

1 **The K-profile Parameterization augmented by Deep Neural Networks (KPP_DNN)**
2 **in the General Ocean Turbulence Model (GOTM)**

3 **Jianguo Yuan¹, Jun-Hong Liang^{1,2}, Eric P. Chassignet³, Olmo Zavala-Romero³, Xiaoliang**
4 **Wan^{2,4} and Meghan F. Cronin⁵**

5 ¹Department of Oceanography & Coastal Sciences, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA

6 ²Center for Computation and Technology, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA

7 ³Center for Ocean-Atmospheric Prediction Studies, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL

8 ⁴Department of Mathematics, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA

9 ⁵NOAA Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory (PMEL), Seattle, WA

10
11 Corresponding author: Jun-Hong Liang (jliang@lsu.edu)

12 **Key Points:**

- 13 • K-Profile Parameterization schemes, augmented by Deep Neural Networks (KPP_DNN),
14 have been developed and trained using Large Eddy Simulations.
- 15 • The KPP_DNN schemes have been implemented in the General Ocean Turbulence
16 Model (GOTM).
- 17 • The KPP_DNN schemes are stable for long-term integration and as efficient as the
18 physics-based KPP schemes.

19 **Abstract**

20 This study utilizes Deep Neural Networks (DNN) to improve the K-Profile
21 Parameterization (KPP) for the vertical mixing effects in the ocean's surface boundary layer
22 turbulence. The DNNs were trained using 11-year turbulence-resolving solutions, obtained by
23 running a large eddy simulation model for Ocean Station Papa, to predict the turbulence velocity
24 scale coefficient and unresolved shear coefficient in the KPP. The DNN-augmented KPP
25 schemes (KPP_DNN) have been implemented in the General Ocean Turbulence Model
26 (GOTM). This implementation is stable for long-term integration and as efficient as existing
27 variants of KPP schemes. Three different KPP_DNN schemes, varying in input and output
28 variables, have been developed and trained. The performance of models using the KPP_DNN
29 schemes is compared with that of those using popular deterministic first-order and second-
30 moment closure turbulent mixing parameterizations. Solution comparisons show that the
31 simulated mixed layer is cooler and deeper, aligning closely with observations when wave
32 effects are included in parameterizations. In the KPP framework, changes to the velocity scale of
33 unresolved shear, which is used to calculate mixed layer depth, have a larger impact on the
34 simulated mixed layer than do changes to the magnitude of diffusivity. In the KPP_DNN,
35 changes to unresolved shear depend on not only on wave forcing, but also on the mixed layer
36 depth and buoyancy forcing.

37 **Plain Language Summary**

38 The uppermost tens of meters of the ocean, known as the ocean surface boundary layer,
39 are rich in intricate and chaotic fine-scale (cm to 100s m) ocean currents referred to as
40 turbulence. These currents, spanning from centimeters to hundreds of meters, play pivotal roles
41 in shaping the oceanic environment and influencing Earth's climate dynamics. Despite their

42 significance, accurately simulating these fine-scale ocean currents remains beyond the
43 capabilities of current and foreseeable supercomputing resources. Consequently, simplified
44 formulas derived from fundamental principles are commonly employed to approximate these
45 currents in ocean and climate models. However, these approximations still cannot cover all types
46 of choppy currents and uncertainties in these approximations represent a substantial source of
47 bias in contemporary ocean and climate modeling endeavors. In this study, we enhance one of
48 the prevalent physics-based approximations of fine-scale turbulent currents using machine
49 learning techniques. Our tests show that integrating machine learning in physics-based
50 approximation is stable and efficient and is suitable for use in ocean and climate models.

51 **1 Introduction**

52 The ocean surface boundary layer (OSBL) is a thin layer below the ocean surface,
53 typically extending tens to a hundred meters in thickness, and is strongly affected by external
54 forcing such as wind, waves, and net heat fluxes. Ocean currents within the OSBL are highly
55 turbulent, with the scale of these turbulent currents ranging from centimeters to several hundred
56 meters. These turbulent currents have a profound impact on ocean dynamics, both within and
57 beyond the OSBL, playing a significant role in sustaining marine ecosystems and shaping global
58 climates. However, despite advances in oceanography, accurately simulating these turbulent
59 processes remains a formidable challenge, particularly in regional and global ocean models,
60 where directly resolving these dynamics is computationally infeasible in the foreseeable future
61 (Fox-Kemper et al., 2019; Fox-Kemper et al., 2014).

62 In realistic ocean and climate models, the turbulent flux of a variable x , i.e., $\overline{w'x'}$, is
63 calculated as:

$$\overline{w'x'} = -K_x \frac{\partial \bar{x}}{\partial z} \quad (1)$$

64
65 Here, x represents a property in ocean water such as momentum, temperature, or material
66 concentrations; z is the vertical coordinate; and w is the vertical velocity of water. The overbar
67 in equation 1 represents the ensemble average, while the prime denotes the turbulent fluctuation,
68 i.e., $x' = x - \bar{x}$. K_x in equation 1 is the eddy viscosity or diffusivity, represented by simplified
69 physics-based formulas called parameterizations. These parameterizations incorporate empirical,
70 tunable coefficients. In early studies, the coefficients were tuned using in situ observations of
71 temperature and salinity (e.g., Large et al., 1994) . However, in-situ observations are modulated
72 by turbulent currents as well as submesoscale to large-scale currents. Over the past 20 years,
73 turbulence-resolving simulations of OSBL turbulence, using Large Eddy Simulation (LES)
74 models, have become available, with LES solutions being used to derive empirical parameters
75 (e.g., Harcourt, 2015; van Roekel et al., 2012). LES models simulate OSBL turbulence
76 exclusively, excluding submesoscale to large-scale processes, thus are superior to tune
77 parameterizations of turbulent mixing.

78 Turbulent mixing parameterization schemes typically fall into two categories. The first
79 category is the first-order closure scheme, in which parameters are directly related to the forcing
80 conditions and water property profiles. A well-known example is the K-profile parametrization
81 (KPP) scheme. The KPP scheme was initially proposed for turbulence in atmospheric boundary
82 layers (Troen & Mahrt, 1986) and later adapted for the OSBL (Large et al., 1994). Due to its
83 computational efficiency and stability, the KPP scheme is widely used in realistic simulations for
84 regional and global oceans (e.g., Belcher et al., 2012; Y. Li et al., 2017; Liang et al., 2022;
85 McWilliams & Sullivan, 2000; van Roekel et al., 2018; van Roekel et al., 2012; Vertenstein et

86 al., 2012; Warner et al., 2005). The second category is the second-momentum closure (SMC)
87 scheme, where turbulent diffusivity and turbulent viscosity are derived from turbulence statistics
88 (kinetic energy, length scale, and dissipation rate) and empirically calculated in the scheme
89 (Kantha & Clayson, 1994; Reichl & Hallberg, 2018; Umlauf & Burchard, 2003). The SMC
90 scheme, being computationally more expensive than the KPP scheme, is more commonly used in
91 simulations of coastal oceans, where the current environment is more complicated (e.g., Warner
92 et al., 2005) than in global and regional oceans. Recent studies have revised both the KPP and
93 SMC schemes to include enhanced turbulent mixing effect due to wave-driven Langmuir
94 turbulence, i.e., KPPLT and SMCLT. Studies have shown that the use of KPPLT and SMCLT
95 generally improves the simulations of sea surface temperature and the mixed layer depth (MLD)
96 for global (Q. Li et al., 2016) and regional oceans (Ali et al., 2019). However, a recent study (Q.
97 Li et al., 2019) examining 11 mixing parameterization schemes, including KPP, SMC, KPPLT,
98 and SMCLT, found substantial differences in the solutions provided by these methods, indicating
99 persistent biases across all schemes.

100 Further refining traditional turbulent mixing parameterizations is challenging. In the
101 upper ocean, turbulent mixing is driven by diverse combinations of wind, wave, and buoyancy
102 conditions. However, deterministic parameterization schemes were developed based on a small
103 subset of the realistic conditions across the global ocean (e.g., Fig.1 in Q. Li et al., 2019).
104 Furthermore, deterministic formulas for empirical coefficients lack the flexibility to account for
105 the vast combinations of wind, wave, and buoyancy conditions.

