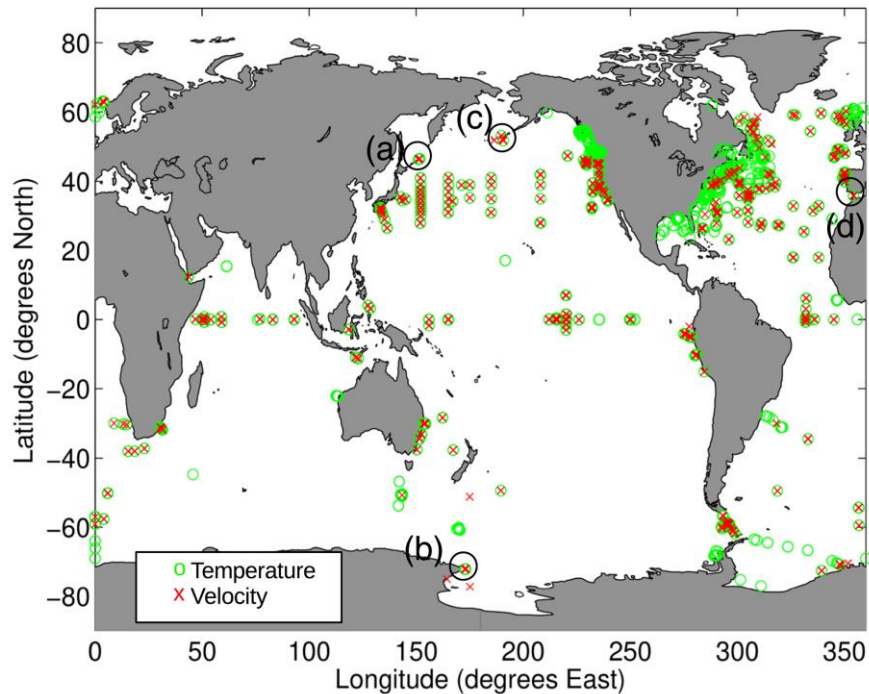
Global MITgcm outperforms global HYCOM in the frequency domain



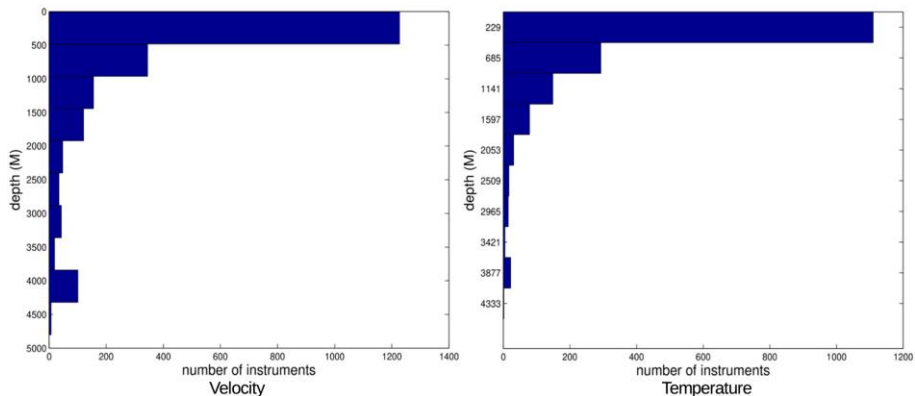
The global models are more similar to each other in the vertical wavenumber domain and are both deficient



# Models vs. historical mooring archive (Luecke et al., 2020)



← Geographical distribution



← Vertical distribution

Compute frequency spectra of temperature variance and kinetic energy in:

--moorings

--1/12.5° + 1/25° HYCOM

--1/12° + 1/24° + 1/48° MITgcm

Integrate across bands of interest:

--mesoscale

--subtidal

--diurnal

--near-inertial (KE only)

--semidiurnal

--supertidal

Make scatterplots, compute correlation coefficients and other statistics

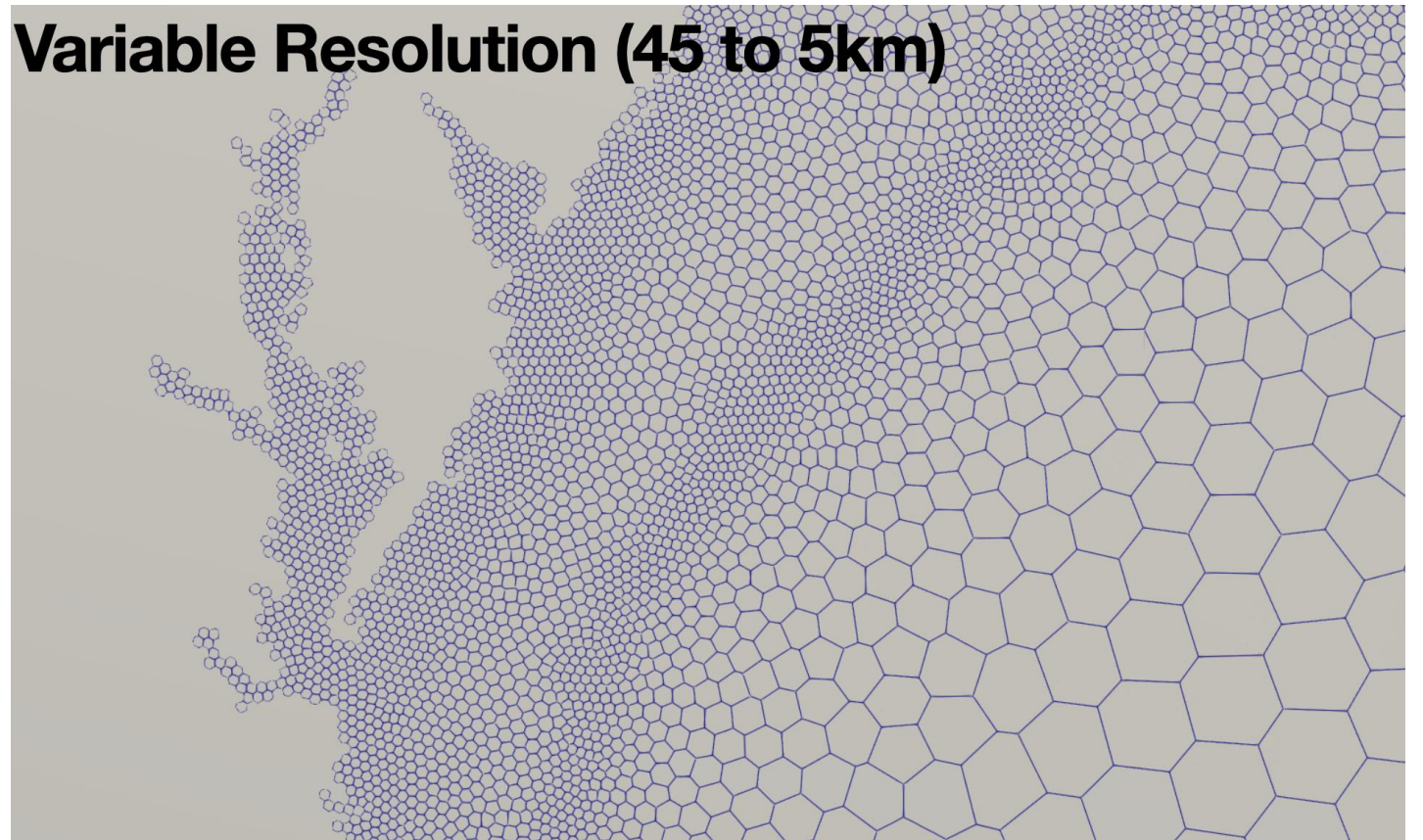
MITgcm closer to observed energies in supertidal band

HYCOM shows better spatial correlations, in all bands

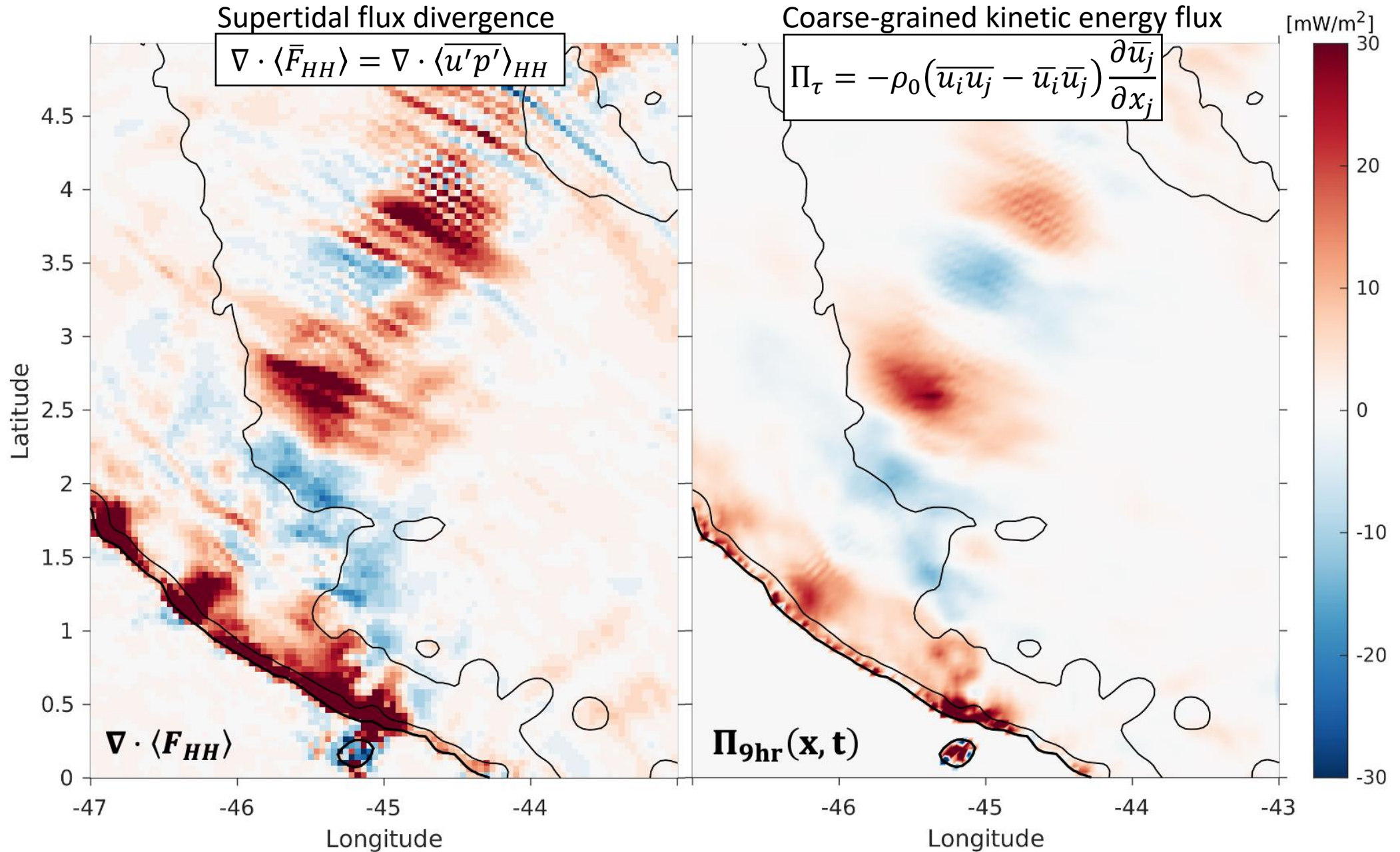
A repository of the QC'ed observational datasets from the archive is available, as part of the paper publication, for anyone to use.

