Effects of Ocean Surface Waves: on Turbulence, Climate, and Frontogenesis

Expanding on past work with: Jim McWilliams (UCLA), Peter Hamlington (CU-Boulder), Eric D'Asaro & Ramsey Harcourt (UW), Luke Van Roekel (LANL), Qing Li (Brown), Sean Haney (CU), Adrean Webb (TUMST), Keith Julien (CU-APPM), Greg Chini (UNH), Peter Sullivan (NCAR), Mark Hemer (CSIRO)

> Friday, 13/01/16 16:00-17:00

Baylor Fox-Kemper with Nobuhiro Suzuki (Brown University) Ш

Imperial College SPAT Seminar, 1/3/16 Sponsors: NSF 1258907, Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative

The Ocean Mixed Layer

Mixed Layer Depth (Δ density=0.001) in month 1



Stommel's Demon: ocean properties at depth set by deepest wintertime mixed layer & its properties <u>From Argo float data courtesy C. de Boyer-Montegut</u>

We will Examine the Effects of Surface Waves on:

- Boundary Layer Turbulence
 (wave-driven or Langmuir Turbulence)
- Climate through Langmuir Turbulence
 (via MLD changes)
- Submesoscale Fronts & Instabilities
 within the Mixed Layer
 (Stokes forces and Langmuir coupling)

Surface Waves are...

Fast, small, irrotational solutions of the Boussinesq Equations

Have a Stokes drift depending on sea state (wave age, winds)

A. Webb and B. Fox-Kemper. Wave spectral moments and Stokes drift estimation. Ocean Modelling, 40(3-4):273-288, 2011.

A. Webb and B. Fox-Kemper. Impacts of wave spreading and multidirectional waves on estimating Stokes drift.Ocean Modelling, 96(1):49-64, 2015.



Wave-Averaged Equations following Holm (96), Lane et al. (07), McWilliams v_j^L & F-K (13), and Suzuki & F-K (16) Lagrangian Stokes Coupling Depends on Stokes drift-WAVE effects in YELLOW Boundary conditions, plus: $\frac{1}{Ro} \left[v_{i,t} + \boldsymbol{v_j^L} v_{i,j} \right] + \frac{M_{Ro}}{Ri} w v_{i,z} + \frac{\epsilon_{izj} \boldsymbol{v_j^L}}{\epsilon_{izj} \boldsymbol{v_j^L}} = -M_{Ro} \pi_{,i} + \frac{Ro}{Re} v_{i,jj}$ $\frac{\alpha^2}{Ri} \left[w_{,t} + \boldsymbol{v_j^L} w_{,j} + \frac{M_{Ro}}{RoRi} w w_{,z} \right] = \left[-\pi_{,z} + b \right] - \varepsilon \boldsymbol{v_j^L} \boldsymbol{v_{j,z}^s} + \frac{\alpha^2}{ReRi} w_{,jj}$ hydrostatic $b_t + v_j^L b_{,j} + \frac{M_{Ro}}{RoRi} w b_z = \frac{1}{Pe} b_{,jj}$ $V^{s}H$ $v_{j,j} + \frac{M_{Ro}}{R_0 R_j} w_z = 0$ $Re = rac{UL}{
u}$ $Ro = rac{U}{fL}$ $Ri = rac{N^2}{(U_z)^2}$ lpha = H/L $M_{Ro} \equiv \max(1, Ro)$

J. C. McWilliams and BFK. Oceanic wave-balanced surface fronts and filaments. Journal of Fluid Mechanics, 730:464-490, 2013. N. Suzuki and BFK. Understanding Stokes forces in the wave-averaged equations. JGR-Oceans, December 2015. Submitted.

