#### <sup>0.8</sup> Modeling the Earth: <sup>lvl@15m</sup> Modeling the Earth: <sup>m/s</sup> Physics, Dynamics, and Numerics 0.0

Baylor Fox-Kemper (Brown Geological Sciences)

Brown Physics Department Colloquium, 9/16/13, 16:00–17:00 Sponsors: NSF 1258907, 1245944, 0934737, 0855010, 0825614 NASA NNX09AF38G





## What to Expect

#### Part I

 How does the Earth balance its energy? (Physics)

How does this energy flow? (Dynamics)

 Why predicting the flow & storage difficult? (Numerics)

Part II

Processes in Climate Models

Processes I work on

A case study--Truncating the Mesoscale

#### Striking a balance: Earth's Equilibrium Energy Balance



Images from KKC

#### Striking a balance: Earth's Equilibrium Energy Balance



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Sun

#### Inverse square law:

Each spherical shell receives same power, different area



Blackbody: a body that emits electromagnetic radiation equally well at all wavelengths

Blackbody Radiation: the electromagnetic radiation given off by a blackbody. This radiation is characterized by the body's absolute temperature



### The Sun & Earth both emit radiation, but:

Sun is dominantly in visible wavelengths, Earth is primarily infrared wavelengths, not visible Much greater solar Flux



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#### Striking a balance: Earth's Equilibrium Energy Balance



#### Striking a balance: Effective Radiating Temperature

S-B Out = 
$$4\pi r_e^2 \sigma T_e^4 = \pi r_e^2 S_0 \frac{r_0^2}{r^2} (1 - A) = \text{Solar In}$$



known :  $S_0 = 1366 \frac{W}{m^2}, r_0 = 1AU, \sigma = 5.67 \cdot 10^{-8} \frac{W}{m^2 K^4}$ 

### **Different Planets, Different Climates**







#### Venus

Planetary Albedo: 0.8 Distance to Sun: 0.72AU Surf. Temp: 730K

#### Earth

Planetary Albedo: 0.3 Distance to Sun: 1.0AU Surf.Temp: 288K

#### Mars

Planetary Albedo: 0.22 Distance to Sun: 1.52AU Surf.Temp: 218K

Images from Wikipedia

$$T_e = \sqrt[4]{\frac{S_0 r_0^2}{4\sigma r^2} (1 - A)}$$
  
known :  $S_0 = 1366 \frac{W}{m^2}, r_0 = 1AU, \sigma = 5.67 \cdot 10^{-8} \frac{W}{m^2 K^4}$ 







#### Venus

Planetary Albedo: 0.8 Distance to Sun: 0.72AU Surf. Temp: 730K Eff. Rad. Temp: 219K

#### Earth

Planetary Albedo: 0.3 Distance to Sun: 1.0AU Surf. Temp: 288K Eff. Rad. Temp: 255K

#### Mars

Planetary Albedo: 0.22 Distance to Sun: 1.52AU Surf. Temp: 218K Eff. Rad. Temp: 212K Images from Wikipedia

## So, we're in the ballpark. How do we do better?

- The Effective Radiating Temperature is not the same as the Surface Temperature!
- Exchanges of energy among the reservoirs in the system sets the temperatures
- At equilibrium when outgoing=incoming, but the details determine the temperatures of various reservoirs of energy
- CRUCIAL: What components are likely to vary?

Striking a More Complex Balance: 1-Layer Atmosphere Model, The Simplest Greenhouse



Images from KKC

 $T_e = \sqrt[4]{\frac{S_0 r_0^2}{4\sigma r^2}} (1 - A) \ T_s = \sqrt[4]{2} \ T_e \approx 1.19 T_e$ known :  $S_0 = 1366 \frac{W}{m^2}, r_0 = 1AU, \sigma = 5.67 \cdot 10^{-8} \frac{W}{m^2 K^4}$ 







#### Venus

Planetary Albedo: 0.8 Distance to Sun: 0.72AU Surf. Temp: 730K Eff. Rad. Temp: 219K I-Layer Surf. T: 261K UNDERESTIMATE