Unstructured  
grid used in DOE  
MPAS-O model  
(Barton et al.  
2022)

**Variable Resolution (45 to 5km)**



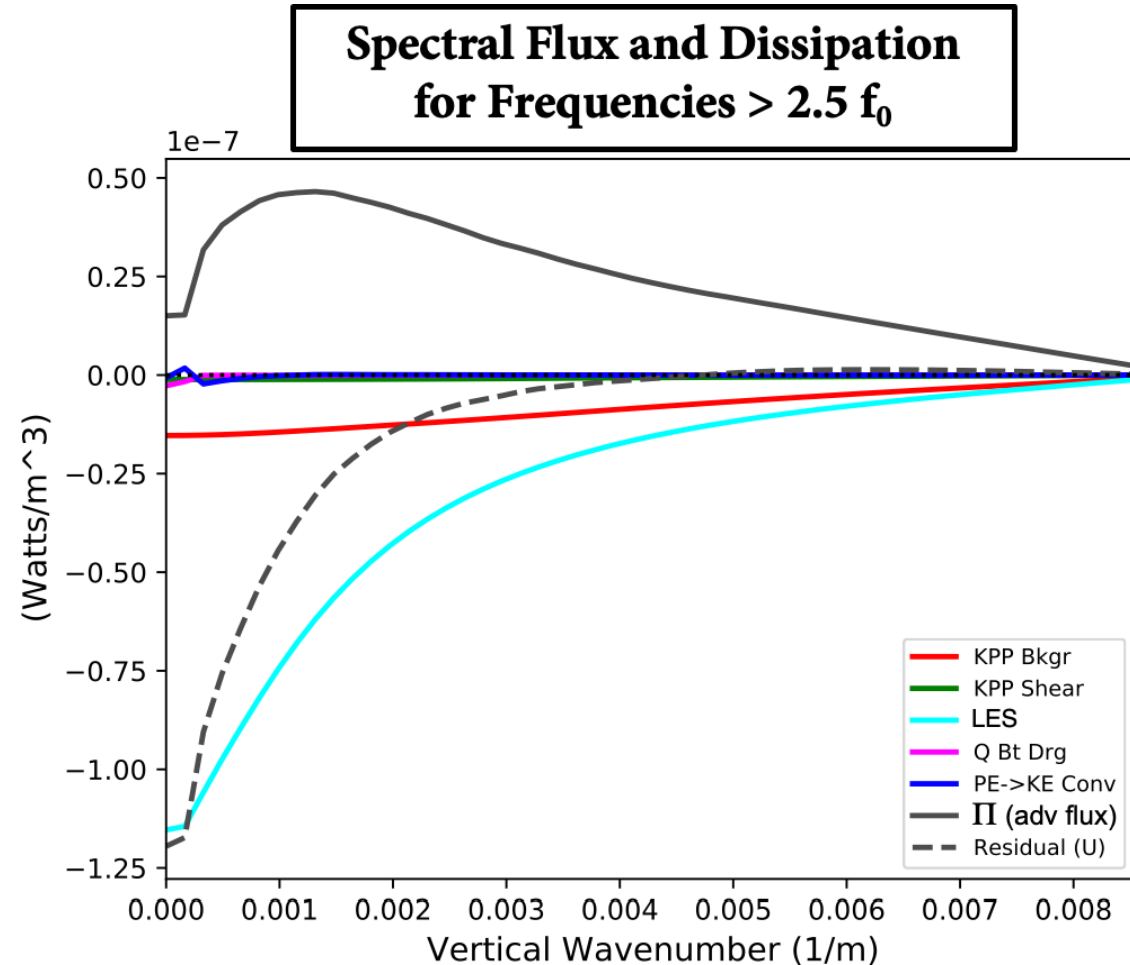
# Energy Cascade to Higher-Harmonics



# Spectral energy flux budget in vertical wavenumber domain (Skitka et al., in review)

The forward cascade is balanced primarily by Leith horizontal eddy viscosity in regional runs with same resolution as global model.

Will this picture change as resolution increases?



# Model comparison vs. drifters

- Arbic et al. (2022): Comparison of kinetic energy in global HYCOM and MITgcm LLC4320 to surface drifters
- HYCOM lies closer to the drifters in the near-inertial band than LLC4320 does, due to more frequent atmospheric forcing.
- HYCOM lies closer to the drifters in the semi-diurnal tidal band than LLC4320 does, probably due to the presence of a parameterized topographic wave drag.
- Both models display skill in simulating vertical structure of kinetic energy

# Can we phase-predict the non-phase-locked internal tides using HYCOM?

- Egbert and Erofeeva, 2021: can use HYCOM output in a PCA (principal component analysis) approach that seems promising
- What about brute force methods? (i.e., straight-up comparison of model vs. altimeter time series)
- Yadidya Badarvada will perform variance reduction tests on nadir altimeter SSH using phase-locked and band-passed internal tides from HYCOM.
  - Will HYCOM remove more SSH variance using the band-passed results, which include non-phase-locked internal tides?
  - Reasons for optimism: data-assimilative system yields accurate phase-locked internal tides, accurately placed eddies
  - Reasons for pessimism: HYCOM data-assimilation system designed for eddies, produces spurious internal waves (we are trying to fix this)



# HYCOM as a correction model

HYCOM could offer a hydrodynamical correction model for phase-locked internal tides, to complement empirical models derived from analysis of nadir and SWOT altimetry.

Can HYCOM do even more? E.g., phase-predict the non-phase-locked internal tides?

First, characterize whether HYCOM has the right geographical patterns of non-phase-locked internal tides...

# Intercomparison of 4 hydrodynamical global internal tide models with altimetry (Ansong et al., in preparation)

- Stationary  $M_2$  internal tides in altimetry vs.
  - 1/12° HYCOM with different wave drag strengths
  - 1/12° and 1/36° Mercator/NEMO (no wave drag)
  - 1/12° MOM6 (no wave drag)
  - 1/12° MITgcm (no wave drag)
  - 1/48° MITgcm (no wave drag)
- Main results (not shown for sake of brevity):
  - Internal tides too strong in all models, unless wave drag is brought in
  - Internal tides in 1/48° MITgcm slightly weaker than in 1/12° MITgcm → speculate this is due to loss of energy in cascade to IGW continuum
  - Differences between 1/12° simulations without wave drag (why? numerics?)
  - MITgcm tidal forcing had errors
    - omission of SAL
    - astronomical forcing 11% too large
  - Barotropic tide model used to estimate corrections for MITgcm kinetic energies

# More on the spurious internal waves

The spurious internal waves produced by assimilation of nadir altimetry in the current HYCOM system are broadband.

They leak into internal tide as well as near-inertial bands (Raja et al., in preparation).

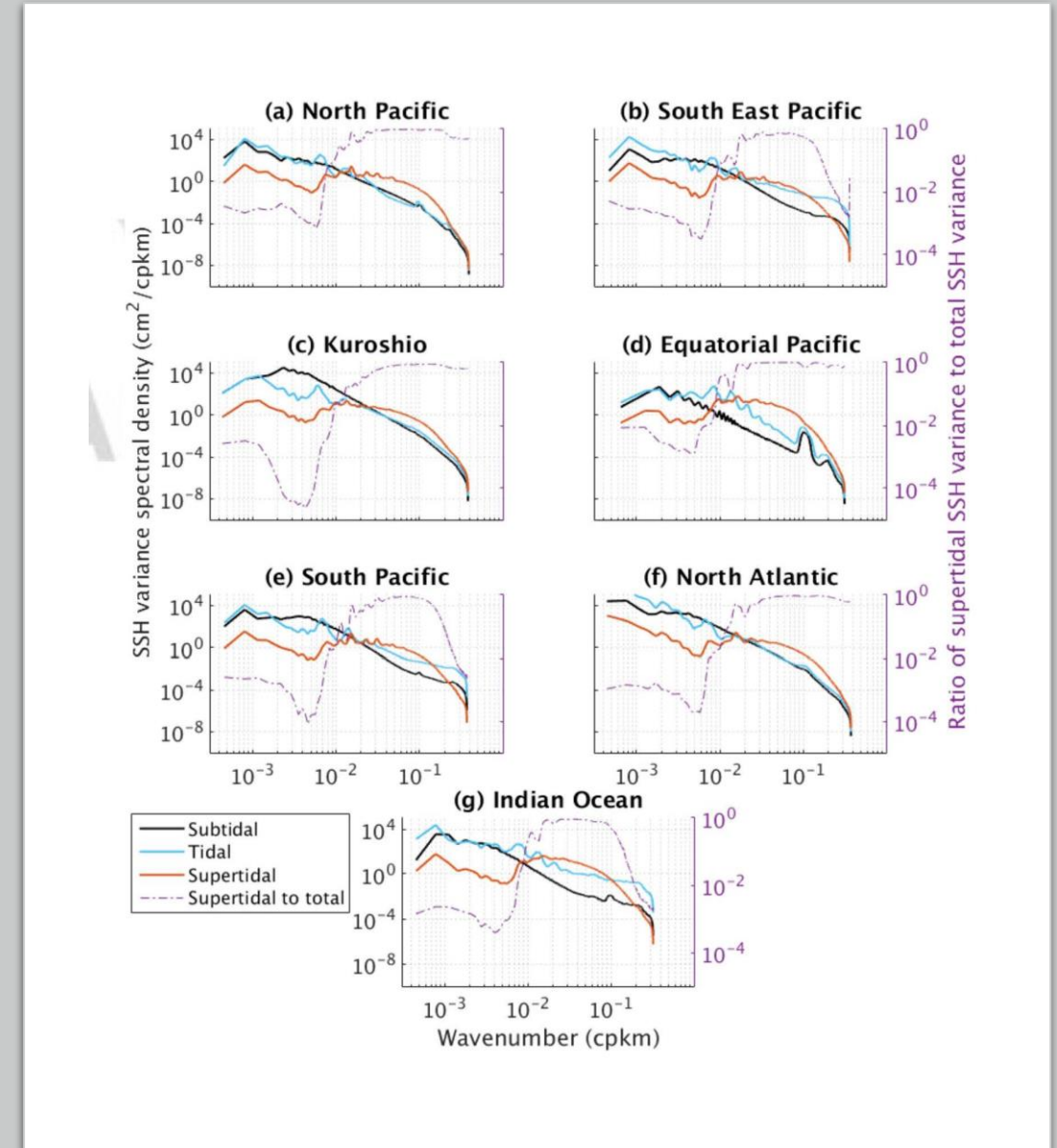
Spurious internal gravity waves are a first-order problem that affects the ability of HYCOM to estimate internal wave corrections for SWOT and to provide accurate boundary conditions of high-frequency internal wave motions for regional models. Raja et al. has come up with a possible solution to the problem.

# Band-integrated SSH wavenumber spectra over different regions in 1/48° MITgcm (Savage et al. 2017b)

- At the high wavenumbers of interest for SWOT, the tidal and supertidal frequencies can dominate in some regions.