3 Wave Effects, 1: Lagrangian Advection: Particles, tracers, momentum flow with Lagrangian, not Eulerian flow $Ro\left[v_{i,t} + \boldsymbol{v_j^L}v_{i,j}\right] + \frac{M_{Ro}}{Ri}wv_{i,z} + \epsilon_{izj}\boldsymbol{v_j^L} = -M_{Ro}\pi_{,i} + \frac{Ro}{Re}v_{i,jj}$ $\frac{\alpha^2}{Ri} \left[w_{,t} + v_j^L w_{,j} + \frac{M_{Ro}}{RoRi} w w_{,z} \right] = -\pi_{,z} + b - \varepsilon v_j^L v_{j,z}^s + \frac{\alpha^2}{ReRi} w_{,jj}$ $b_t + \frac{v_j^L b_{,j}}{p_j} + \frac{M_{Ro}}{RoRi} w b_z = \frac{1}{Pe} b_{,jj}$ wave phase : t / T = 0.000 Adding a Stokes advection term converts total to Lagrangian advection $v_j^L = v_j + v_j^S$ Eulerian Lagrangian

3 Wave Effects, 2: Lagrangian Coriolis: Particles, tracers, momentum flow with Lagrangian, not Eulerian flow—Experience Coriolis force during this motion $Ro\left[v_{i,t} + \boldsymbol{v_j^L}v_{i,j}\right] + \frac{M_{Ro}}{Ri}wv_{i,z} - \epsilon_{izj}\boldsymbol{v_j^L} = -M_{Ro}\pi_{,i} + \frac{Ro}{Re}v_{i,jj}$ $\frac{\alpha^2}{Ri} \left[w_{,t} + \boldsymbol{v_j^L} w_{,j} + \frac{M_{Ro}}{RoRi} w w_{,z} \right] = -\pi_{,z} + b - \varepsilon \boldsymbol{v_j^L} \boldsymbol{v_{j,z}^s} + \frac{\alpha^2}{ReRi} w_{,jj}$ $b_t + \boldsymbol{v_j^L} b_{,j} + \frac{M_{Ro}}{RoRi} w b_z = \frac{1}{Pe} b_{,jj}$ wave phase : t / T = 0.000 Adding a Stokes Coriolis term converts total to Lagrangian $v_j^L = v_j + v_j^S$ Eulerian Lagrangian

3 Wave Effects, 3: Stokes Shear Force and the CL2 mechanism for Langmuir circulations Flow directed along Stokes shear=downward force



The Character of Langmuir Turbulence

Near-surface Langmuir Cells & Langmuir Turb. Ro>>1 Ri<1: Nonhydro 10s to 1hr w, u=O(10 cm/s)Stokes drift Eqtns: Wave-Averaged Params: McWilliams & Sullivan, 2000, Van Roekel et al. 2011 Resolved routinely in 2170 0

Image: NPR.org, Deep Water Horizon Spill



Typical effect: Downward Force for down-Flow Stokes Drift $\frac{\alpha^2}{Ri} \left[w_{,t} + v_j^L w_{,j} + \frac{M_{Ro}}{RoRi} w w_{,z} \right] = -\pi_{,z} + b - \varepsilon v_j^L v_{j,z}^s + \frac{\alpha^2}{ReRi} w_{,jj}$

To quantify Langmuir Turb. effects on climate: 3 WAYS

- I) From OBSERVATIONS, estimate wave effects on key parameters (<w²>, sources of energy) using scalings from Large Eddy Simulations. MODEL INDEPENDENT
- 2) OFFLINE 1d mixing with waves parameterized, mixing into observed Argo profiles, reanalysis winds, waves, cooling. ROBUST TO MODEL ERRORS
- 3) In a climate model, *add in a wave forecast model as a new component in addition to atmosphere, ocean, ice, etc.*, use this to drive parameterizations of wave mixing in ocean component. FEEDBACKS PRESENT

No Retuning! All coefficients from LES



January 2014.

To quantify Langmuir Turb. effects on climate: 3 WAYS

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Langmuir important

E. A. D'Asaro, J. Thomson, A. Y. Shcherbina, R. R. Harcourt, M. F. Cronin, M. A. Hemer, and BFK. Quantifying upper ocean turbulence driven by surface waves. Geophysical Research Letters, 41(1):102-107, January 2014.