#### Earth

Planetary Albedo: 0.3 Distance to Sun: 1.0AU Surf. Temp: 288K Eff. Rad. Temp: 255K I-Layer Surf. T: 303K SLIGHT OVERESTIMATE

#### Mars

Planetary Albedo: 0.22 Distance to Sun: 1.52AU Surf. Temp: 218K Eff. Rad. Temp: 212K I-Layer Surf. T: 259K OVERESTIMATE

## Different Atmospheres...







Venus atmosphere by volume: 96.5% carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) 3.5% nitrogen (N<sub>2</sub>) 150ppm sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>)

70ppm argon (Ar) 20ppm water vapor (H<sub>2</sub>O)

Mean Surf. Pressure (93 atm)

Earth atmosphere by volume: 78% nitrogen (N<sub>2</sub>) 21% oxygen (O<sub>2</sub>) 0-4% water vapor (H<sub>2</sub>O) 0.04% carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) 1.7ppm methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) 0.3ppm nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>0) 0.1ppm ozone (O<sub>3</sub>) Mean Surf. Pressure (1 atm)

Mars atmosphere by volume: 95.3% carbon dioxide  $(CO_2)$ 

2.7% nitrogen (N<sub>2</sub>) 0.13% oxygen (O<sub>2</sub>) 1.6% argon (Ar) 0.03% water vapor (H<sub>2</sub>O)

Mean Surf. Press. (0.006 atm)

Data from KKC, Wikipedia

## Solar "Constant" on longer timescales, varies $T_e \& T_s$ by about 0.01% = 0.02K



Figure 2. 40-year (cycle) averaged TSI for the past 9300 years based on its relationship with  $B_r$  relative to the value of the PMOD composite during the solar cycle minimum of the year 1986 (1365.57 Wm<sup>-2</sup>). The shaded band is the  $1\sigma$  uncertainty considering the uncertainties of the TSI- $B_r$  calibration and of the reconstruction of  $B_r$ . The bars in the top of each plot mark periods when TSI reaches the minimum value of 1364.64 Wm<sup>-2</sup> corresponding to  $\phi = 0$  MV and  $B_r = 0$  nT. During these periods the uncertainty is not defined and was set to 0.5 Wm<sup>-2</sup>. Steinhilber et al. 2009

## Climate Variations?

- The geological record shows much greater variability than the solar constant suggests
  - Ice Ages, Medieval Warm Period, volcanic winters, Dinosaurs, etc.
- Thus, the exchanges of energy among the reservoirs in the system probably varies, as well as the sun!

- CRUCIAL: Positive feedbacks exist in the system that elevate variation in  $T_e \ \& \ T_s$
- Human perturbations (Land Use, CO<sub>2</sub>) might affect these!
   QUANTITATIVE, NOT QUALITATIVE DETERMINATION



Until about 1900, Volcanic and Solar "constant" variability dominated.

Not so any more.

#### Figures: IPCC AR4

Doubling of CO<sub>2</sub>: with and without feedbacks More atmosphere, more greenhouse effect (Venus vs. Mars) More greenhouse gasses, more greenhouse What would happen if we add greenhouse gasses to Earth's atmosphere? □ If we take account only of extra absorption by  $CO_2$ , a 1.2K increase □ In 1906, Arrhenius estimated that doubling  $CO_2$  would raise temps by 5-6K □ Why so different? Positive feedbacks!



### Water Vapor Feedback:

Water Vapor is the most important GHG on Earth, not only because it absorbs most of the outgoing IR, but also because it responds to surface temperature changes





Sea Ice Minimum 1979

Sea Ice Minimum 2005

## Rise of the IPCC



- In 1906, Svante Arrhenius estimated that doubling CO<sub>2</sub> would raise temps by 5-6K, and halving would decrease by 4-5K
- The Charney et al. 1979 National Academy Assessment warned of a 1.5K to 4.5K warming with doubled CO<sub>2</sub>
  - Charney worked on the first numerical weather models (1952)
- This range came from two climate model efforts
  - Jim Hansen's group at NASA Goddard
  - Suki Manabe's group at Princeton
  - The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) was established by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in 1988.
  - The IPCC has completed four assessment reports, developed methodology guidelines for national greenhouse gas inventories, special reports and technical papers. They collect the results of many!