106 In light of these challenges, recent efforts have begun exploring alternative approaches to
107 take advantage of the recent development of machine learning techniques, especially deep neural
108 networks (DNNs), to enhance the representation of the mixing effects of OSBL turbulence.

109 DNNs utilize extensive data as truth to establish non-linear relationships between the inputs and
110 predicted outcomes. Early attempts aimed to replace traditional mixing parameterization by
111 directly predicting turbulent fluxes using DNNs (e.g., Gentine et al., 2018; Liang et al., 2022;
112 Rasp et al., 2018). While these DNNs have shown promising results in predicting turbulent flux
113 profiles, ensuring numerical stability when integrating them with realistic climate models for
114 long-term use poses challenges (Rasp, 2020).

115 An alternative approach is to retain the physics-based framework in traditional
116 parameterizations and use DNN to predict parameters that are uncertain in those
117 parameterizations. Sane et al. (2023) trained DNNs to predict profiles of eddy diffusivity in the
118 OSBL under the framework of the energetics-based planetary boundary layer (ePBL, Reichl &
119 Hallberg, 2018) using simulations based on a SMC scheme as the truth. The authors further
120 coupled the ePBL-DNN model into the Modular Ocean Model (MOM, e.g., Adcroft et al., 2019),
121 and demonstrated its stability for long-term integration. Zhu et al. (2022) trained DNNs to
122 predict mixing coefficients in the interior ocean (below the OSBL) based on in-situ
123 microstructure observations at the equatorial Pacific Ocean. By implementing it into the MOM,
124 they demonstrated that incorporating a DNN into the model reduces cold biases in the equatorial
125 Pacific. The study, however, did not attempt to improve parameterizations on the effects of
126 OSBL turbulence.

127 However, the DNN models in those two studies are not based on LES solutions and have
128 not targeted the popular KPP model. In this study, we aim to bridge the gap by using high-
129 resolution LES simulations to develop DNN models capable of predicting key turbulent mixing
130 parameters in the widely used KPP model. The models in this study are designed to enhance the
131 realism of OSBL simulations within the framework of the KPP scheme, without altering

132 fundamental equations or time-stepping mechanisms, thus facilitating straightforward integration
 133 into existing ocean models. The rest of the paper is organized as follows: Section 2 presents the
 134 framework of the DNN-augmented KPP (KPP_DNN) and outlines the data used to train the
 135 DNNs. Section 3 provides details on the implementation of the DNN-augmented KPP schemes
 136 into the General Ocean Turbulence Model (GOTM). Section 4 describes how the GOTM is
 137 configured with traditional physics-based parameterization and KPP_DNN. Section 5 evaluates
 138 the performance of KPP_DNN in comparison to traditional parameterization schemes. Section 6
 139 summarizes the major findings of the study.

140 **2 The K-Profile Parameterization augmented by Deep Neural Networks (KPP_DNN)**

141 **2.1 Model Description**

142 In the KPP framework (Large et al., 1994), the expression for viscosity or diffusivity K_x
 143 is given by:

$$144 \quad K_x(\sigma) = w_x(\sigma)hG_x(\sigma) \quad (2)$$

145 Here, w_x is a velocity scale related to the surface forcing and the Monin-Obukhov
 146 similarity theory, h is the surface boundary layer depth, and $G_x(\sigma)$ is a dimensionless shape
 147 function, with $\sigma = z/h$ the depth normalized by h . The OSBL depth h is the depth to which
 148 OSBL turbulence reaches. In low and mid-latitudes, where mixed layers are relatively shallow,
 149 the OSBL depth equals the MLD. In high-latitude oceans where the mixed layer is deep, the
 150 OSBL is limited by the earth's rotation and is thinner than the mixed layer.

151 In mixing parameterizations, the OSBL depth h is typically diagnosed by identifying the
 152 depth at which the Richardson number (Ri), a measure of the relative importance between shear
 153 and stable stratification, exceeds a critical value Ric . This criterion is based on linear stability

154 analysis, which shows that stably stratified shear flow is unstable and turbulent mixing quenches
 155 when the gradient Ri exceeds a critical value of 0.3, i.e., $Ri > Ri_c = 0.3$. Below the OSBL depth,
 156 Ri is larger than Ri_c and the flow is stable. Above the depth, Ri is smaller than Ri_c and the flow is
 157 turbulent. In the KPP scheme, the bulk Richardson number $Ri_b(z)$ is used and the critical bulk
 158 Richardson number is set to be 0.3 (Large et al., 1994). $Ri_b(z)$ is related to ocean current and
 159 stratification as,

$$160 \quad Ri_b(z) = \frac{z \left(b_r - \overline{b(z)} \right)}{\left(\mathbf{u}_r - \overline{\mathbf{u}(z)} \right)^2 + U_t^2(z)} \quad (3)$$

161 Here, b is the buoyancy, defined as $b = g[\alpha_\theta(\theta - \theta_r) - \beta_s(s - s_r)]$, with θ the
 162 potential temperature, s the salinity, α_θ and β_s the corresponding thermal and saline expansion
 163 coefficients, respectively; \mathbf{u} is the water current vector. The subscript r denotes the vertically
 164 averaged value over the surface layer. The effect of turbulence is represented using the velocity
 165 scale of the unresolved shear $U_t^2(z)$:

$$166 \quad U_t^2(z) = \frac{C_v N(z) w_x(z) |z|}{Ri_c} \quad (4)$$

167 where C_v is a dimensionless coefficient and N is the Brunt-Väsälä frequency.

168 Recent studies have shown that the effects of non-breaking waves greatly modulate
 169 turbulent fluxes in the OSBL, either enhancing or suppressing turbulent fluxes depending on the
 170 alignment between wind and waves (McWilliams et al., 2014; van Roekel et al., 2012). When
 171 wind and waves are largely aligned, as is common across the global ocean, turbulence is
 172 enhanced by wave-driven Langmuir turbulence. When waves are significantly misaligned with
 173 the wind, as occurs when the swell is strong, turbulence is suppressed. Several recent studies
 174 (e.g., Q. Li & Fox-Kemper, 2017; Q. Li et al., 2019; McWilliams & Sullivan, 2000; van Roekel
 175 et al., 2012) have been devoted to including wave effects into the KPP framework. In those

176 parameterizations, referred to as KPPLT hereafter, the turbulent velocity scale (w_x), and the
 177 unresolved shear velocity scale, $U_t^2(z)$, are modified as,

$$178 \quad K_x(\sigma) = \epsilon w_x(\sigma) |h| G_x(\sigma) \quad (5)$$

$$179 \quad U_t^2(z) = \eta U_t^2(z)|_{LMD} \quad (6)$$

180 where $U_t^2(z)|_{LMD}$ is the term calculated using a formula in Large et al. (1994), the velocity scale
 181 coefficient ϵ and the unresolved shear coefficient η are deterministic functions of wind and wave
 182 forcing (e.g., Q. Li & Fox-Kemper, 2017; Reichl et al., 2016)

183 In this study, these two coefficients will be determined by Deep feedforward Neural
 184 Networks (DNNs), as opposed to deterministic functions in deterministic formulas in existing
 185 studies. The DNN augmented parameterization will be called KPP_DNN hereafter.