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Data + Large Eddy Simulation for scaling laws, Southern Ocean data to determine available mixing energy

So, waves are likely to drive mixing via Stokes drift (combines with cooling & winds)



S. E. Belcher, A. A. L. M. Grant, K. E. Hanley, BFK, L. Van Roekel, P. P. Sullivan, W. G. Large, A. Brown, A. Hines, D. Calvert, A. Rutgersson, H. Petterson, J. Bidlot, P. A. E. M. Janssen, and J. A. Polton. A global perspective on Langmuir turbulence in the ocean surface boundary layer. Geophysical Research Letters, 39(18):L18605, 9pp, 2012.

Including Stokes-driven Mixing should deepen the Mixed Layer!

E. A. D'Asaro, J. Thomson, A. Y. Shcherbina, R. R. Harcourt, M. F. Cronin, M. A. Hemer, and BFK. Quantifying upper ocean turbulence driven by surface waves. Geophysical Research Letters, 41(1):102-107, January 2014.

As estimated with: Argo-observed stratification, modeled waves, an LES-validated mixing parameterization, and observed winds, solar, latent, etc.



To quantify Langmuir Turb. effects on climate: 3 WAYS

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Langmuir important

Langmuir important U. S. Department of Commerce National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Weather Service National Centers for Environmental Prediction 5200 Auth Road Camp Springs, MD 20746



Technical Note

User manual and system documentation of WAVEWATCH III $^{\rm TM}$ version 3.14 †

Hendrik L. Tolman[‡]

Environmental Modeling Center Marine Modeling and Analysis Branch



Q. Li, A. Webb, BFK, A. Craig, G. Danabasoglu, W. G. Large, and M. Vertenstein. Langmuir mixing effects on global climate: WAVEWATCH III in CESM. Ocean Modelling, August 2015. in press.

Something that happens often with waves: Tricky: Misaligned Wind & Waves

A. Webb and BFK. Impacts of wave spreading and multidirectional waves on estimating Stokes drift. Ocean Modelling, 96(1): 49-64, December 2015.

> Waves (Stokes Drift)





Tricky: Misaligned Wind & Waves

Waves (Stokes Drift)





Tricky: Misaligned Wind & Waves

Waves (Stokes Drift)





Tricky: Misaligned Wind & Waves







Langmuir Mixing in KPP for use in CESM1.2

Q. Li, A. Webb, B. Fox-Kemper, A. Craig, G. Danabasoglu, W. G. Large, and M. Vertenstein. Langmuir mixing effects on global climate: WAVEWATCH III in CESM. Ocean Modelling, 2015. In press.

- WaveWatch-III (Stokes drift) <-> POP2 (U, T, H_{BL})
- CORE2 interannual forcing (Large and Yeager, 2009), or fully coupled
- 4 IAF cycles; average over last 50 years for climatology (over 200 years total)
- Or fully coupled climate model—active atmosphere.