The Earth's Climate System is driven by the Sun's light (minus outgoing infrared) on a global scale

The energy then flows through the system (mostly by winds & ocean currents) affecting storage in reservoirs, e.g. different latitudes, until it finds it way out

Many Positive Feedbacks Involved

(Thermodynamically, this is a nonequilibrium steady state...)



Trenberth & Fasullo, 09

FIG. 1. The global annual mean Earth's energy budget for the Mar 2000 to May 2004 period (W m<sup>-2</sup>). The broad arrows indicate the schematic flow of energy in proportion to their importance.



#### Air-Sea Flux Errors vs. Data

## Heat capacity & mode of transport is different in A vs. O

S. C. Bates, B. Fox-Kemper, S. R. Jayne, W. G. Large, S. Stevenson, and S. G. Yeager. Mean biases, variability, and trends in air-sea fluxes and SST in the CCSM4.Journal of Climate, 25(22):7781-7801, 2012.





1/10

## Part II. Modeling the Earth: Physics, Dynamics, and Numerics

#### Baylor Fox-Kemper (Brown Geological Sciences)

with Scott Bachman (DAMTP, Cambridge), D. Menemelis (JPL)

Brown Physics Department Colloquium, 9/16/13, 16:00–17:00 Sponsors: NSF 1258907, 1245944, 0934737, 0855010, 0825614 NASA NNX09AF38G



#### The World in Global Climate Models



#### Resolution will be an issue for centuries to come!

Resolution of Ocean Component of Coupled IPCC models



If we can't resolve a process, we need to develop a parameterization or subgrid model of its effect

#### GFDL CM 2.4



Sea Surface Temperature (°C)



#### Nov Jan Oct Feb Sep Mar Aug Apr Jul May Jun

#### A prototype mesoscale-eddy-rich climate model

The Earth's Climate System is driven by the Sun's light (minus outgoing infrared) on a global scale

#### Dissipation concludes turbulent cascades on scales about a trillion times smaller





Trenberth & Fasullo, 09

Fig. 1. The global annual mean Earth's energy budget for the Mar 2000 to May 2004 period (W  $m^{-2}$ ). The broad arrows indicate the schematic flow of energy in proportion to their importance.



#### The Ocean is Vast & Diverse: Q: What processes to parameterize? Today's A: Unresolved Upper Ocean with Air-Sea Impact



#### Needed Process: Surface Waves



L. Cavaleri, B. Fox-Kemper, and M. Hemer. Wind waves in the coupled climate system. Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society, 93(11):1651-1661, 2012.

## Needed Process: Submesoscale

(Capet et al., 2008)



Longitude

Fig. 16. Sea surface temperature measured at 1852 UTC 3 Jan 2006 off Point Conception in the alifornia Current from CoarfWinth (http://eoastwatch.pfeg.nosa.gov). The fronts between recently





- Fronts
- Eddies
   Eddies
- Ro=O(1)
- Ri=O(1)
- near-surface

**←** 10

km

- 1–10km, days
- Eddy processes often baroclinic instability
- Parameterizations of
   submesoscale baroclinic
   instability?

(NASA GSFC Gallery)



B. Fox-Kemper, R. Ferrari, and R. W.
Hallberg. Parameterization of mixed layer
eddies. Part I: Theory and diagnosis. Journal
of Physical Oceanography, 38(6):1145-1165,
2008

S. Bachman and B. Fox-Kemper. Eddy parameterization challenge suite. I: Eady spindown. Ocean Modelling, 64:12-28, 2013



Big, Deep (mesoscale eddies) interact with Little, Shallow (submeso eddies) B. Fox-Kemper, R. Ferrari,

B. Fox-Kemper, R. Ferrari, and R. W. Hallberg.
Parameterization of mixed layer eddies. Part I: Theory and diagnosis. Journal of Physical Oceanography, 38(6):1145-1165, 2008.