- See also Richman et al. (2012) and many others, including:

- Callies and Ferrari (2013), Bühler et al. (2014), Rocha et al. (2016a,b), Qiu et al. (2018, 2020), Torres et al. (2018,2019), Wang et al. (2019), Klein et al. (2019), Cao et al. (2020), others



Turning to a few other topics:

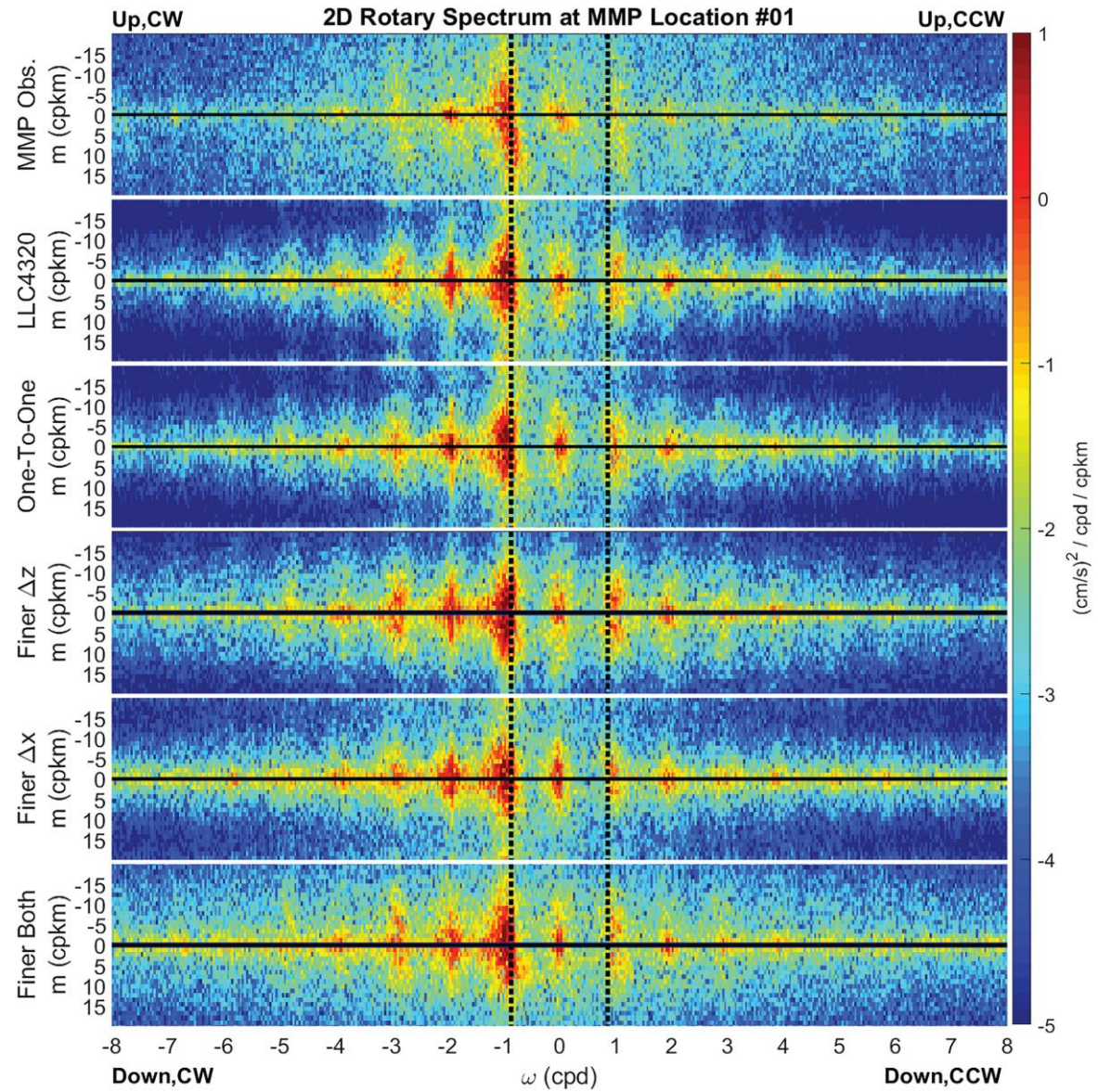
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New ONR projects

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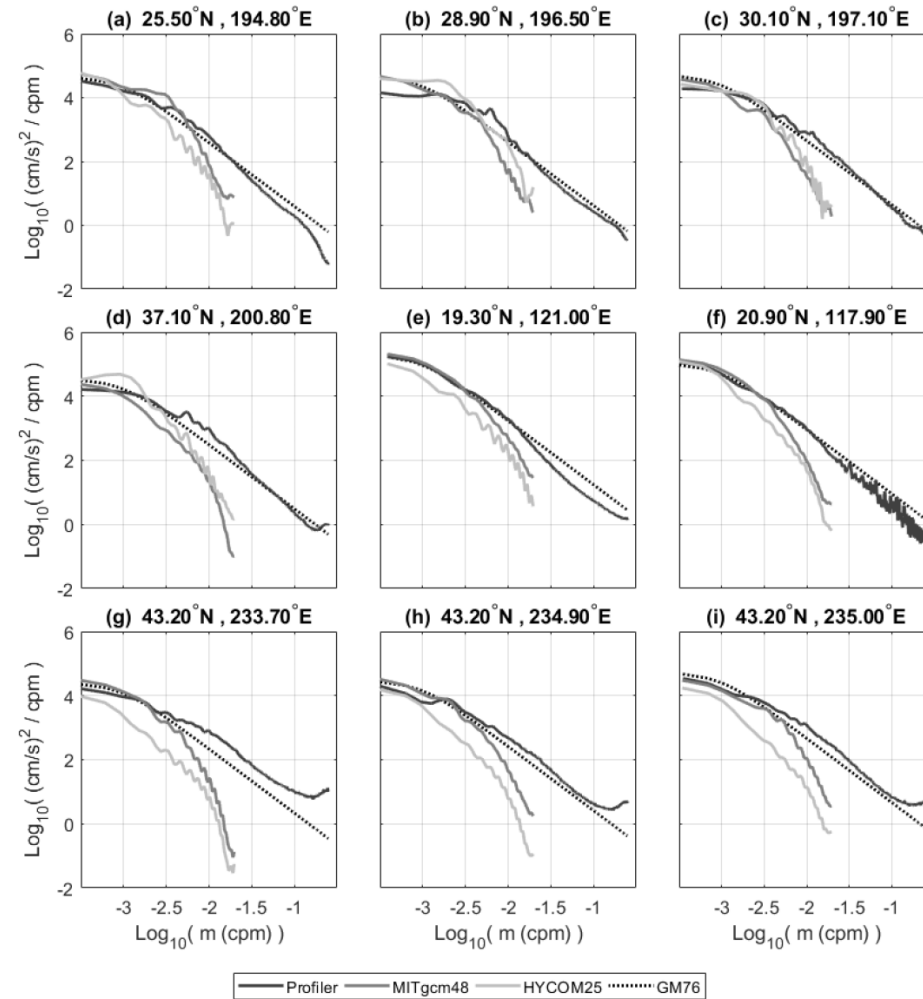
Insertion of tides into OGCMs run by other groups

Rotary spectra  
(Nelson et al., 2020)



# Vertical wavenumber spectra across all 9 McLane profilers (Ansong et al., in preparation)

- Both models deficient at high vertical wavenumbers



# Can we reduce the spurious internal waves?

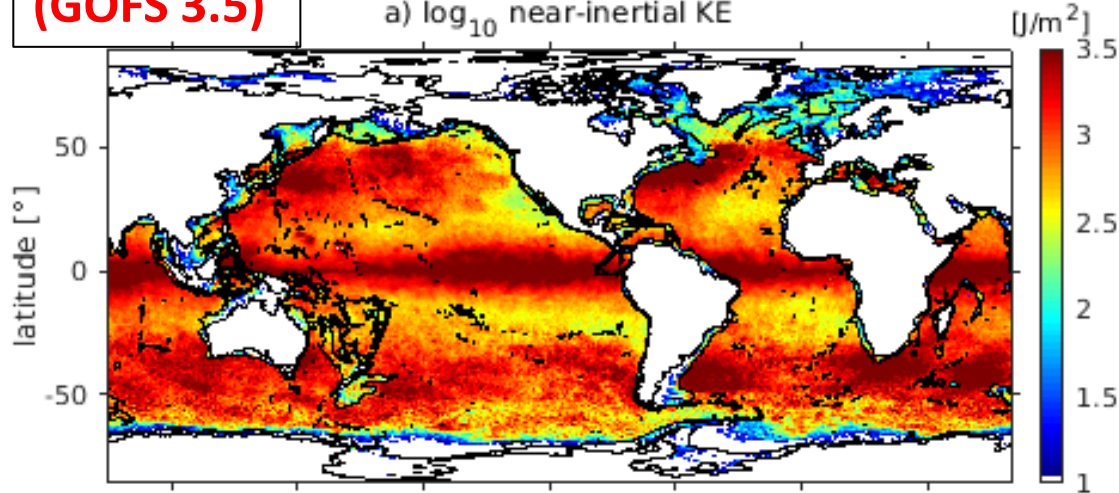
- Will ingestion of SWOT data itself help?
  - SWOT is two-dimensional, provides more information than one-dimensional nadir altimeter tracks
  - NRL group, like others in the community, has shown that assimilating SWOT data will improve forecasts of ocean eddies
- Would a 4DVar system produce less spurious noise than a sequential system?
  - A NOPP proposal led by Eric Chassignet and Hans Ngodock will address this problem