Entrain by also Including Stokes shear in mixing depth



Langmuir Mixing in Climate: Boundary layer Depth Improved

	Case		Summer			Winter	
		Global	South of $30^{\circ}S$	$30^\circ \text{S}-30^\circ \text{N}$	Global	South of 30° S	$30^\circ \text{S}-30^\circ \text{N}$
Control	CTRL	$10.62 {\pm} 0.27^{\rm a}$	$17.24 {\pm} 0.48$	$5.38 {\pm} 0.14$	$43.85 {\pm} 0.38$	$57.19 {\pm} 0.76$	$12.57 {\pm} 0.28$
		$(13.40 \pm 0.19)^{\mathrm{b}}$	(21.73 ± 0.32)	(6.71 ± 0.09)	(45.50 ± 0.40)	(56.53 ± 0.59)	(16.16 ± 0.29)
Competition	MS2K	15.37	15.47	17.03	119.91	171.92	40.31
	SS02	36.79	63.83	7.54	99.32	164.34	17.39
s versions of	VR12-AL	9.06	13.47	6.49	40.45	50.33	14.52
an Roekel et	VR12-MA	$8.73 {\pm} 0.30$	$12.65 {\pm} 0.47$	$6.61 {\pm} 0.22$	$40.99 {\pm} 0.37$	$51.78 {\pm} 0.65$	14.23 ± 0.30
al		(11.83 ± 0.29)	(18.13 ± 0.62)	(7.52 ± 0.16)	(42.02 ± 0.39)	(50.78 ± 0.67)	(15.67 ± 0.35)
	VR12-EN	8.95	10.52	8.91	41.94	52.98	19.58



L. P. Van Roekel, BFK, P. P. Sullivan, P. E. Hamlington, and S. R. Haney. The form and orientation of Langmuir cells for misaligned winds and waves. Journal of Geophysical Research-Oceans, 117:C05001, 22pp, May 2012.

Q. Li, A. Webb, BFK, A. Craig, G. Danabasoglu, W. G. Large, and M. Vertenstein. Langmuir mixing effects on global climate: WAVEWATCH III in CESM. Ocean Modelling, August 2015. in press.



Q. Li, A. Webb, BFK, A. Craig, G. Danabasoglu, W. G. Large, and M. Vertenstein. Langmuir mixing effects on global climate: WAVEWATCH III in CESM. Ocean Modelling, August 2015. in press.

Enhancing ocean ventilation

280

260

240

220

200

180

160

140

120

100

80

60

40

20

0



Fig. 3. Impact on the zonal 60 50 mean pCFC-11 (patm) in the 40 30 Southern Hemisphere. 20 (a) Observation^[6] 10 0 (GLODAP); -10(b) Biases in the control test -20 -30 without Langmuir mixing; -40 -50 (c) - (e) Biases in tests with -60 Langmuir mixing.

Q. Li, A. Webb, BFK, A. Craig, G. Danabasoglu, W. G. Large, and M. Vertenstein. Langmuir mixing effects on global climate: WAVEWATCH III in CESM. Ocean Modelling, August 2015. in press. Ocean Uptake: Chlorofluorocarbons (manmade pollutant, detectable & known source) Improved vs. Observations with Langmuir Mixing

Case	Global	Southern Hemisphere
CTRL	23.90	20.20
MS2K	29.89	30.99
SS02	34.16	41.90
VR12-AL	22.14	18.53
VR12-MA	23.23	18.90
VR12-EN	20.67	16.44

So, we'll quantify Langmuir effects on climate

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Langmuir important

Langmuir important

Mid-way Conclusions

- Stokes forces may accelerate upper ocean mixing, leading to a wind-wave-convective turbulence driven partly by Stokes forces: Langmuir turbulence
- Three effects of Stokes drift are important: Stokes
 Advection, Stokes Coriolis, and Stokes Shear Force
- The Stokes Shear Force enhances downward and upward velocities in boundary layer turbulence.
- Including Langmuir mixing in climate models improves
 the climate model MLD, T, and uptake of CFCs.
- All papers al: fox-kemper.com/pubs

NASA GSFC Gallery)

The Character of **←** 10 km the Submesoscale

(Capet et al., 2008)



Longitude

Fic. 16. Sea surface temperature measured at 1832 UTC 3 Jan 2006 off Point Conception in th alifornia Current from CoastWatch (http://eoustwatch.pfcg.noaa.pov). The fronts between recently





Fronts

Eddies

- Ro=O(1)
- Ri=O(1)0

near-surface 0 (H=100m)

1–10km, days 0

Eddy processes often baroclinic instability

Parameterizations = BFK et al (08-11).



G. Boccaletti, R. Ferrari, and BFK. Mixed layer instabilities and restratification. Journal of Physical Oceanography, 37(9):2228-2250, 2007

BFK, 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.