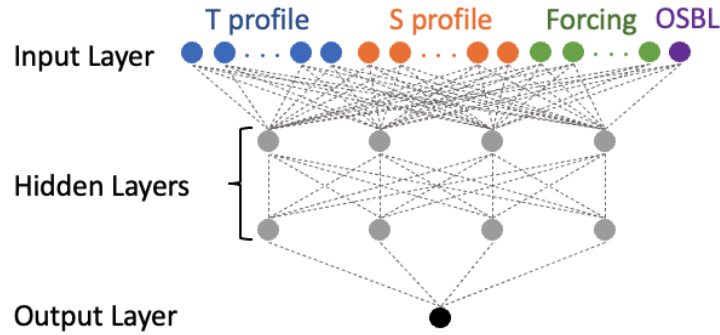
186 A DNN is made up of multiple densely connected layers, including one input layer, one
 187 output layer, and multiple hidden layers (Figure 1). Each layer includes multiple neurons.
 188 Neurons between layers are connected by the following relationship:

$$189 \quad X_{i,j} = f \left(\sum_{k=1}^{N_{j-1}} w_{k,i,j-1} X_{k,j-1} + b_{k,i,j-1} \right) \quad (7)$$

190 where $X_{i,j}$ means the i th neuron in the j th layer, N_j is the number of neurons in the j th layer.

191 $w_{k,i,j-1}$ and $b_{k,i,j-1}$ are the weight and bias that link neuron $X_{k,j-1}$ to neuron $X_{i,j}$, respectively.

192 In this study, the Leaky Rectified Linear Unit function (Leaky ReLU, $\alpha(x) = \max(0.1x, x)$) is
 193 used as the activation function.



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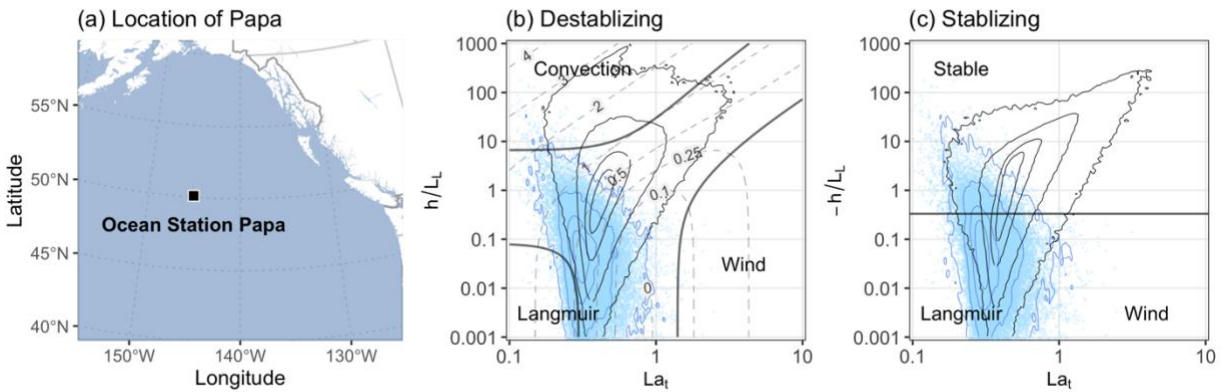
195 **Figure 1.** The architect of a Deep Neural Network (DNN) model

196 The DNN's input layer consists of water-column variables, including potential
 197 temperature profiles (θ), salinity profiles (s), ocean currents, and key OSBL turbulence drivers,
 198 including wind stress (τ_x, τ_y), shortwave radiation at the ocean surface (S_w), net heat flux
 199 excluding short wave radiation (Q_f), the rate of evaporation minus precipitation (Q_s), vertical
 200 profiles of Stokes drift associated with ocean surface waves and the OSBL depth from the
 201 previous time step. The output layer consists of a single neuron in each DNN model, predicting a
 202 specific parameter. Specifically, we have two different DNN models based on the output: model
 203 D_ϵ to predict the turbulent velocity scale coefficient (ϵ), and model D_η to predict the unresolved
 204 shear coefficient (η).

205 The DNN model utilizes a vast array of computations characterized by nonlinear
 206 activation functions with distinct weights and biases. Integrating a well-tuned DNN model into a
 207 traditional physics-based parameterization scheme not only preserves the computational stability
 208 and efficiency of a traditional physics-based model but also enables a more flexible and effective
 209 non-linear mapping from input variables to output parameters than what deterministic formulas
 210 could achieve.

211 **2.2 Data Generation and Curation**

212 The data used to develop and test the KPP_DNN schemes are turbulence-resolving
213 simulations for Ocean Station Papa (OSP) using the NCAR-LES model for the OSBL (e.g.,
214 Sullivan & McWilliams, 2010). OSP ($50^{\circ}N$, $145^{\circ}W$, see Figure 2a) is located within the
215 Northern Pacific subpolar gyre. With a long history of continuous atmospheric and
216 oceanographic in-situ observations (Cronin et al., 2023; Whitney & Tortell, 2006), OSP has been
217 served as a pivotal site for monitoring ocean climate (e.g., Bond et al., 2015; R. E. Thomson &
218 Tabata, 1987), understanding ocean physical and biogeochemical processes, and developing
219 parameterization schemes extensively employed in diverse ocean models (e.g., Chalikov, 2005;
220 Craig & Banner, 1994; Gaspar et al., 1990; Kantha & Clayson, 1994; Large et al., 1994). Figures
221 2b and 2c present the probability of OSBL turbulence regime at OSP based on the observed
222 forcing conditions. The most common turbulence regime at OSP is a mix of the three types of
223 turbulence. There are periods when Langmuir turbulence dominates, while convection or shear-
224 driven turbulence seldom dominates. Different from the global ocean (compare the blue and
225 black contours), the OSBL at OSP is seldom strongly convective or strongly stabilizing. LES
226 models are currently the state-of-the-art tool to study OSBL and submsoscale turbulence (e.g.,
227 Bodner et al., 2020; Fan et al., 2018; Kukulka et al., 2009; Skillingstad & Denbo, 1995; Yuan &
228 Liang, 2021), and to develop parameterizations for those processes (e.g., Bodner et al., 2023;
229 Liang et al., 2013; Liu et al., 2022; Sinha et al., 2015).



230

231 **Figure 2.** Panel (a) shows the location of Ocean Station Papa in the north Pacific Ocean. Panels
 232 (b) and (c) are regime diagrams showing the forcing conditions at OSP between 2010 and 2022.
 233 Panel (b) corresponds to conditions of destabilizing net surface buoyancy forces, whereas panel
 234 (c) is for conditions under stabilizing buoyancy forces. The thin solid contours are the probability
 235 (30%, 60%, 90% and 99%) of a certain parameter combination in the global ocean. The light
 236 black dots are the conditions in OSP, while the dark blue contours are the probability (30%,
 237 60%, 90% and 99%) in OSP. In panel (b), the thin dashed contours show turbulent dissipation
 238 rate, and the thick solid grey lines encompass regimes where one of the three types of turbulence
 239 contributes over 90% to total dissipation. In panel (c), the thick grey line is the maximum
 240 equilibrium $-h/L_L$ value according to Pearson et al. (2015).

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The use of the NCAR-LES model to generate data is similar to that reported in Liang et al. (2017) and Liang et al. (2022): The domain of the LES model is configured with 160 uniformly distributed grids, spanning 300m in each horizontal direction, Vertically, the LES model features 128 stretched grids across a 200m depth, with the finest grid equal 0.2m at the ocean surface. The LES model was driven by a combination of observed hourly meteorological (Cronin et al., 2015), wave conditions (J. Thomson et al., 2013) and the derived surface flux products at OSP from September 2010 to December 2022. These inputs include wind stresses,