# Near-Inertial Wave Kinetic Energy (NIW KE)

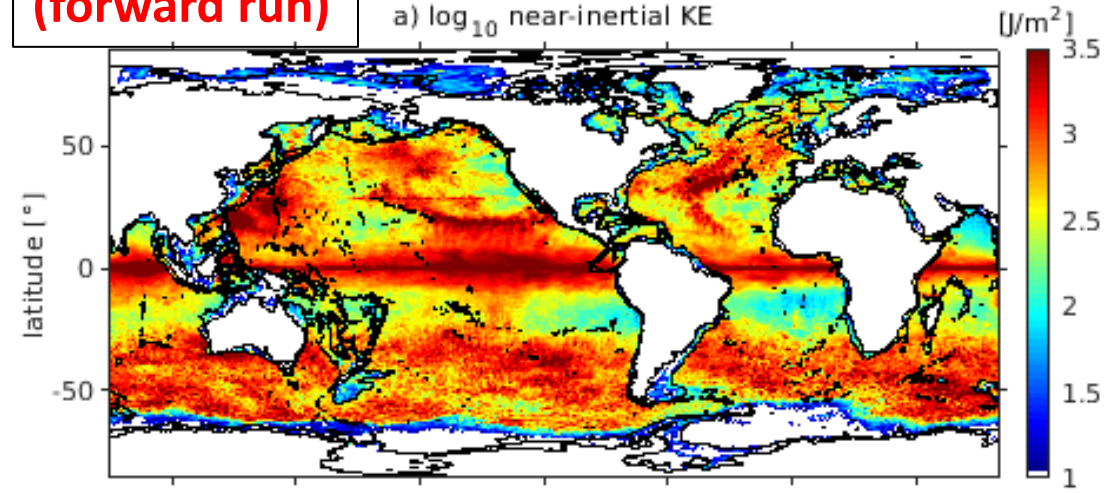
**Expt 21.6**  
**(GOFS 3.5)**

**With DA**  
May-June 2019  
1-way atmospheric coupling  
a)  $\log_{10}$  near-inertial KE



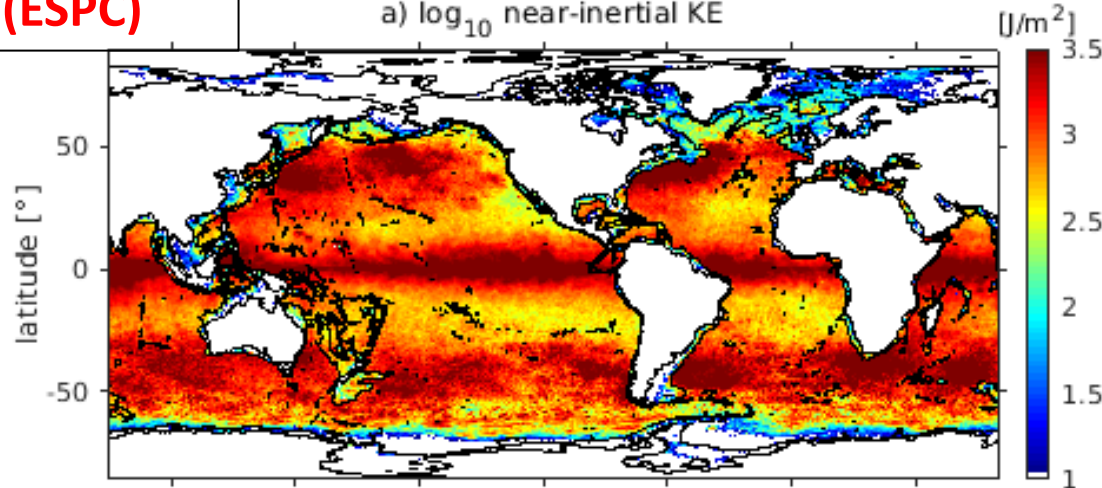
**Expt 22.1**  
**(forward run)**

**Without DA**  
September 2016  
a)  $\log_{10}$  near-inertial KE



**Expt 10.0**  
**(ESPC)**

**2-way atmospheric coupling**  
a)  $\log_{10}$  near-inertial KE



Forward simulation has much less NIW energy

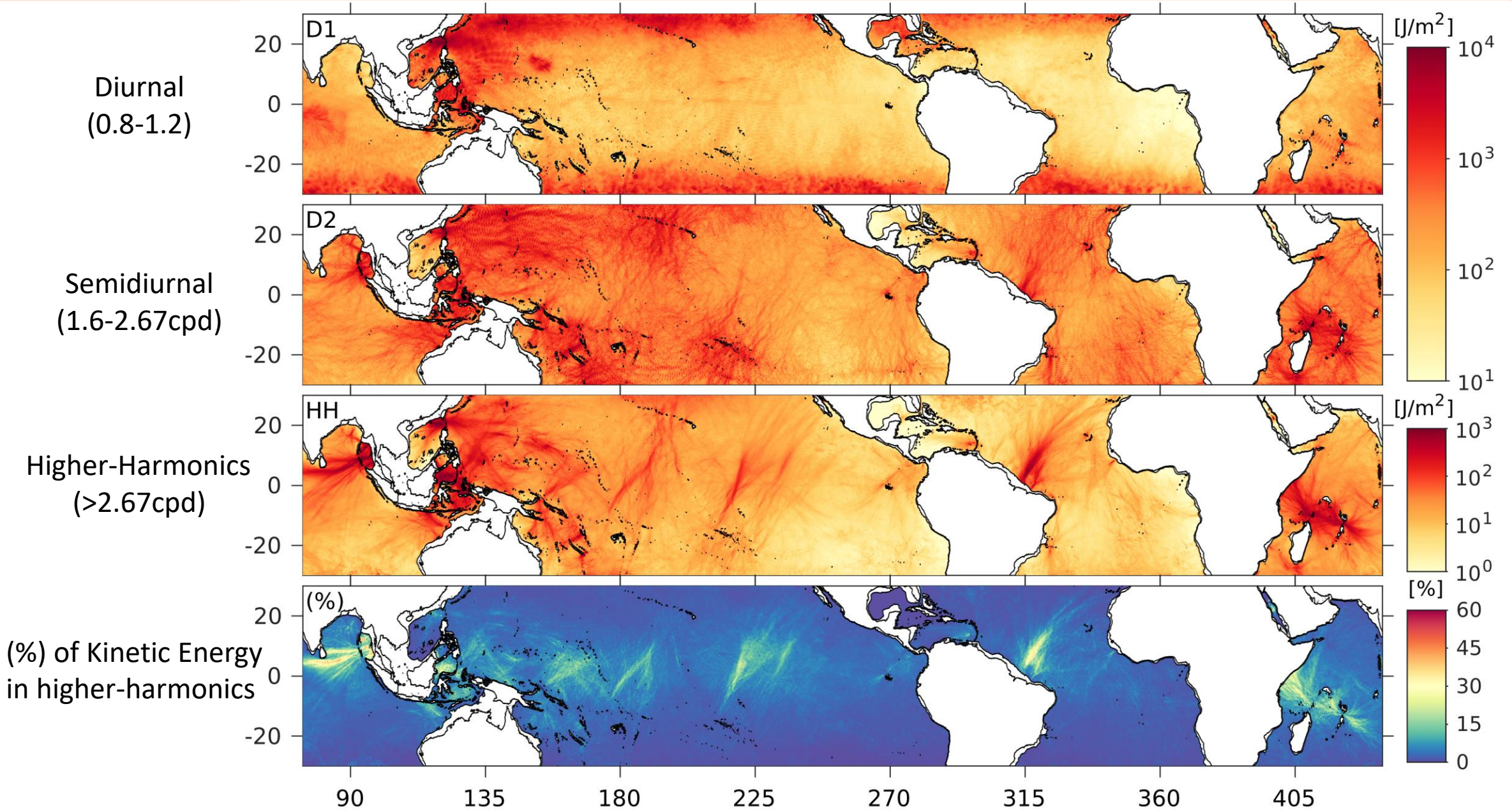
**Global NIW KE**  $abs(latitude)>10$

Expt 21.6	(DA, 1-way)	289.31 PJ
Expt 10.0	(DA, 2-way)	306.12 PJ
Expt 22.1	(Without DA)	190.15 PJ