BFK, 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

LES of Langmuir-Front Interactions?

LES of Langmuir turbulence with a submesoscale temperature front

Use NCAR LES model to solve Wave-Averaged Eqtns.

2 Versions: 1 With Waves & Winds 1 With only Winds

Computational parameters: Domain size: 20km x 20km x -160m Grid points: 4096 x 4096 x 128 Resolution: 5m x 5m x -1.25m Movie: P. Hamlington



P. E. Hamlington, L. P. Van Roekel, BFK, K. Julien, and G. P. Chini. Langmuir-submesoscale interactions: Descriptive analysis of multiscale frontal spin-down simulations. Journal of Physical Oceanography, 44(9):2249-2272, September 2014.

Diverse types of interaction



P. E. Hamlington, L. P. Van Roekel, BFK, K. Julien, and G. P. Chini. Langmuir-submesoscale interactions: Descriptive analysis of multiscale frontal spin-down simulations. Journal of Physical Oceanography, 44(9): 2249-2272, September 2014.



P. E. Hamlington, L. P. Van Roekel, BFK, K. Julien, and G. P. Chini. Langmuir-submesoscale interactions: Descriptive analysis of multiscale frontal spin-down simulations. Journal of Physical Oceanography, 44(9):2249-2272, September 2014.

Stokes force makes small-scale Turbulence stronger



As we've seen, waves can drive turbulence that affect larger scales indirectly. This is expected.

What about direct effects of waves on larger scales?

$$\mathbf{f} imes rac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial z} = -
abla b$$

Becomes Lagrangian Thermal Wind Balance

$$\mathbf{f} \times \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left(\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{v}_s \right) = \mathbf{f} \times \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}_L}{\partial z} = -\nabla b$$

Now the temperature gradients govern the Lagrangian flow, not the not the Eulerian! The Eulerian response to Stokes is often to cancel it out! (Anti-Stokes flow, Lab: Monismith et al., Obs: Lentz et al.)

J. C. McWilliams and BFK. Oceanic wave-balanced surface fronts and filaments. Journal of Fluid Mechanics, 730:464-490, 2013.

Lagrangian Thermal Wind Linear Stability

Like Eady, but with Lagrangian Thermal Wind Background State

$$U + U^S = -\Psi_y^L$$
, such that $U = -\Psi_y$, and $V + V^S = \Psi_x^L = 0$.



S. Haney, BFK, K. Julien, and A. Webb. Symmetric and geostrophic instabilities in the wave-forced ocean mixed layer. JPO 45:3033-3056, 2015. FIG. 2. The background flow with arbitrary θ (the angle between the Stokes drift and the geostrophic flow) and a prescribed exponential Stokes drift U^S , V^S profile. The geostrophic flow U^G , corresponding to the imposed buoyancy gradient, is shown with blue arrows.

Analytic & Numerical Wavy Submesoscale Stability: Geostrophic Instabilities

Charney, Stern, Pedlosky criteria (appropriately generalized) apply:

o Instability allowed if:

Q^L_Y changes sign in the interior of the domain;
 Q^L_Y is the opposite sign as U^L_z at z = 0;
 Q^L_Y is the same sign as U^L_z at z = −H;
 U^L_z has the same sign at z = −H and z = 0.

$$Q^{L} = \nabla_{H}^{2} \Psi + \beta Y + \partial_{z} \left(\frac{f_{0}^{2}}{N^{2}} \frac{\Psi_{z}^{L}}{B_{z}} \right)$$
$$U + U^{S} = -\Psi_{y}^{L}, \text{ such that } U = -\Psi_{y}, \text{ and}$$
$$V + V^{S} = \Psi_{x}^{L} = 0.$$

Streamfunctions with and w/o Stokes

S. Haney, BFK, K. Julien, and A. Webb. Symmetric and geostrophic instabilities in the wave-forced ocean mixed layer. JPO 45:3033-3056, 2015.