## Needed Process: Mesoscale Eddies

100 km

NASA GSFC Gallery)

(Capet et al., 2008)



Longitude

Fig. 16. Sea surface temperature measured at 1832 UTC 3 Jan 2006 off Point Conception in th alifornia Current from CoastWatch (http://eeastwatch.pfeg.nosa.gov). The fronts between recently pwelled water (i.e., 15'-16'C) and offshore water (>17'C) show submessocale instabilities with wavengths around 30 km (right front) or 15 km (left front). Images for 1 day earlier and 4 days later show once of the instability event

**Boundary Currents** 0

Eddies 0

Ro=O(0.1)0

- Ri=O(1000) 0
- Full Depth 0
- Quasi-2d 6
- Eddies strain to 0 produce Fronts 100km, months 0



Eddy processes mainly baroclinic & barotropic instability. Quasigeostrophy is likely to be very accurate.

#### What is a parameterization/subgrid model?

Fluid equations for A&O are PDEs (Rotating, Stratified Navier-Stokes), but we cannot resolve to dissipation, so we use statistical or bulk subgrid models to capture multiscale interactions:

Express the coarse-grain averages of quantities (including the subgrid effects), e.g.:

 $\partial u$ 

 $\partial au$ 

 $\partial u \tau$ 



#### Kolmogorov '41 <u>3D Turbulence Cascade</u>



1963: Smagorinsky Scale & Flow Aware Viscosity Scaling, So the Energy Cascade is Preserved, but order-1 gridscale Reynolds #:  $Re^* = UL/\nu_*$  $\nu_{*h} = \left(\frac{\Upsilon_h \Delta x}{\pi}\right)^2 \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial u_*}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial v_*}{\partial y}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial u_*}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial v_*}{\partial x}\right)^2}$ 

## 2D Turbulence Differs R. Kraichnan, 1967 JFM



1996: Leith Devises Viscosity Scaling, So that the Enstrophy (vorticity<sup>2</sup>) Cascade is Preserved

$$\mathbf{v}_* = \left(\frac{\Lambda \Delta x}{\pi}\right)^3 \left| \nabla_h \left( \frac{\partial u_*}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial v_*}{\partial x} \right) \right|$$

#### Mesoscale (QG) Turbulence: Pot'l Enstrophy cascade

(potential vorticity<sup>2</sup>)

J. Charney, 1971 JAS



F-K & Menemenlis '08: Revise Leith Viscosity Scaling, So that diverging, vorticity-free, modes are also damped

$$\mathbf{v}_* = \left(rac{\Delta x}{\pi}
ight)^3 \sqrt{\Lambda^6 |
abla_h q_{2d}|^2 + \Lambda^6_d |
abla_h (
abla_h \cdot \mathbf{u}_*)|^2}$$

B. Fox-Kemper and D. Menemenlis. Can large eddy simulation techniques improve mesoscale-rich ocean models? In M. Hecht and H. Hasumi, editors, Ocean Modeling in an Eddying Regime, volume 177, pages 319-338. AGU Geophysical Monograph Series, 2008.



Menemenlis et al. Jan 2008



#### Mesoscale (QG) Turbulence: Pot'l Enstrophy cascade

#### (potential vorticity<sup>2</sup>)

J. Charney, 1971 JAS



F-K & Menemenlis '08 Conjecture: a more ambitious course would combine the best aspects of coarse resolution ocean models (mesoscale eddy dynamics) with the adaptive methods (numerics and scaling laws instead of fixed coefficients) typical of higher-resolution large eddy simulations. Trying out the Conjecture (with S. Bachman, former PhD)

Evolution of a Temperature Front



A Recent Step Forward (with S. Bachman, former PhD)

> Instead of using the least viscosity and diffusivity numerically possible

We estimate the rate of pot'l enstrophy transfer to small scale

Matching this rate provides a dynamically accurate scaling of all mesoscale eddy parameters-still numerically OK!!