**Global M2 KE = 84.2 PJ**

**Keshav Raja et al., in preparation**

# Primary and Higher-Harmonic KE

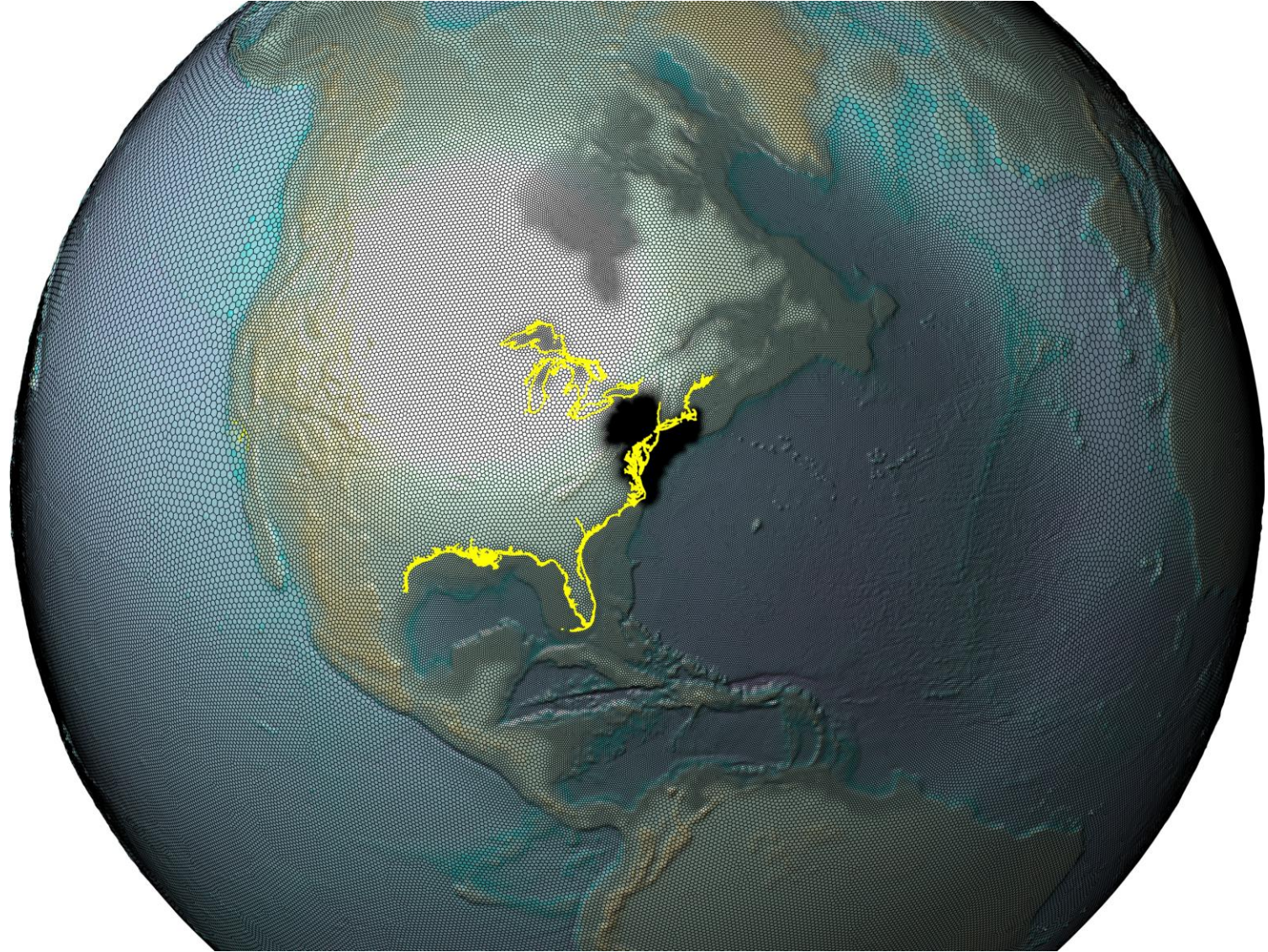


Last slides before  
summary

Sample DOE MPAS-  
O grid

For ICOM project

Courtesy Darren  
Engwirda

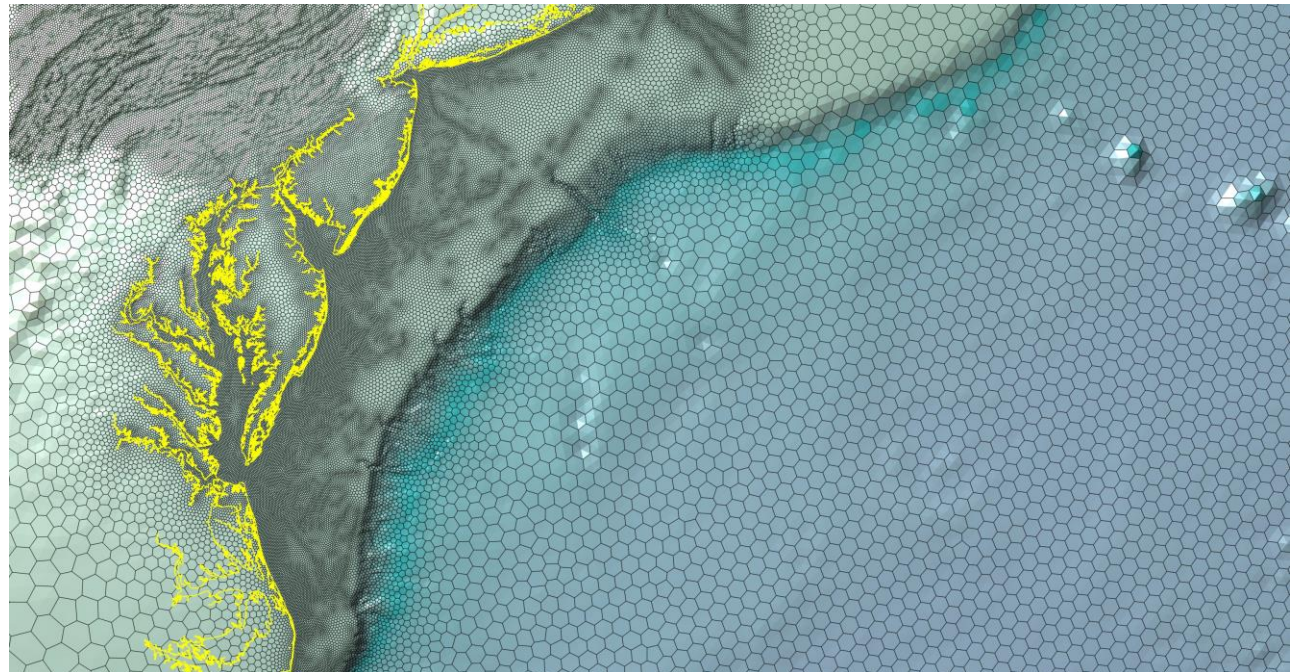
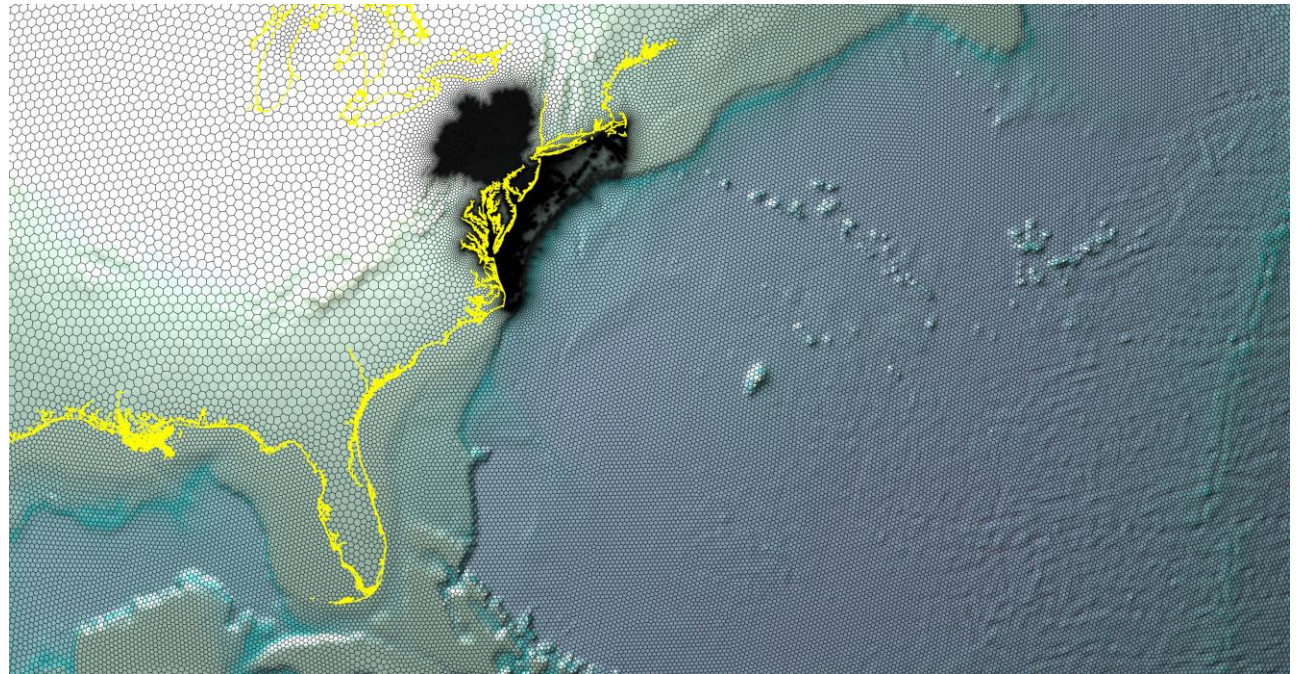


Last slides before  
summary

Sample DOE MPAS-  
O grid

For ICOM project

Courtesy Darren  
Engwirda



# Bathymetry—an old favorite

- One factor in the accuracy of the internal tides is the accuracy of the barotropic tides.
- Barotropic tide accuracy is affected by bathymetry.
- Sandwell (SIO), Smith, and collaborators continue to churn out improvements in global bathymetric datasets.
- Can we use these in OGCMs to (hopefully) get improved tides?

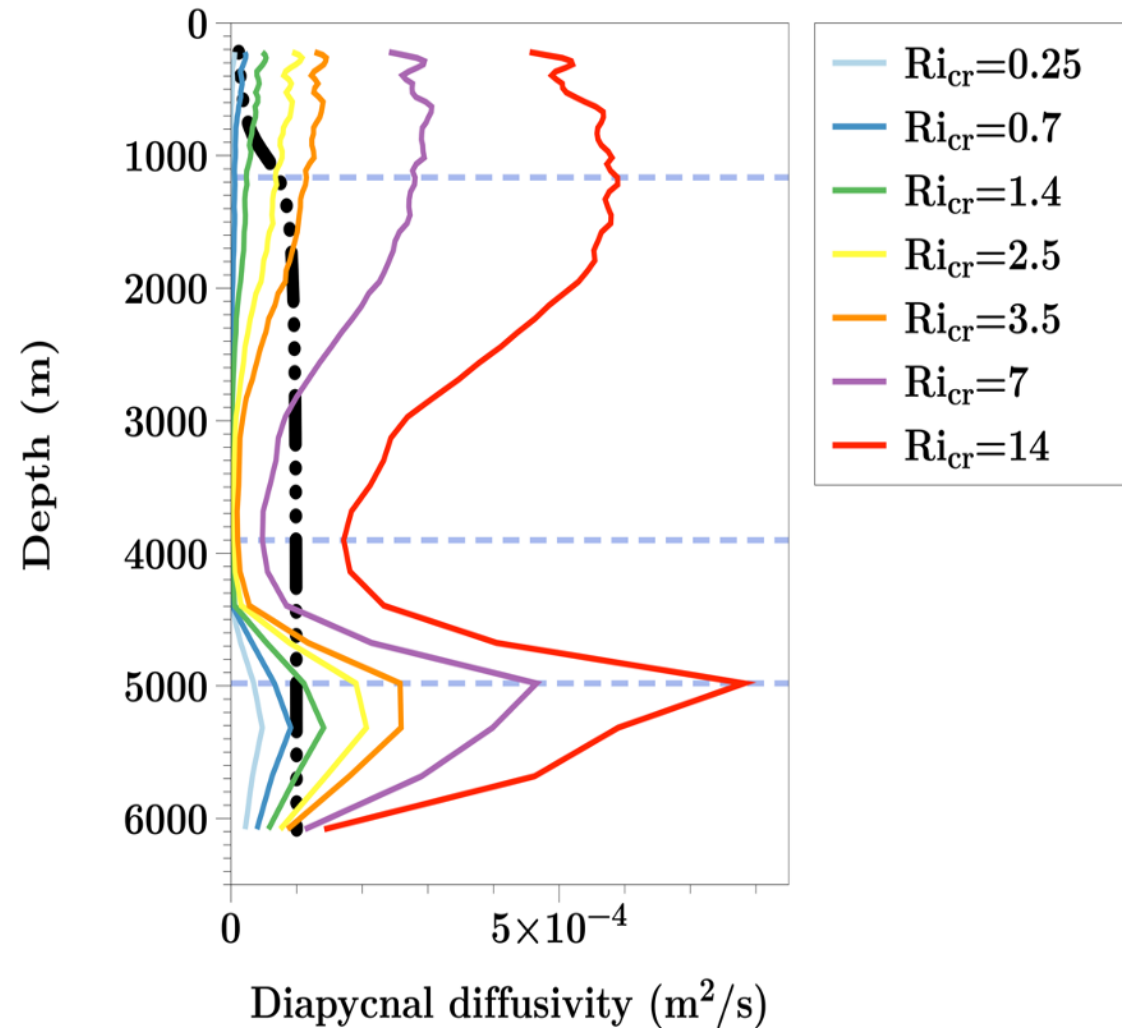
# Providing HYCOM output for SWOT (and S-MODE) team

- We are providing 3-D output in the SWOT Cal/Val region, and global SSH, from operational HYCOM, to the SWOT (and S-MODE) teams.
- Two-week delay to satisfy Navy security requirements.

# Sensitivity of diffusivity to critical Richardson number (Momeni et al., in preparation)

Vertical profiles of diffusivity at a location within the regional domain.

Shear component of KPP triggers more often when critical Richardson number is increased.



# Frequencies of IGWs

---

- Classical linear internal wave theory  $\rightarrow |f| < \omega < N$ 
  - $f$ : Coriolis (inertial) frequency
  - $\omega$ : frequency of IGW
  - $N$ : buoyancy frequency
- IGWs near  $f$  are called near-inertial waves
  - Driven primarily by rapidly changing winds
- IGWs of tidal frequency are called internal (baroclinic) tides
  - Driven by barotropic (depth-averaged) tidal flow over topography
- At supertidal frequencies there is an IGW continuum (Garrett and Munk 1972, 1975)
  - Thought to arise from nonlinear interactions between near-inertial waves and tides.



# Preliminary results: near-inertial and tidal currents in HYCOM vs. drifters

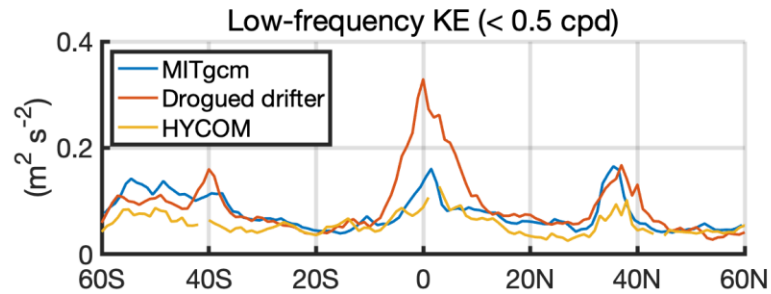
Jonathan Brasch, Shane Elipot, Aurélien Ponte, Xiaolong Yu, and others in conjunction with HYCOM team

- Yu et al. (2019) compared surface velocities in MITgcm to drifters
- Here we add HYCOM into the comparison

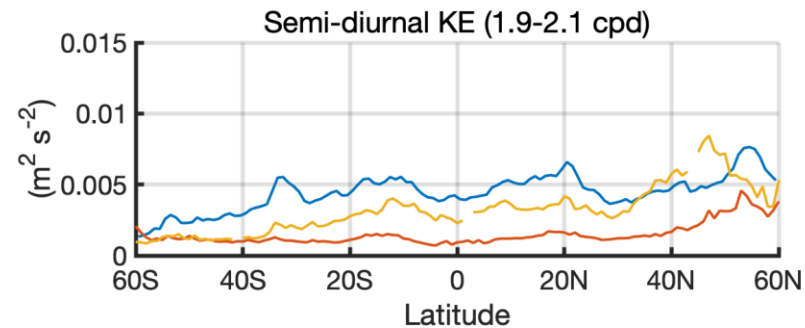
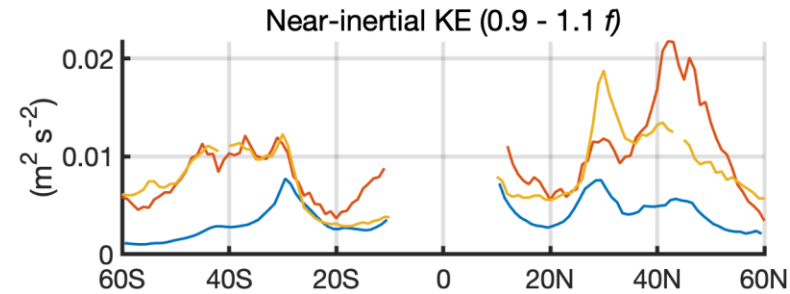
# Zonal average surface kinetic energy, 1/25° HYCOM and 1/48° MITgcm vs. drifters

Note that these HYCOM runs are non-assimilative

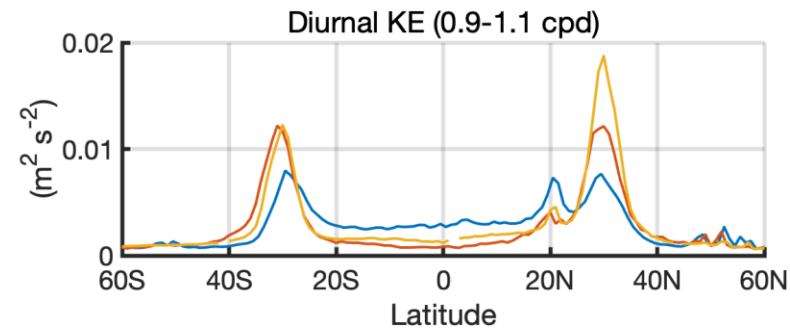
In low-frequency band, MITgcm performs better, but this contradicts some of our other results—more checks needed.