Analytic & Numerical Wavy Submesoscale Stability: Geostrophic Instabilities

 For typical conditions, the Stokes effect amounts to a small change in geostrophic instability (mixed layer eddy) growth rates.



S. Haney, BFK, K. Julien, and A. Webb. Symmetric and geostrophic instabilities in the wave-forced ocean mixed layer. JPO 45:3033-3056, 2015. 19

Analytic & Numerical Wavy Submesoscale Stability: Symmetric Instabilities

- Hoskins (1974) showed that if a front in thermal wind balance is symmetrically unstable, the PV must be anticyclonic.
- Haney et al extend Hoskins' analysis to flows in Lagrangian thermal wind balance in the special case that the Stokes shear is constant.



In the absence of Stokes drift, this is equivalent to the familiar criteria on Richardson Number, with Stokes drift is distinct.

S. Haney, BFK, K. Julien, and A. Webb. Symmetric and geostrophic instabilities in the wave-forced ocean mixed layer. JPO 45:3033-3056, 2015.



FIG. 1. A schematic of the (a) downfront and (b) upfront Stokes drift scenarios. The blue lines show isopycnals, with darker blue indicating denser water. The red lines show surfaces of constant downfront absolute Eulerian momentum, with darker red indicating greater momentum. The perturbation equations are written from the perspective of the lower of the two parcels. A change of all signs would be from the perspective of the upper parcel and have the same stability. For example, in (b) the lower parcel moves to the right (v' > 0) along an isopycnal and brings with it lower downfront momentum than its surroundings (u' < 0). This exerts an acceleration in the cross-front v' direction due to the Coriolis force that further enhances the initial perturbation (v' > 0). In both cases, Ri = 0.5. Lines of constant buoyancy and absolute momentum are only parallel when Ri = 1.

S. Haney, BFK, K. Julien, and A. Webb. Symmetric and geostrophic instabilities in the wave-forced ocean mixed layer. JPO 45:3033-3056, 2015.





Stokes force directly affects larger scales?

ε/Ro



$$\frac{\varepsilon}{Ro} = \frac{V_s}{fL} \frac{H}{H_s} \frac{fL}{V} = \frac{V_s}{V} \frac{H}{H_s} \qquad \varepsilon = \frac{V^s H}{fLH_s} \qquad Ro = \frac{U}{fL}$$

J. C. McWilliams and BFK. Oceanic wave-balanced surface fronts and filaments. Journal of Fluid Mechanics, 730:464-490, 2013.



Along Initial Front Direction (km)

N. Suzuki, BFK, P. E. Hamlington, and L. P. Van Roekel. Surface waves affect frontogenesis. JGR-Oceans, December 2015. Submitted.

J. C. McWilliams and BFK. Oceanic wave-balanced surface fronts and filaments. Journal of Fluid Mechanics, 730:464-490, 2013.

P. E. Hamlington, L. P. Van Roekel, B. Fox-Kemper, K. Julien, and G. P. Chini. Langmuir-submesoscale interactions: Descriptive analysis of multiscale frontal spin-down simulations. Journal of Physical Oceanography, 44(9):2249-2272, September 2014



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N. Suzuki, BFK, P. E. Hamlington, and L. P. Van Roekel. Surface waves affect frontogenesis. JGR-Oceans, December 2015. Submitted.

Stokes Shear Force in Budgets for Overturning

- 2nd Largest Source in Ang. Momentum
 (26% of buoyancy)
- 3rd Largest Source in Overturning KE
 (24% of buoyancy)
- 2nd Largest Source of Overturning Vorticity
 (44% of buoyancy)

 $\frac{\alpha^2}{Ri} \left[w_{,t} + \boldsymbol{v_j^L} w_{,j} + \frac{M_{Ro}}{RoRi} w w_{,z} \right] = -\pi_{,z} + b - \varepsilon \boldsymbol{v_j^L} \boldsymbol{v_{j,z}^s} + \frac{\alpha^2}{ReRi} w_{,jj}$