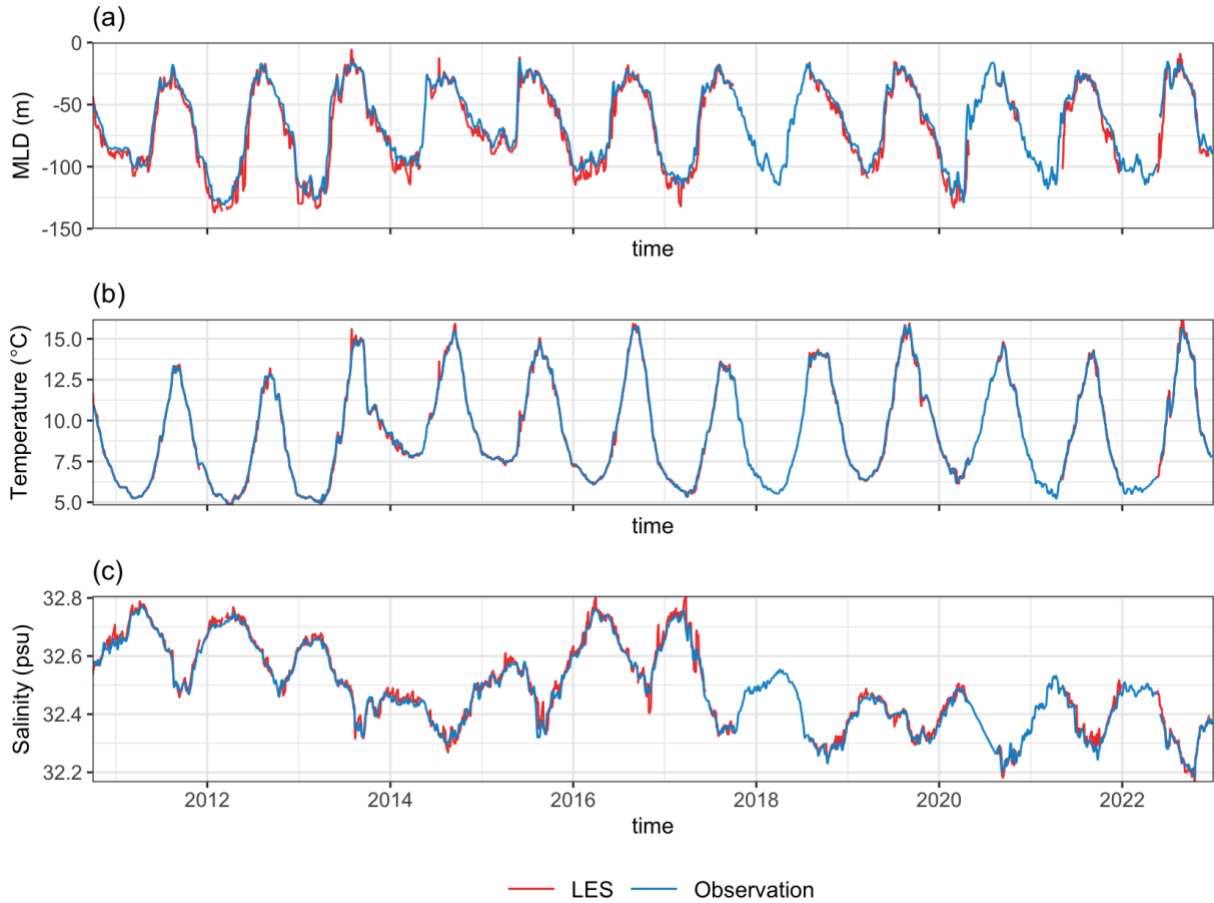
248 wave conditions, shortwave radiation, net surface heat flux (excluding shortwave radiation), and
 249 the rate of evaporation minus precipitation, at OSP from September 2010 to December 2022.
 250 Periods when the observational wave data were not available were excluded from LES
 251 simulations. The LES simulations were restarted every 10 days, and initial conditions of each
 252 restart were derived from observed water column temperature and salinity profiles linearly
 253 interpolated to LES vertical grids. The restart procedure is to ensure that the LES solutions do
 254 not deviate from the true state of the ocean, as large- and mesoscale processes that also modulate
 255 the physical states of the upper ocean at the station (Cronin et al., 2015) are not resolved by the
 256 LES model. Comparisons with observation show that the LES simulations closely align with
 257 reproduces observed upper-ocean states with this approach (see Figure 3). In total, 367 LES
 258 simulations were conducted.

259 The turbulence-resolving LES solution dataset differs from that used by Liang et al.
 260 (2022) in two ways: Firstly, the simulation period is longer, spanning from 2010 to 2022 in the
 261 current study, as opposed to 2010 to 2019 in Liang et al. (2022), thereby offering more data for
 262 model training and testing. Secondly, shortwave radiation penetrates the OSBL in the current
 263 study while shortwave radiation was applied only at the ocean surface in Liang et al. (2022). The
 264 shortwave radiation at depth z , $Q_{sw}(z)$, is calculated as

$$265 \quad Q_{sw}(z) = Q_{sw,0} \left(r e^{z/\mu_1} + (1 - r) e^{z/\mu_2} \right) \quad (8)$$

266 where $Q_{sw,0}$ is the net shortwave radiation at the ocean surface. $r = 0.58$, $\mu_1 = 0.35$ and
 267 $\mu_2 = 23$ are three empirically determined constants (Paulson & Simpson, 1977) to fit the data in
 268 Jerlov (1976). The penetrative shortwave radiation is more realistic than a surface shortwave
 269 flux. In LES simulations, the penetrating shortwave radiation led to thicker OSBLs and more
 270 modest increases in sea surface temperature when compared to simulations driven by shortwave

271 radiation only at the ocean surface. The use of penetrative shortwave radiation is also consistent
 272 with realistic ocean models. Therefore, the KPP_DNN trained using the set of LES solutions
 273 could be implemented into realistic ocean models.



274
 275 **Figure 3.** Comparison between the LES solutions and in situ observations in Ocean Station Papa
 276 (OSP). (a) mixed layer depth (MLD); (b) mean temperature in the mixed layer; (c) mean salinity
 277 in the mixed layer.

278 Ensemble-averaged profiles of temperature, salinity, velocities, turbulent kinetic energy
 279 (TKE), and their turbulent fluxes were calculated online and output every 30 minutes. The depth
 280 of the OSBL h was diagnosed as the depth at which the vertical gradient of momentum flux
 281 decreases to $2 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m/s}^2$. η was then diagnosed using Equations 4 and 6 with a $Ri_c = 0.3$.

282 w_x and $G(\sigma)$ in Equation 5 were first calculated using the LES solutions and formulas detailed in
283 Large et al. (1994). ϵ was then obtained by minimizing the difference between the momentum
284 fluxes using equation 1 and the output momentum flux from LES solutions.

285 **2.3 Model Training**

286 The predicted coefficients ϵ in model D_ϵ and η in model D_η were compared with ϵ and η
287 diagnosed from LES solutions as detailed in section 2.2. Mean square errors served as the loss to
288 update trainable parameters in the DNNs. The DNNs were trained using TensorFlow and Keras
289 within the R programming environment. The architecture of these DNNs varied significantly,
290 encompassing a range of different layers (1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 12) and neurons per layer (2, 4, 8, 16, 32),
291 to explore the optimal structure for our specific application. The Adam optimizer was employed
292 across all models. Each model was trained for 1000 epochs. To avoid overfitting, the learning
293 rate was reduced by a factor of 0.1 whenever a plateau in validation loss was detected during the
294 training process. The criterion for selecting the best model was based on the smallest validation
295 loss, a standard measure of model accuracy on unseen data, ensuring that the chosen model has
296 the highest generalization capability.

297 **3 Implementation of KPP_DNN in the General Ocean Turbulence Model (GOTM)**

298 The General Ocean Turbulence Model (GOTM, Burchard et al., 1999) is a single-column
299 model designed to examine the behavior of various turbulent mixing parameterization schemes
300 in the OSBL. It provides a versatile framework, allowing for the straightforward compilation and
301 execution of different OSBL turbulent mixing parameterization schemes, making it the ideal
302 testbed for developing and testing mixing parameterizations. The current GOTM model includes

303 a variety of first-order and second-moment closure schemes, allowing for the comparison of
304 different schemes within the same framework.

305 Adding to the capability of the GOTM, this study implements the trained DNNs, their
306 structure and trainable parameters, into the model. The GOTM, like most earth system models, is
307 coded exclusively in Fortran, while DNN models are typically written in high-level
308 programming languages like Python and R, utilizing deep learning libraries such as Keras (Gulli
309 & Pal, 2017; Ketkar & Ketkar, 2017). There are two approaches that a DNN model could be
310 implemented in a Fortran code: The first is to hard-code the entire DNN structure and trainable
311 parameters directly into Fortran (e.g., Brenowitz & Bretherton, 2018; Gagne et al., 2020). The
312 other approach, adopted in this study, is to overcome the computer language interoperability by
313 incorporating a software library that connects Fortran and Python environments, such as the
314 Fortran-Keras Bridge (FKB, Ott et al., 2020) used in this study.