In near-inertial band, HYCOM lies closer to drifters than MITgcm, due to more frequently updated wind fields.



In semi-diurnal band, MITgcm is too high, due to lack of wave drag and mistake in tidal forcing. HYCOM also too high, but closer to drifters over most latitudes.



In diurnal band, HYCOM lies closer to drifters over most latitudes, especially ~40°S to 25°N. Diurnal band overlaps with near-inertial band near ~30°.

# Internal gravity waves (IGWs) in global high-resolution “atmosphere plus tide” models

- Atmospheric forcing
  - “Fast winds” generate near-inertial waves
  - “Slow winds” and buoyancy forcing, together with mixing, control background stratification
- Tidal forcing
  - Barotropic tidal flow over rough topography in a stratified environment generates internal tides
- High resolution
  - High vertical and horizontal resolution allows for nonlinear interactions to generate **supertidal** internal gravity wave (IGW) continuum (Garrett-Munk spectrum)

# Tides in OGCMs run at modeling centers

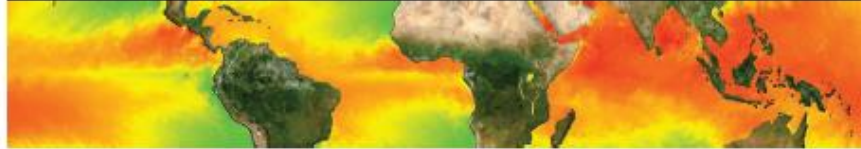
- Navy: Collaboration since 2006 to insert tides into operational HYCOM simulations. Navy is interested in impacts of internal tides on ocean acoustics, ocean mixing, regional ocean modeling.
- NOAA: NOAA, like the Navy, is interested in operational ocean modeling, but with MOM6 instead of HYCOM.
- NASA: Runs MITgcm at highest resolutions ever performed in global model. Global internal tide and wave models are critical to the success of the Surface Water Ocean Topography (SWOT) mission.
- DOE: Work just begun. DOE is interested in tide-ice interactions and tidal changes with climate, using an unstructured grid to focus in on coastal areas.

DOE has very big computers!

Thus far, our group and our collaborators have published 27 journal articles and one book chapter on embedding tides within OGCMs. Many more are in preparation, and one is in-prepress for JGR-O.

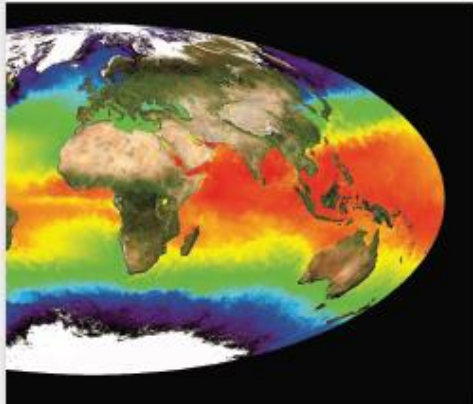
# AVAILABLE NOW

A new book from GODAE OceanView



## New Frontiers in Operational Oceanography

Edited by Eric P. Chassignet, Ananda Pascual, Joaquin Tintoré, and Jacques Verron



The implementation of operational oceanography in the past 15 years has provided many societal benefits and has led to many countries adopting a formal roadmap for providing ocean forecasts. Continuing the tradition of two very successful international summer schools held in France in 2004 (Chassignet and Vernon, 2006) and in Australia in 2010 (Schiller and Brassington, 2011), a third international school that focused on frontier research in operational oceanography was held in Majorca in 2017.

In the coming years, graduate students and young scientists will be challenged by many new observations (SWOT, Sentinel, AUVs, floats, etc.), complex high-resolution numerical models and data assimilation (high resolution, predictability, uncertainty, changing computing platforms, etc.), and the need to work on many scales (open ocean-shelf interactions, coupled ocean-ice-atmosphere, biogeochemistry, etc.). The latter school brought together senior experts and young researchers (pre- and post-doctorate) from across the world and exposed them to the latest research in oceanography, specifically how it will impact operational oceanography. This book is a compilation of the lectures presented at the school and presents a summary of the current state-of-the-art in operational oceanography research.

Available at [www.godae-oceanview.org](http://www.godae-oceanview.org) and [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

## A Primer on Global Internal Tide and Internal Gravity Wave Continuum Modeling in HYCOM and MITgcm

Brian K. Arbic<sup>1,2</sup>, Matthew H. Alford<sup>3</sup>, Joseph K. Ansong<sup>1,4</sup>, Maarten C. Buijsman<sup>5</sup>, Robert B. Ciotti<sup>6</sup>, J. Thomas Farrar<sup>7</sup>, Robert W. Hallberg<sup>8</sup>, Christopher E. Henze<sup>9</sup>, Christopher N. Hill<sup>9</sup>, Conrad A. Luecke<sup>1,2</sup>, Dimitris Menemenlis<sup>10</sup>, E. Joseph Metzger<sup>11</sup>, Malte Müller<sup>12</sup>, Arin D. Nelson<sup>1</sup>, Bron C. Nelson<sup>6</sup>, Hans E. Ngodock<sup>13</sup>, Rui M. Ponte<sup>13</sup>, James G. Richman<sup>14</sup>, Anna C. Savage<sup>1,2</sup>, Robert B. Scott<sup>15</sup>, Jay F. Shriver<sup>16</sup>, Harper L. Simmons<sup>16</sup>, Innocent Souopgui<sup>3</sup>, Patrick G. Timko<sup>1,4</sup>, Alan J. Wallcraft<sup>14</sup>, Luis Zamudio<sup>14</sup>, and Zhongxiang Zhao<sup>17</sup>

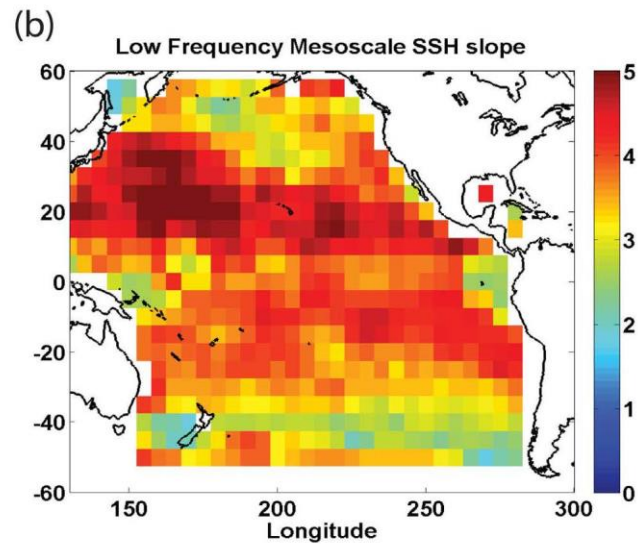
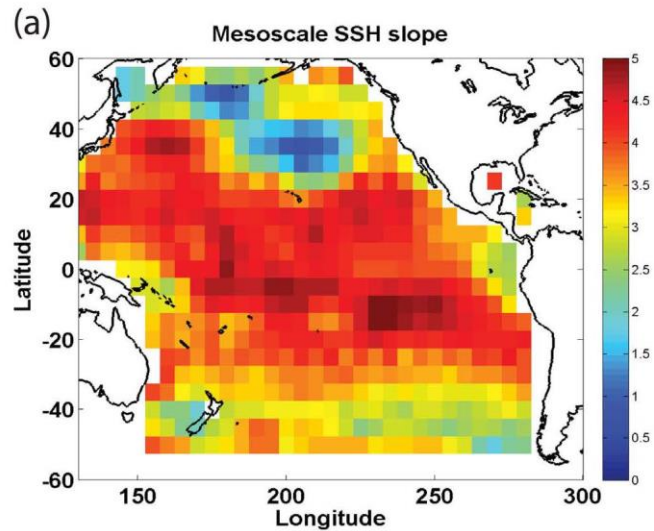
<sup>1</sup>University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA; <sup>2</sup>Currently on sabbatical at Institut des Géosciences de l'Environnement (IGE), Grenoble, France, and Laboratoire des Etudes en Géophysique et Océanographie Spatiale (LEGOS), Toulouse, France; <sup>3</sup>University of California San Diego, La Jolla, California, USA; <sup>4</sup>University of Ghana, Accra, Ghana; <sup>5</sup>University of Southern Mississippi, Stennis Space Center, Mississippi, USA; <sup>6</sup>NASA Ames Research Center, Mountain View, California, USA; <sup>7</sup>Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Woods Hole, Massachusetts, USA; <sup>8</sup>Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory/NOAA, Princeton, New Jersey, USA; <sup>9</sup>Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA; <sup>10</sup>Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California, USA; <sup>11</sup>Naval Research Laboratory, Stennis Space Center, Mississippi, USA; <sup>12</sup>Norwegian Meteorological Institute, Oslo, Norway; <sup>13</sup>Atmospheric and Environmental Research, Lexington, Massachusetts, USA; <sup>14</sup>Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida, USA; <sup>15</sup>Université de Bretagne Occidentale, Brest, France; <sup>16</sup>University of Alaska-Fairbanks, Fairbanks, Alaska, USA; <sup>17</sup>University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, USA; +Now at: Welsh Local Centre, Royal Meteorological Society, UK

In recent years, high-resolution ("eddy") global three-dimensional ocean general circulation models have begun to include astronomical tidal forcing alongside atmospheric forcing. Such models can carry an internal tide field with a realistic amount of nonstationarity, and an internal gravity wave continuum spectrum that compares more closely with observations as model resolution increases. Global internal tide and gravity wave models are important for understanding the three-dimensional geography of ocean mixing, for operational oceanography, and for simulating and interpreting satellite altimeter observations. Here we describe the most important technical details behind such models, including atmospheric forcing, bathymetry, astronomical tidal forcing, self-attraction and loading, quadratic bottom boundary layer drag, parameterized topographic internal wave drag, shallow-water tidal equations, and a brief summary of the theory of linear internal gravity waves. We focus on simulations run with two models, the HYbrid Coordinate Ocean Model (HYCOM) and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology general circulation model (MITgcm). We compare the modeled internal tides and internal gravity wave continuum to satellite altimeter observations, moored observational records, and the predictions of the Garrett-Munk (1975) internal gravity wave continuum spectrum. We briefly examine specific topics of interest, such as tidal energetics, internal tide nonstationarity, and the role of nonlinearities in generating the modeled internal gravity wave continuum. We also describe our first attempts at using a Kalman filter to improve the accuracy of tides embedded within a general circulation model. We discuss the challenges and opportunities of modeling stationary internal tides, non-stationary internal tides, and the internal gravity wave continuum spectrum for satellite altimetry and other applications.

Arbic, B.K., et al., 2018: A primer on global internal tide and internal gravity wave continuum modeling in HYCOM and MITgcm. In "New Frontiers in Operational Oceanography", E. Chassignet, A. Pascual, J. Tintoré, and J. Verron, Eds., GODAE OceanView, 307-392, doi:10.17125/gov2018.ch13.