Stokes Shear Force Affects Fronts and Filaments



Enhances Fronts for Down-Front Stokes **Opposes Fronts for Up-Front Stokes** $\frac{\alpha^2}{Ri} \left[w_{,t} + v_j^L w_{,j} + \frac{M_{Ro}}{RoRi} w w_{,z} \right] = -\pi_{,z} + b - \varepsilon v_j^L v_{j,z}^s + \frac{\alpha^2}{ReRi} w_{,jj}$

N. Suzuki and BFK. Understanding Stokes Forces in the Wave-Averaged Equations, submitted, 2015. J. C. McWilliams and BFK. Oceanic wave-balanced surface fronts and filaments. Journal of Fluid Mechanics, 730:464-490, 2013.

Can it be observed?

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CARTHE LASER (Feb.)

CARTHE LASER (Feb.)

CARTHE LASER (Feb.)

About 45 Min Later.

Conclusions

- In the upper ocean, horizontal scales as big as basins, and as small as meters contribute non-negligibly to the air-sea exchange and climate
- Interesting transition occurs on the Submeso to
 Langmuir scale boundary, as nonhydro. & ageostrophic
 effects begin to dominate
- Langmuir mixing scalings consistent with LES & obs., reduce climate model biases in MLD, T, CFCs vs.
 observations by 5-25%.
- The 25-45% forcing effects of the Stokes Shear force on submesoscale dynamics are under-appreciated.
- All papers at: fox-kemper.com/pubs

How well do we know stokes Drift? <50% discrepancy



RMS error in measures of surface Stokes drift, 2 wave models (left), model vs. altimeter (right)

Year 2000 data & models

A. Webb and B. Fox-Kemper. Wave spectral moments and Stokes drift estimation. Ocean Modelling, 40(3-4):273-288, 2011.

Why? Vortex Tilting Mechanism

In CLB: Tilking occurs in

direction of $\mathbf{u}_L = \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{v}_s$

Misalignment enhances degree of wave-driven LT







Figure 1 Sketch showing the pattern of mean flow in idealized Langmuir circulation. The windrows may be 2 m to 300 m apart, and the cell form is roughly square (as shown). In practice the flow is turbulent, especially near the water surface, and the windrows (Figure 2) amalgamate and meander in space and time. Bands of bubbles or buoyant algae may form within the downward-going (or downwelling) flow (see Figure 3).

Figure 17. Temporal and zonal median and interquartile range of La_t and La_{proj} for a realistic simulation of 1994–2002 using Wave Watch III.

The State of the Art:

Observations vs. Mixed Layers in CESM1.2





125 🗖



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- 3) In a climate model, *add in a wave forecast model as a new component in addition to atmosphere, ocean, ice, etc.*, use this to drive parameterizations of wave mixing in ocean component. FEEDBACKS PRESENT

No Retuning! All coefficients from LES





Generalized Turbulent Parameter (Langmuir Number) Projection of u*, u_s into Langmuir Direction

 $La_{proj}^2 = \frac{|u_*|\cos(\alpha_{LOW})|}{|u_s|\cos(\theta_{ww} - \alpha_{LOW})|},$

A scaling for LC strength & direction! Enough for climate model application

SI Energetics



FIG. 5. Profiles of energy production terms (BP = $\overline{w'b'}$, ESP = $\overline{u'w'} \cdot U_z$, and SSP = $\overline{u'w'} \cdot U_z^S$) for the flow shown in Fig. 4. (a) Partially downfront and (b) partially upfront Stokes drift. Both cases have positive cross-front Stokes drift V^S . Recall that the averaging operator $\overline{(\cdot)}$ is an average over the small horizontal scales x and y. The velocities and length scales in the energy production terms have been nondimensionalized according to Table 1.



Wind-wave dependent processes in the coupled climate system Towards coupled wind-wave-AOGCM models

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