Old



20

10

5

10

Y

15

20

20

Y

30

40

40

Y

60

80

17.06

17.04

17.02

16.98

16.96

16.94

17.06

17.04

17.02

16.98

16.96

16.94

17.06

17.04

17.02

16.98

16.96

16.94

17

17

17

#### **Diverse types of interaction**--Can a simple spectral transfer suffice?



P. E. Hamlington, L. P. Van Roekel, B. Fox-Kemper, K. Julien, and G. P. Chini. Langmuir-submesoscale interactions: Descriptive analysis of multiscale simulations. Submitted, 2013.

Frontiers in Computational Physics December 17, 2012, Boulder, CO

## The Future?

- The IPCC AR5 scenarios envision a range of planetary energy imbalances: (5x to 40x variations in S<sub>0</sub>)
- These Representative Concentration Pathways estimate a range of our possible policy choices



van Vuuren 2011

# The Future?2007 Report2013 Report



Figure 1 | Global temperature change and uncertainty. Global temperature change (mean and one standard deviation as shading) relative to 1986-2005 for the SRES scenarios run by CMIP3 and the RCP scenarios run by CMIP5. The number of models is given in brackets. The box plots (mean, one standard deviation, and minimum to maximum range) are given for 2080-2099 for CMIP5 (colours) and for the MAGICC model calibrated to 19 CMIP3 models (black), both running the RCP scenarios.

## Will the next round be different due to mesoscale eddies? Probably not in global mean, but in regions:

## The Future?



Stippling Indicates High Robustness (Knutti & Sedlácek, 2013)

## Conclusions

- Climate modeling is challenging partly due to the vast and diverse scales of fluid motions
- In the upper ocean, horizontal scales as big as basins, and as small as meters contribute nonnegligibly to the air-sea exchange
- Process models, especially those spanning a whole or multiple scales, are needed to study these connections and improve subgrid models.
- Even with increasing computational capability, process and scale-specific adaptations are necessary to represent what remains unresolved.

## ALL PAPERS AT fox-kemper.com/pubs

## EXTRA SLIDES FOLLOW



#### A Recent Step Forward (with S. Bachman, former PhD)

Instead of using the least viscosity and diffusivity numerically possible



We estimate the rate of pot'l enstrophy transfer to small scale

Matching this rate provides a dynamically accurate scaling of all mesoscale eddy parameters-still numerically OK!!



#### Physical Sensitivity of Ocean Climate to MLE: (submeso) Mixed Layer Eddy Restratification Improves CFCs

400

200

-200

-400

400

200

-200



B. Fox-Kemper, G. Danabasoglu, R. Ferrari, S. M. Griffies, R. W. Hallberg,
M. M. Holland, M. E. Maltrud, S. Peacock, and B. L. Samuels.
Parameterization of mixed layer eddies. III: Implementation and impact in global ocean climate simulations. *Ocean Modelling*, 39:61-78, 2011.

**Bias with MLE** Bias w/o MLE (m) -2000 335°E 120°E 325°E 330°E 320°E 325°E 330°E depth(m) -2000 290'E 300°E 310°E 290°E 300°E 310°E

(water masses)

A consistently restratifying,

$$\overline{w'b'} \propto rac{H^2}{|f|} \left| 
abla_H \overline{b} 
ight|^2$$

and horizontally downgradient flux.

$$\overline{\mathbf{u'}_H b'} \propto \frac{-H^2 \frac{\partial \overline{b}}{\partial z}}{|f|} \nabla_H \overline{b}$$



May Stabilize AMOC





Figure 10: Wintertime sea ice sensitivity to introduction of MLE parameterization (CCSM<sup>+</sup> minus CCSM<sup>-</sup>): January to March Northern Hemisphere a) ice area and b) thickness and July to September Southern Hemisphere c) ice area and d) thickness.

#### Affects sea ice

NO RETUNING NEEDED!!!

These are impacts: bias change unknown Including Wave-driven Mixing (Harcourt 2013 parameterization) Deepens the Mixed Layer!

M. A. Hemer, B. Fox-Kemper, & R. R. Harcourt. Quantifying the effects of wind waves the the coupled climate system, in prep. 2013.



## Solar "Constant" varies by 0.02%, changing T<sub>e</sub> & T<sub>s</sub> by about 0.005%=0.01K



Solar irradiance through June 2010 (from Fröhlich & Lean 2004, and PMOD/WRC).