Summarizes our papers on tides in Navy HYCOM simulations through 2018

Also summarizes tides in even higher-resolution MITgcm simulations performed by NASA



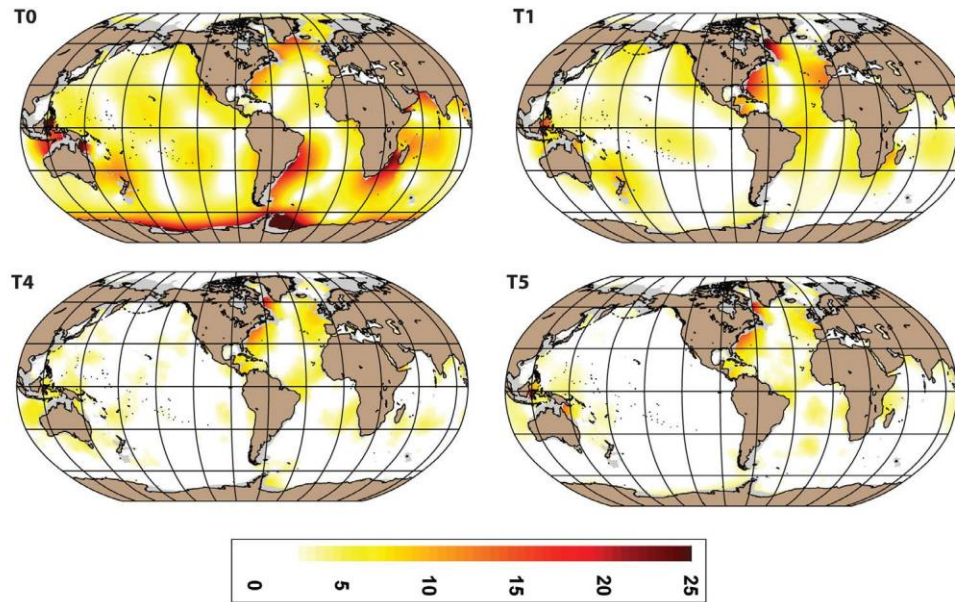
The slope of the wavenumber spectrum is flatter with internal waves ( $k^{-2}$ ) present.

→ Will make it more difficult to compare SWOT data with geostrophic turbulence theories, which suggest  $k^{-5}$  /  $k^{-11/3}$  spectra for interior/surface quasi-geostrophic theory, respectively.

Richman et al. (2012)

See also Callies and Ferrari (2013), Rocha et al. (2016a), Savage et al. (2017b), Qiu et al. (2017)

# Improvement of HYCOM barotropic tides over time



M<sub>2</sub> SSH tidal elevation error improvement from earlier Shriver et al. (2012) run (upper left) to run with improved SAL and Southern Ocean bathymetry (upper right) to runs with introduction of an Augmented State Ensemble Kalman Filter (ASEnKF).

ASEnKF used perturbations with large horizontal scales typical of open-ocean barotropic tides

Ngodock et al. (2016)

Shriver et al. in preparation → adding smaller-horizontal scale perturbations in coastal areas shaves more off the error

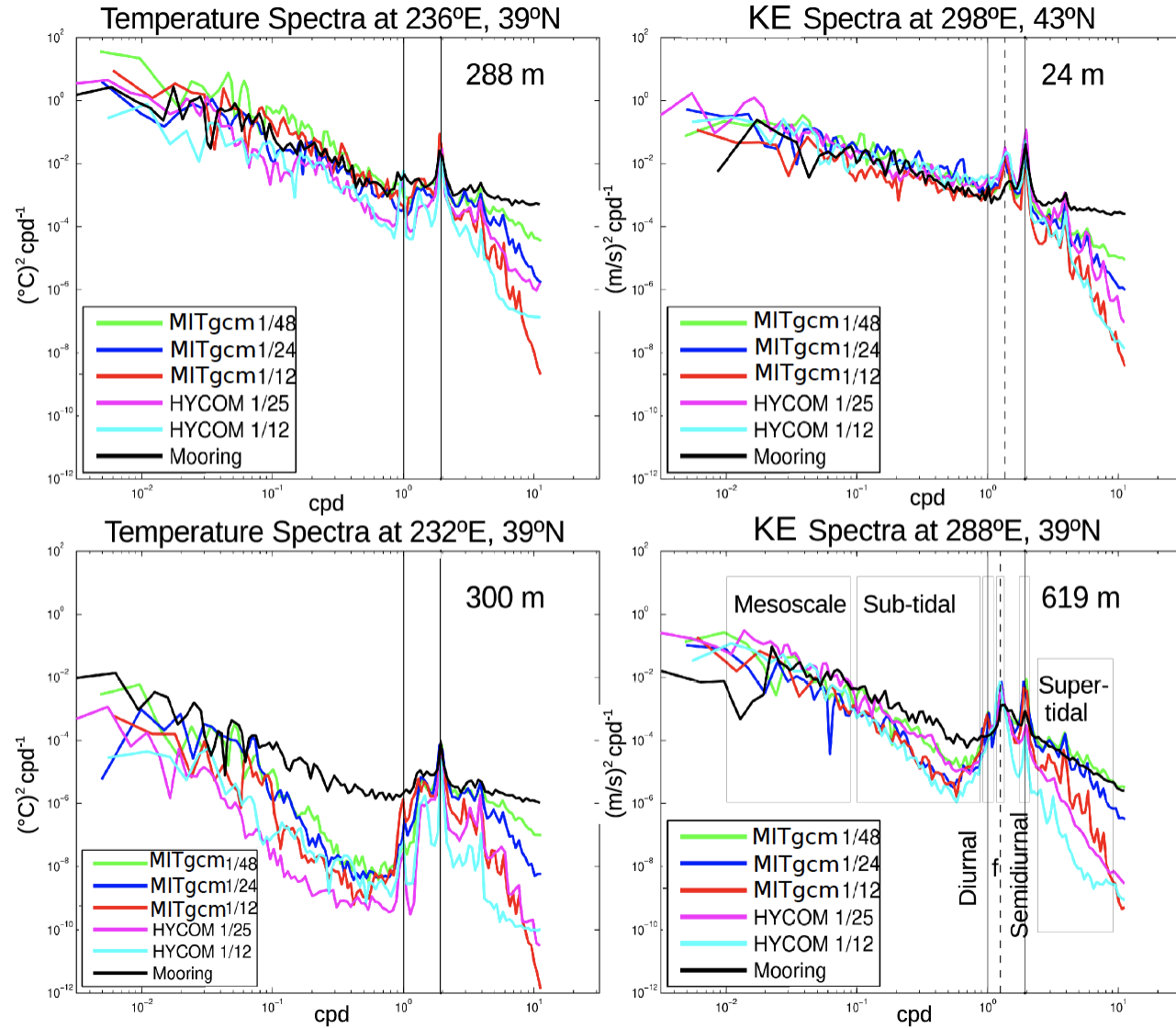
What about improving the underlying bathymetry?

# Model-mooring comparisons

- Moored observational records can provide time series and frequency spectra
- Historically, moorings have a few instruments at selected depths.
- McLane profilers crawl up and down in the vertical direction.
- In “high-frequency mode”, McLane profiler data can be interpolated in time and depth to produce a record with high resolution in both time and depth.
- On the other hand, we’re only using 9 McLane profilers.
- There are a few thousand historical moorings that we can use.



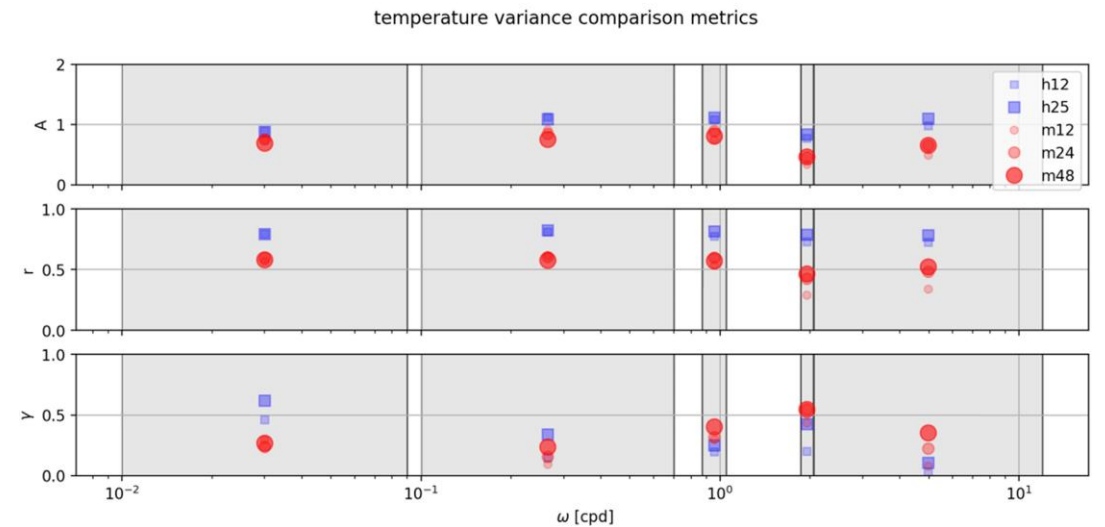
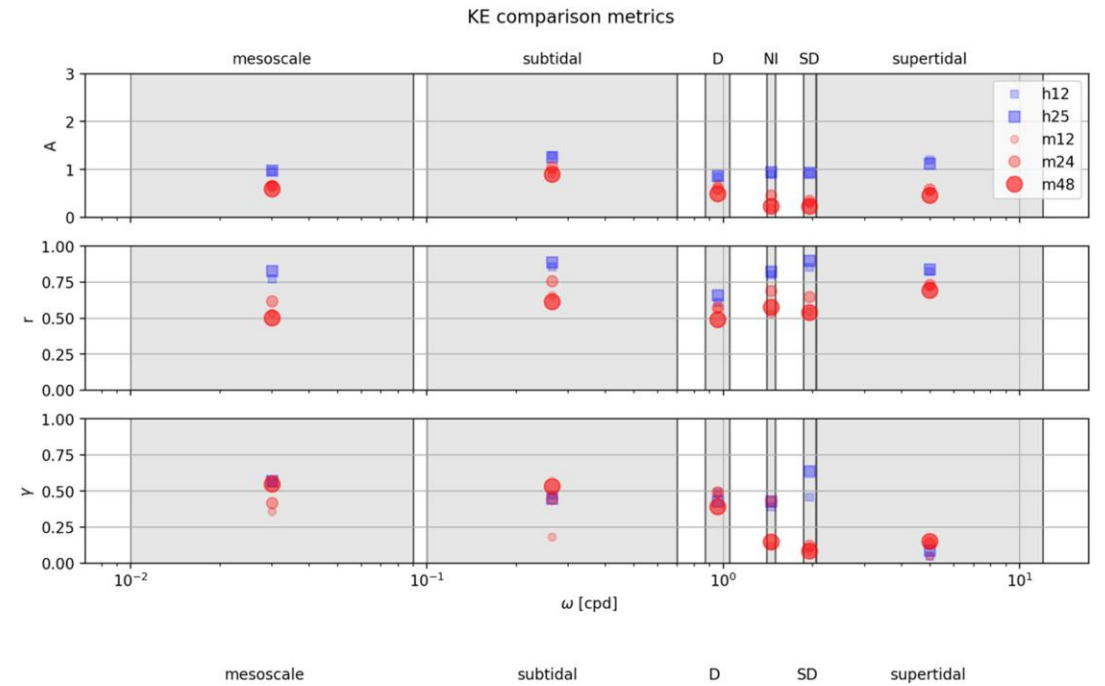
# Models vs. historical mooring archive (Luecke et al., in press)