315 The process involves converting a trained DNN using Keras, saved in HDF format, into
316 an ASCII file offline. This ASCII file is specifically structured for easy interpretation by the
317 FKB. In a FKB informed Fortran program, the DNN model, including its structure and weights,
318 is reconstructed by loading this ASCII file. During each timestep of integration in the GOTM,
319 the necessary input array, composed of outputs from the GOTM model and forcing conditions, as
320 detailed in section 2.3, was normalized and fed into the loaded DNN model. Subsequently, the
321 DNN's predictions were then denormalized and integrated back into GOTM to compute the
322 enhancement factors in equations 6.

323 **4 Model Configurations**

324 Three different KPP_DNNs were compared against seven existing physics-based
325 parameterizations (Table 1) using the GOTM. The three KPP_DNNs vary in complexity. In

326 KPP_DNN1, only the coefficients for the velocity scale coefficient ϵ predicted by D_ϵ were
327 utilized. In KPP_DNN2a, both the velocity scale coefficient ϵ predicted by D_ϵ and the
328 unresolved shear coefficient η predicted by D_η were used. Wave-induced Stokes profiles were
329 not included as inputs of the KPP_DNN2a. KPP_DNN2b was the same as KPP_DNN2a but
330 additionally incorporated Stokes profiles as inputs. Since most ocean models are not yet coupled
331 with wave models, it is expected that KPP_DNN2a will be more extensively utilized in existing
332 ocean models.

333 Seven well-known traditional deterministic parameterizations were also selected for
334 comparison (Table 1). The KPP_LMD is the basis of KPP schemes and does not incorporate the
335 enhancement of non-breaking waves. KPPLT_VR12 adds the enhancement of non-breaking
336 wave effects only to the turbulent velocity scale but leaves the unresolved shear component
337 unchanged. KPPLT_LF17 builds on KPPLT_VR12 and includes modification on both the
338 velocity scale and the unresolved shear components. KPPLT_RW16 is similar to KPPLT_LF17,
339 but formulas and coefficients that modify velocity scale and the unresolved shear were tuned
340 using LES solutions under hurricane conditions, thus has a stronger enhancement than
341 KPPLT_LF17. It should be noted that all three KPPLT schemes have considered the effects of
342 wind-wave misalignment. Across the global oceans, wind and waves are often misaligned (e.g.,
343 Abolfazli et al., 2020; Hanley et al., 2010). When waves align with the wind, Langmuir
344 turbulence enhances OSBL turbulence. When waves oppose the wind, OSBL turbulence is
345 suppressed (e.g., McWilliams et al., 2014). All KPPLT schemes were tuned using LES solutions.

346 SMC_KC94 is the second closure model tuned using data over at a few different
347 locations across the global oceans. This scheme does not include the non-breaking wave effects.
348 SMCLT_H15 generalizes SMC_KC94 to incorporate the impact of non-breaking waves by

349 including the Stokes profiles in the governing equations. Coefficients in the SMCLT_H15
350 scheme were tuned using LES solutions.

351 The performance of the seven traditional parameterizations and the three variants of
352 KPP_DNN schemes is compared using the GOTM for the year 2011 to 2016. The GOTM
353 simulations are divided into two sets. Both sets of simulations are driven by observed
354 meteorological and wave conditions. They differ by the surface buoyancy fluxes used to drive
355 the model. In the first set of simulation (set 1), surface buoyancy flux products at OSP provided
356 by Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory (PMEL), are used as input. Those fluxes were
357 calculated using the Coupled Ocean-Atmosphere Response Experiment (COARE) algorithm
358 with the observed ocean and atmosphere conditions. In the second set of simulations (set 2),
359 surface buoyancy fluxes are calculated using the same COARE algorithms online during the
360 GOTM simulations. The online flux calculation is based on observed meteorological condition
361 and the simulated sea surface temperature (SST) and sea surface salinity (SSS). The approach in
362 the pre-calculated surface buoyancy flux has been commonly used in studies aiming at
363 improving or comparing mixing parameterization schemes (e.g., Q. Li et al., 2019). In this model
364 configuration, forcing conditions are identical among different simulations and the difference in
365 solutions are purely due to mixing parameterizations. The online calculation of surface buoyancy
366 flux in the second set of simulation is consistent with that in most realistic ocean simulations
367 using regional and global models (e.g., Chassignet et al., 2020). In simulations driven by pre-
368 calculated buoyancy fluxes, corrected fluxes to nudge the simulated SST and SSS to their
369 climatological states are usually imposed to prevent the long-term drift in the solutions (e.g.,
370 Barnier et al., 1995). With this approach, however, the surface buoyancy flux is different among
371 simulations using different mixing parameterizations. The GOTM simulations are restarted at the

372 beginning of each year using observed temperature and salinity profiles as initial conditions. In
 373 each simulation, outputs recorded at every 30 minutes. It should be noted that the GOTM with all
 374 parameterizations could be integrated for a full 6-year period without any stability issue.
 375 However, restarting at the beginning of each year mitigates the long-term drift in the solution due
 376 to the exclusion of larger-scale processes in the 1-D vertical column model (see Figure S1 in
 377 supporting information).

378

379 **Table 1.** List of parameterization names and the references for the deterministic parameterization
 380 schemes compared in this study.

Parameterization Name	References
KPP_LMD	Large et al. (1994)
KPPLT_VR12	van Roedel et al. (2012)
KPPLT_RW16	Reichl et al. (2016)
KPPLT_LF17	Q. Li and Fox-Kemper (2017)
SMC_KC94	Kantha and Clayson (1994)
SMCLT_H15	Harcourt (2015)

381

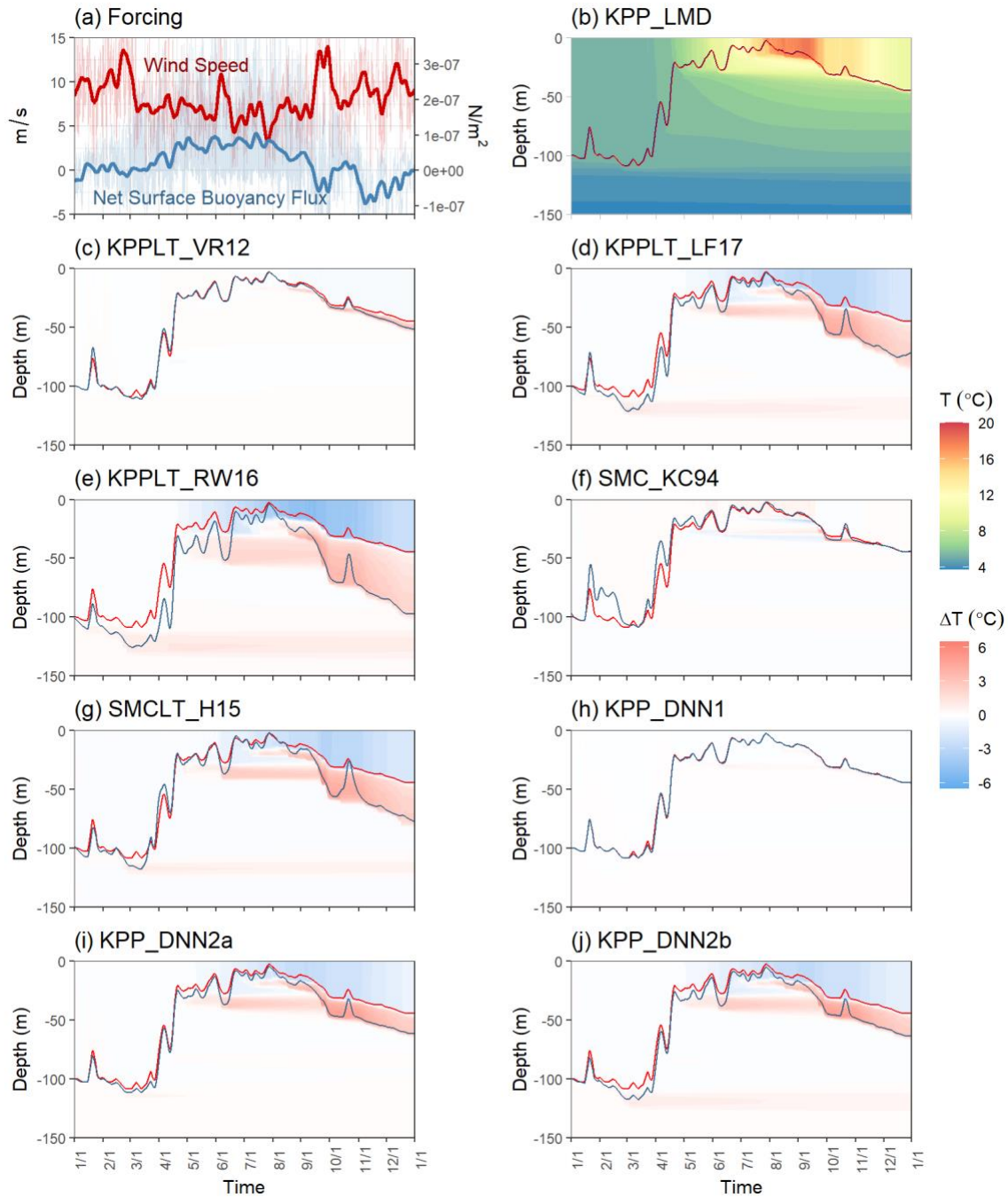
382 **5 Results**

383 **5.1 Solution Comparisons**

384 Figure 4 shows the evolution of surface forcing and ocean temperature profiles calculated
 385 using various mixing parameterizations for the year 2013 using pre-calculated surface buoyancy
 386 flux. Forcing conditions are identical for these solutions. Both wind and buoyancy flux exhibit
 387 distinct seasonal variability. Winds are weaker and stabilizing surface buoyancy flux prevails
 388 from March to early September than the rest of the year. During winter, there were multiple

389 storms characterized by short-term and significant strengthening in both wind and destabilizing
390 surface buoyancy flux. For example, during the cold front in late September, the daily average
391 wind speed doubled within a single day and remained above 12 m/s for approximately one week.

392 Figure 4b displays the temperature profiles calculated using KPP_LMD. From January to
393 March, there is minimal variability in the simulated MLD and temperature. The simulated mixed
394 layer was relatively deep, close to 100 m, and the mixed layer temperature was around 5°C. The
395 upper ocean re-stratified quickly in April. The MLD shallowed from -100 m to -20 m during
396 April. However, the warming of the mixed layer during the month is relatively modest, about
397 2°C. The mixed layer continued to warm, reaching a maximum temperature of 17.6°C in early
398 September. Since then, the mixed layer cooled and deepened. It should be noted that a marine
399 heatwave, famously known as “the Blob”, started in the winter of 2013/2014 (Bond et al., 2015;
400 Di Lorenzo & Mantua, 2016) resulting in a shallower and warmer mixed layer at the end of 2013
401 than the beginning of the year. In addition to the seasonal cycle, rapid mixed layer cooling and
402 deepening associated with storms are also evident, leading to short-term variability in both mixed
403 layer temperature and depth. For example, storms in early June led to notable mixed layer
404 cooling and deepening during the longer-term seasonal warming of the mixed layer during
405 summer, while a storm in late September accelerated mixed deepening and cooling during fall.



406

407 **Figure 4.** Comparison of the potential temperature profile evolutions at Ocean Station Papa in
 408 the year 2013 using various simulation schemes. Forcing conditions are identical in these
 409 simulations (set 1). (a) Time series for observed 10-meter wind speeds (thin red line) and net
 410 surface buoyancy fluxes (thin blue line). The smoothed thick lines show the daily averaged

411 values. (b) potential temperature evolution calculated using KPP_LMD. Panels (c) to (j) show
412 the difference in simulated temperature from KPP_LMD for all other parameterizations. The
413 mixed layer depth (MLD), defined by the depth at which the density exceeds the surface value
414 by 0.03 kg/m^3 , from KPP_LMD is indicated by thin red lines in panels (b) to (j), whereas the
415 mixed layer depths from other schemes are delineated by blue lines in panels (c) to (j).

416 Figures 4c to 4j show the differences between different parameterizations and
417 KPP_LMD. In KPPLT_VR12 and KPP_DNN1, wave effects are incorporated only into the
418 velocity scale coefficient ϵ , but not in unresolved shear coefficient η . The results (Figures 4c and
419 4h) demonstrate only a slight impact on the simulated temperature profiles. The deviation in
420 temperature from the baseline KPP_LMD remained relatively minor, less than 1°C throughout
421 the year. The mixed layer was only slightly deeper after September.

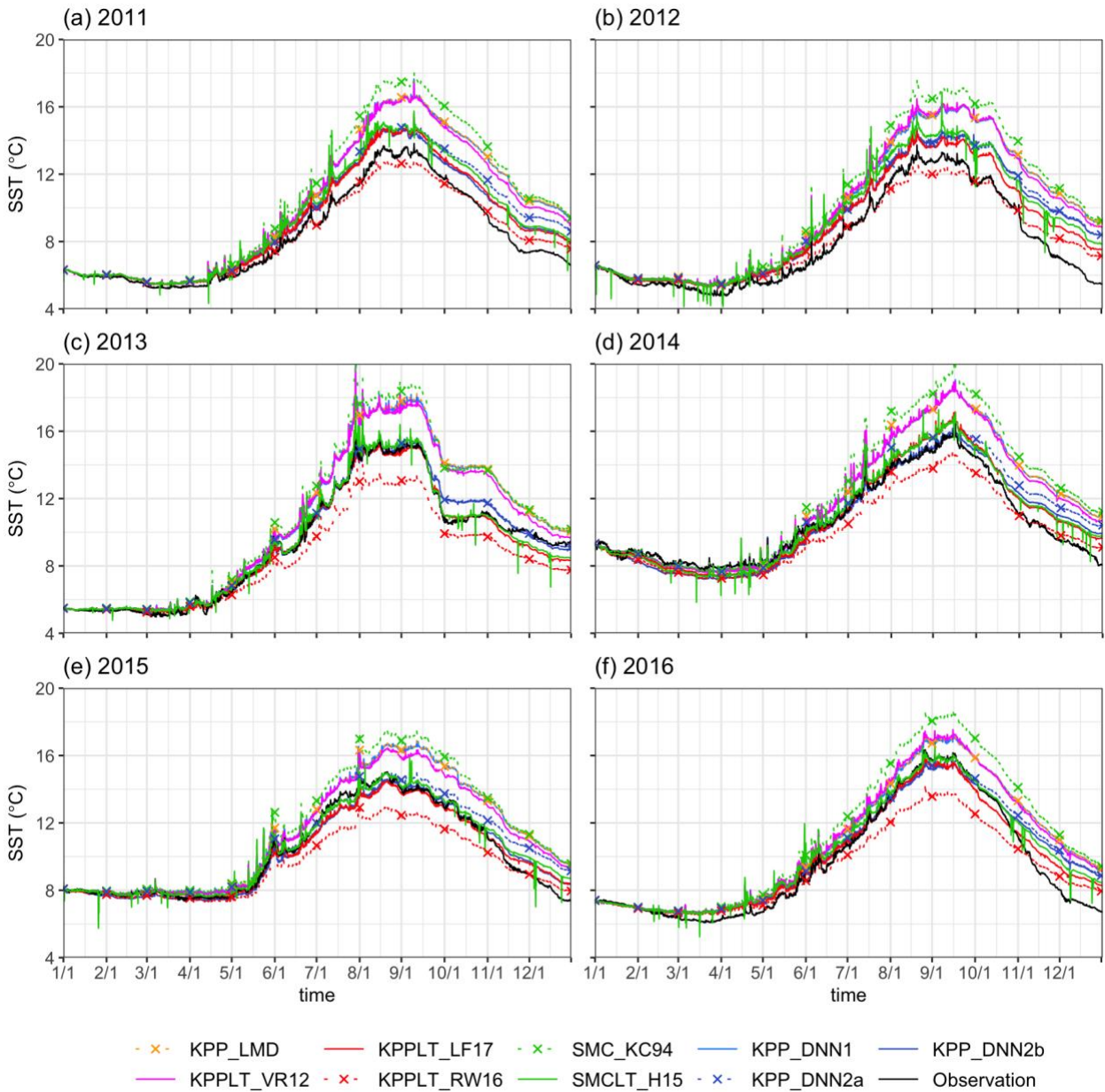
422 In the KPP schemes that include wave effects in both velocity scale coefficient ϵ and
423 unresolved shear coefficient η , i.e., KPPLT_LF17, KPPLT_RW16, KPP_DNN2a and
424 KPP_DNN2b, as shown in Figures 4d, 4e, 4i and 4j, the simulated mixed layer using those
425 schemes was evidently cooler and deeper throughout the year than that using KPP_LMD. A
426 warm anomaly was observed at a depth of approximately 120 m throughout the year. That is the
427 greatest depth that the mixed layer reached in March and well below the mixed layer after April
428 when the water column re-stratified, thus highlighting the significance of OSBL mixing in
429 shaping upper-ocean thermal profiles and heat transfer between the surface and the interior
430 ocean. Among these solutions, the one using KPPLT_RW16 displays the most rapid mixed layer
431 cooling and deepening in Fall, implying the strongest mixing during that period, consistent with
432 the finding by Q. Li et al. (2019). The stronger mixing by KPPLT_RW16 is attributed to the use
433 of hurricane conditions to tune the coefficients. The simulated short-term mixed layer cooling