Example  
frequency  
spectra

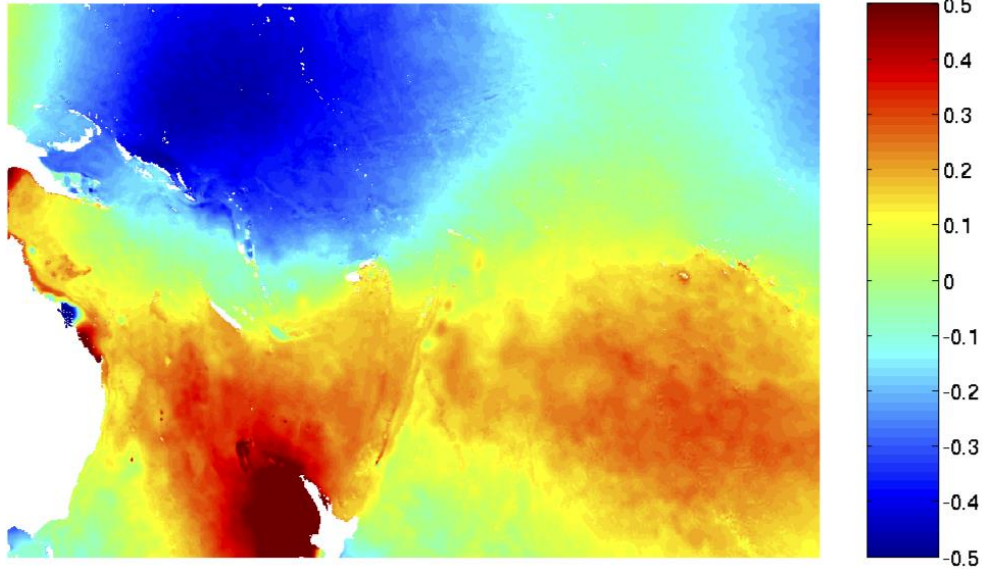
# Summary of results in Luecke et al. 2020

Over all frequency bands,  
For both KE and temperature  
variance, the spatial correlations  
in HYCOM (blue) are higher  
than those in MITgcm (red)



# Animations of steric and non-steric SSH in HYCOM

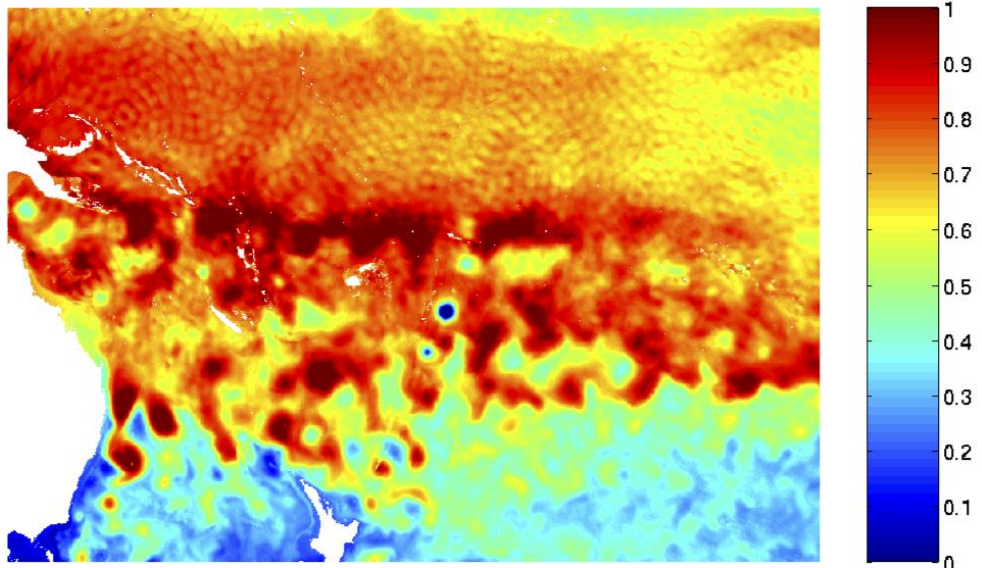
(a)



Separation of Southwest Pacific SSH snapshot into non-steric (a) and steric (b) components

← Non-steric SSH is dominated by barotropic tides

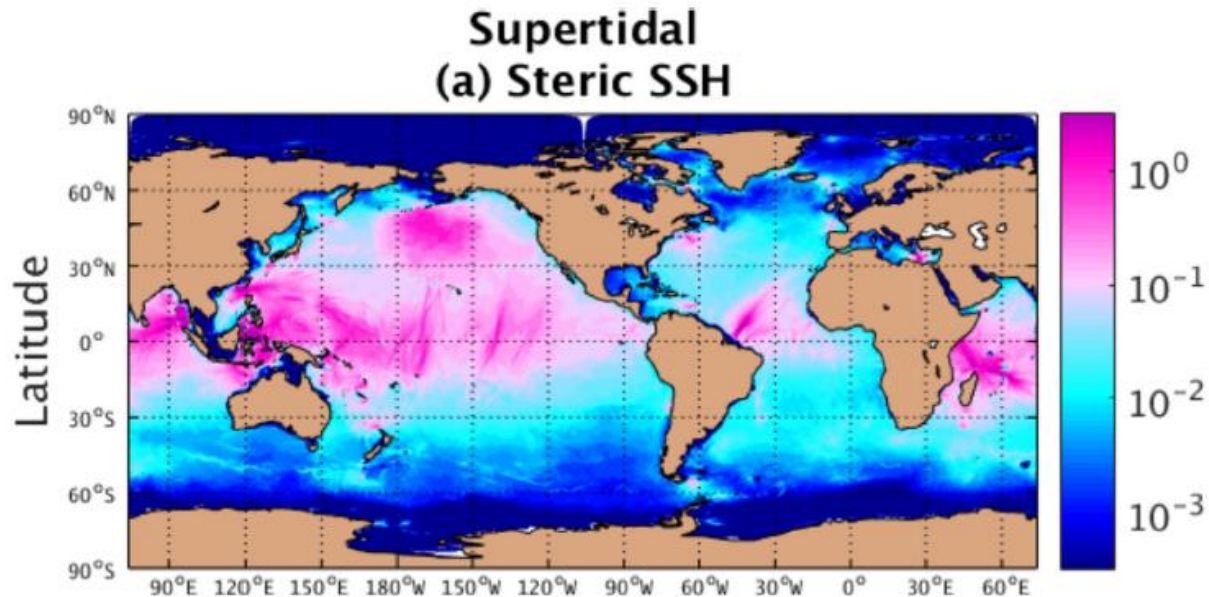
(b)



← Steric SSH is dominated by low-frequency mesoscale eddies and high-frequency internal tides

Arbic et al. (2010)

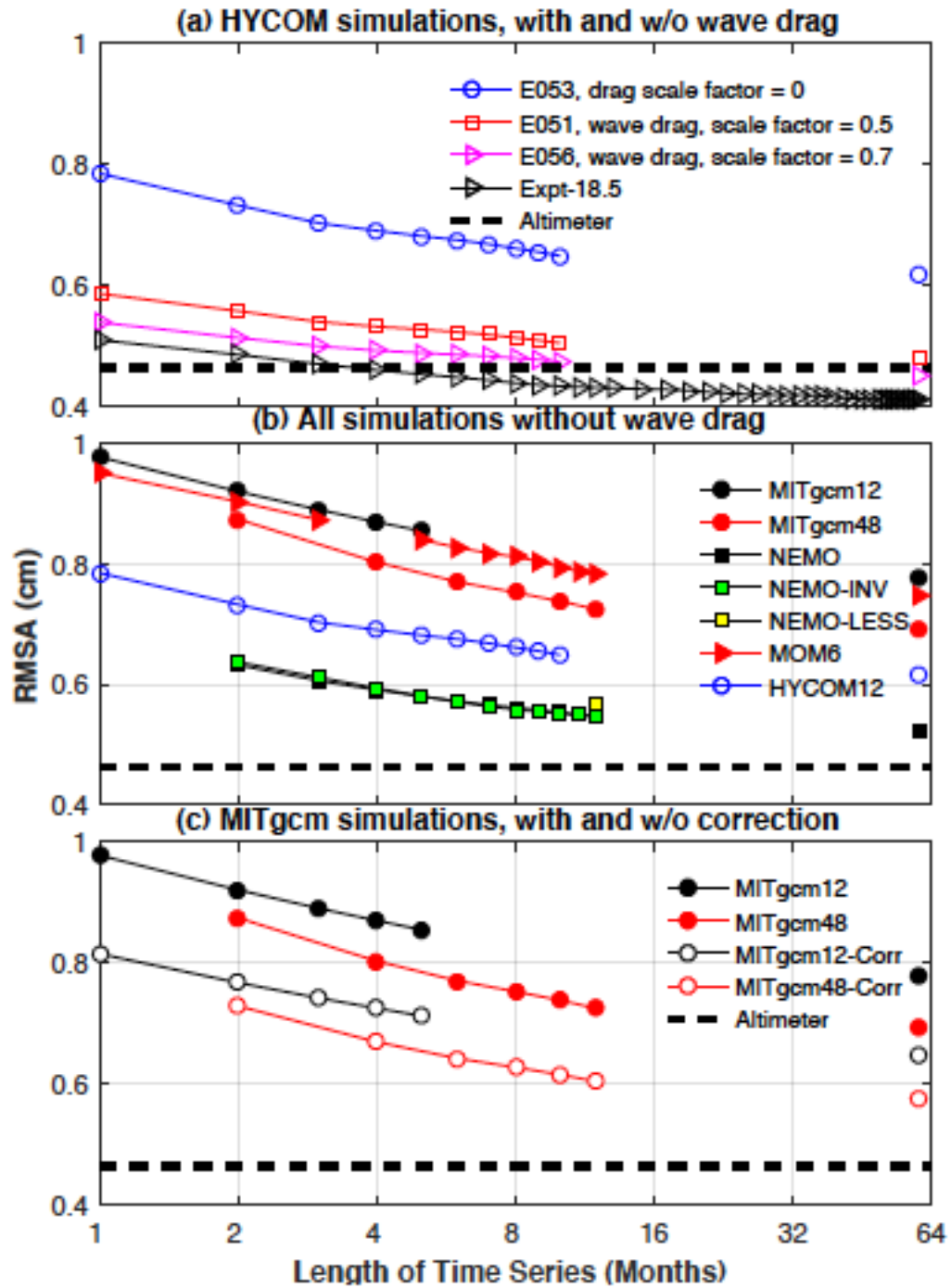
# Supertidal internal gravity wave continuum SSH variance ( $\text{cm}^2$ ) in HYCOM (Savage et al., 2017a)



How can we validate this map?

Compare with subsurface Argo estimates of internal waves? (e.g. Hennon et al. 2014, Pollmann et al. 2017)

Globally averaged  
 $M_2$  stationary  
 internal tide SSH  
 amplitudes (cm)  
 in global  
 hydrodynamical  
 models and along-  
 track altimetry  
 (Ansong et al., in  
 preparation)



# Tidal forcing in MITgcm runs

- Overly large barotropic and internal tides are in part due to lack of wave drag.
- But large errors in the barotropic tides also stem from the astronomical forcing.
- The intent was to solve  $du/dt + \dots = -\nabla(\eta - \eta_{EQ} - \eta_{SAL})$ , with the SAL term  $\eta_{SAL}$  approximated by  $0.1121 * \eta$  (scalar approximation)
- Instead they solved  $du/dt + \dots = -\nabla(\eta - 1.1121 * \eta_{EQ})$
- The astronomical forcing was too large by about 11% and there was no SAL
- SAL omissions are known to cause large phase errors (Hendershott 1972, Gordeev et al. 1977)
- We used a shallow-water (barotropic) tide model with correct astronomical forcing vs. forcing like that used in the MITgcm runs, in order to make the corrections shown on the previous page.
- New MITgcm runs, being planned now, will implement a correct astronomical forcing.