434 and deepening due to storms, and the subsequent short-term warming and restratification by
435 these four parameterizations were also more dramatic than those by KPP_LMD, KPPLT_VR12
436 and KPP_DNN1. These results highlight the importance of accounting for the unresolved shear
437 coefficient η in modeling wave effects in parameterizations under the KPP framework.

438 For SMC_KC94 (Figure 4f), which did not incorporate wave effects, the simulated mixed
439 layer tends to be shallower and warmer throughout the year compared to that in KPP_LMD,
440 indicating that the parameterized mixing in SMC_KC94 is weaker than that in KPP_LMD. This
441 is particularly evident during the first half of the year when the mixed layer warms and re-
442 stratifies. With the inclusion of wave effects, the simulation using SMC_H15 yields a mixed
443 layer that is cooler and deeper compared to the one using SMC_KC94. Between January and
444 March, the simulated mixed layer using SMC_H15 exhibits higher temperatures than those
445 generated by the KPPLT and KPP_DNN2 schemes. The re-stratification predicted by SMC_H15
446 occurs more rapidly than that by KPP_LMD, evidenced by a sharper increase in mixed layer
447 temperature during April. The simulated mixed layer cooling and deepening rates by SMC_H15
448 in fall is close to those using KPPLT_LF17, KPP_DNN2a and KPP_DNN2b.

449 The time series of sea surface temperature (SST) for the years 2011 to 2016 are presented
450 in Figure 5. The simulated SST is mostly warmer than observation at the end of the year for all
451 years. At the OSP, large- and meso- scale processes also contribute to the annual cycle of SST
452 (Cronin et al., 2015). Across the six years simulated, SST was the highest using the SMC_KC94
453 and the lowest using KPPLT_RW16, respectively, implying that mixing is the weakest in
454 SMC_KC94 and is the strongest in KPPLT_RW16. When using KPPLT_VR12 and
455 KPP_DNN1, the simulated SST is close to that in KPP_LMD throughout the 6 years, reaffirming

456 that KPP parameterizations without counting on wave effects on unresolved shear coefficient η
 457 has only limited impact on the evolution of MLD and temperature within the mixed layer.



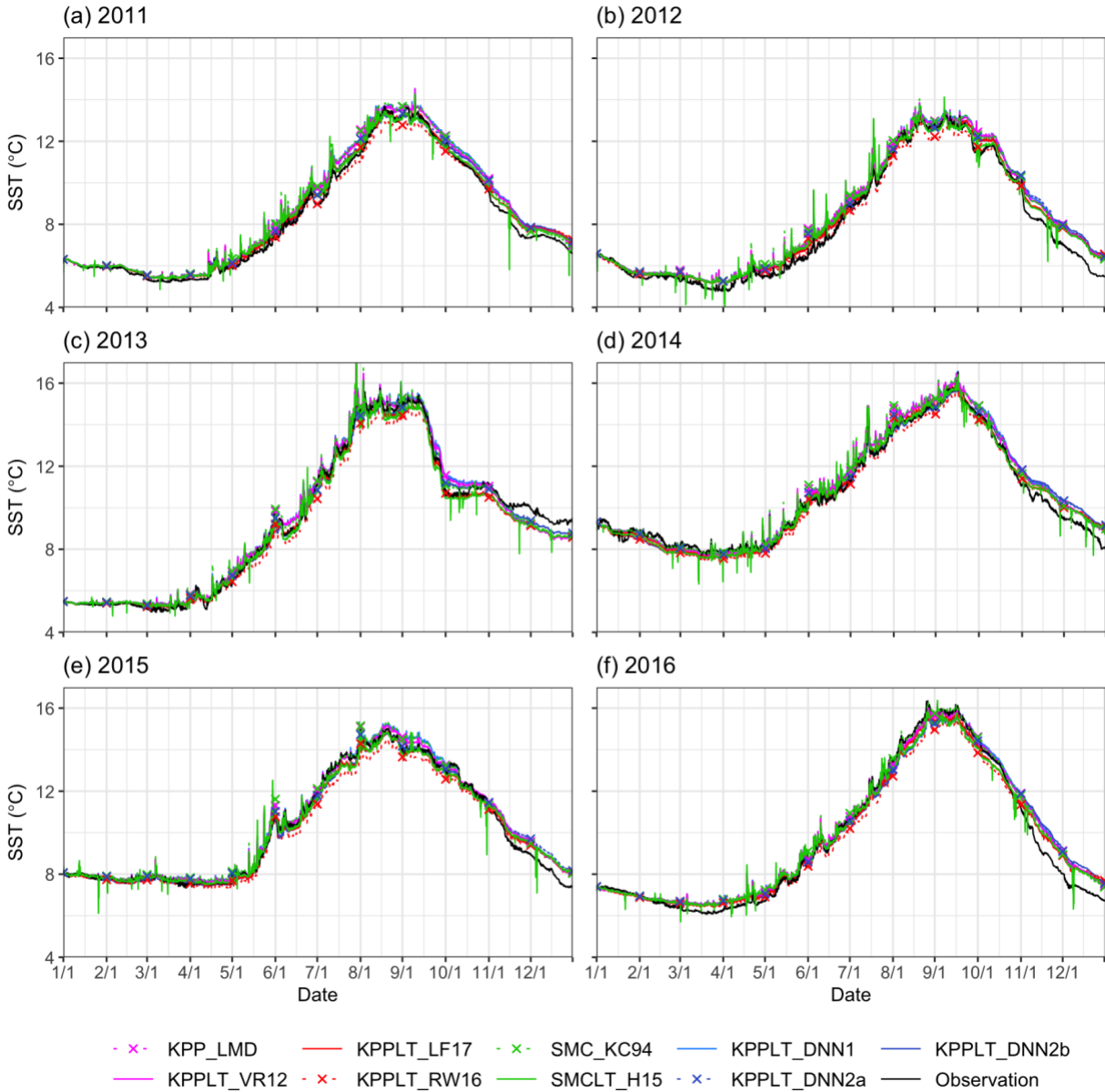
458
 459 **Figure 5.** Comparison of observed SST time series at OSP and simulated SST time series using
 460 different schemes from 2011 to 2016 (panels (a) to (f)) in simulation Set 1. All simulations were
 461 driven by identical surface forcing conditions, i.e., using pre-calculated surface buoyancy fluxes.

462 The simulated SSTs using KPPLT_LF17, SMCLT_H15, KPP_DNN2a, and
463 KPP_DNN2b were lower than that using KPP_LMD, KPPLT_VR12, KPP_DNN1, and
464 SMC_KC94, but higher than that using KPPLT_RW16. There is a considerable difference
465 between the solutions of the two KPP_DNN2 schemes: KPP_DNN2a and KPP_DNN2b. The
466 simulated SSTs by the two schemes were close to each other for the year 2013. In other
467 simulated years, the simulated SSTs when using KPP_DNN2b were noticeably cooler than that
468 using KPP_DNN2a. The difference between KPP_DNN2a and KPP_DNN2b highlights the
469 different roles that waves played in different years.

470 The simulated SSTs using KPPLT_LF17, SMCLT_H15, KPP_DNN2a, and
471 KPP_DNN2b were more closely aligned with both the magnitude and the tendency of the
472 observed SSTs in OSP than using KPP_LMD, KPPLT_VR12, KPPLT_RW16 and SMC_KC94.
473 However, it is important to note that the one-dimensional column models like the GOTM do not
474 account for processes at a scale larger than boundary layer turbulence, such as submesoscale,
475 mesoscale, and large-scale circulations. Therefore, differences between GOTM solutions and
476 observations should be interpreted with caution as they could be due to contributions by those
477 larger-scale processes. As pointed out by Large et al. (1994), OSP is often impacted by heat
478 advection between September and February, a factor that can significantly modulate SSTs but is
479 not included in the 1D GOTM simulation, thus often causing larger discrepancies between
480 simulated and observed SSTs during these months. For example, observed cooling is stronger
481 than the simulated cooling by all schemes during November 2016 and warmer than the simulated
482 cooling by all schemes with wave effects during December 2013.

483 The simulated SSTs, derived using online flux calculation (set 2), are presented in Figure
484 6. With online flux calculation, the buoyancy fluxes vary across different simulations. A lower

485 simulated SST results in smaller surface heat loss, as both the outgoing long wave and the
486 sensible heat loss calculated from the COARE algorithm are both smaller. Different from the
487 solutions using pre-calculated fluxes (set 1) shown in Figure 5, the differences in SST among
488 simulations employing different turbulent mixing schemes in Figure 6 were much smaller,
489 mostly less than 0.5°C. The simulated SSTs using different parameterization schemes were also
490 more closely aligned with observations. However, starting from November, consistent biases
491 from the observed SSTs were found in each simulated year, with SSTs generally being higher
492 except for the year 2013. The deviated SSTs in winter are due to the advection effects which are
493 not considered in the 1D GOTM model, while the unique SST biases in winter 2013, is likely
494 due to the heatwave “Blob”. These biases underscore the influence of advection on SSTs, an
495 impact that could not be completely mitigated by online flux calculation using bulk formulas.



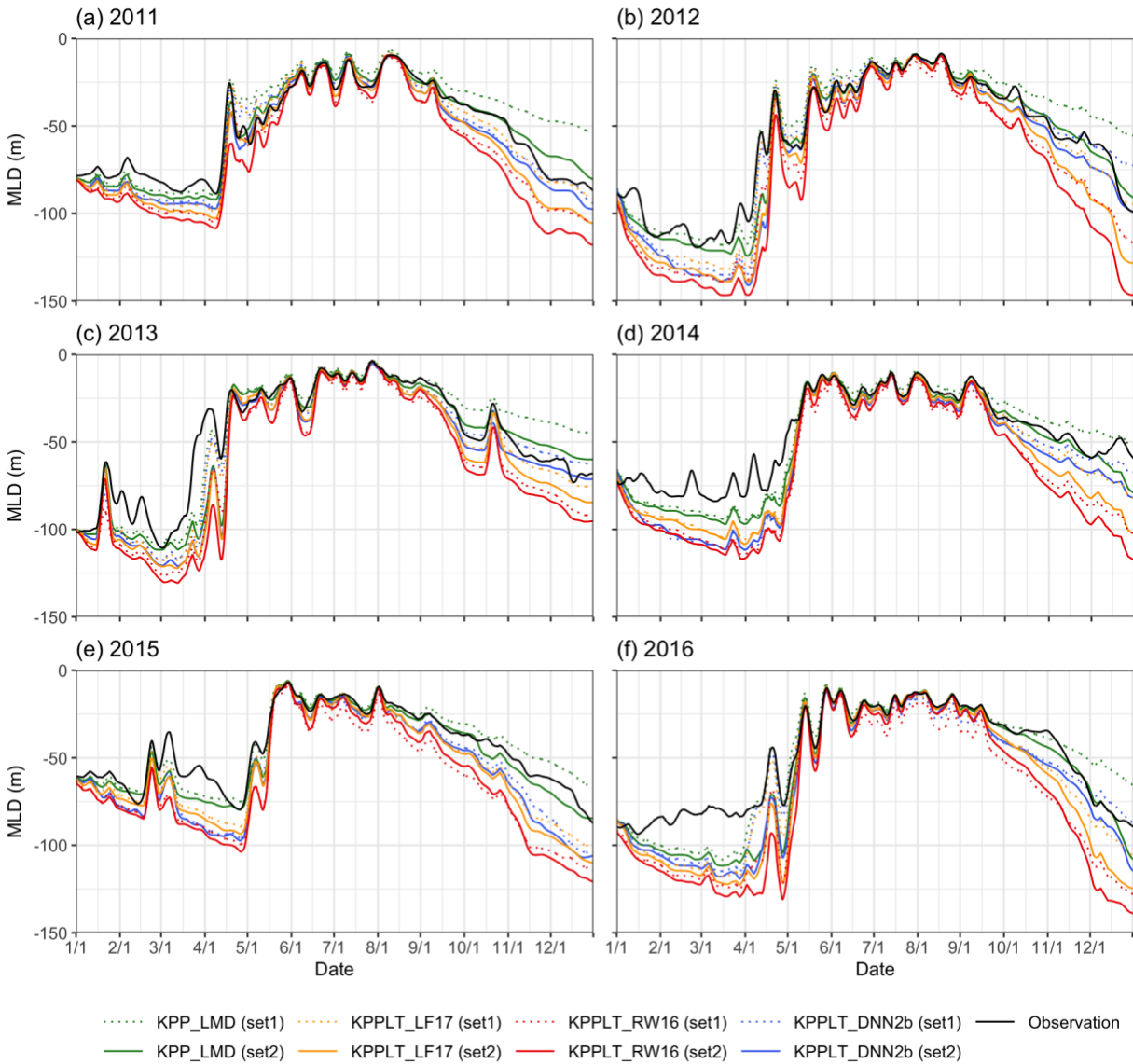
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497 Figure. 6. Same as Figure 5, but for Simulation Set 2 using buoyancy flux calculated online.

498

499 Figure 7 shows the differences in the simulated MLDs between simulations driven by
 500 pre-calculated buoyancy fluxes (set 1) and those driven by fluxes calculated online using bulk
 501 formulas (set 2). During the summer months, , the simulated MLDs in set 1, using pre-calculated
 502 flux, were mostly slightly shallower with KPP_LMD, and slightly thicker with KPPLT_RW16 in

503 comparison with the observed MLDs. Simulated MLDs in set 2, which used online flux
504 calculation, were shallower and better aligned to observations. During this period, online flux
505 calculation reduces biases in both simulated SSTs and MLDs. However, during the colder
506 months from January to April and after November, when the simulated SST is higher than the
507 observed SST (Fig. 6), the simulated MLDs were deeper when driven by fluxes calculated online
508 using bulk formula. Note that during these periods, the MLDs in simulations using
509 parameterization schemes with wave enhancements (KPPLT_LF17, KPPLT_RW16 and
510 KPP_DNN2b) were deeper than the observed mixed layer. Results of simulations over a 6-year
511 period from 2011 to 2016 (see Figure S1 in supporting information) confirms that all the
512 simulations using online flux calculation efficiently eliminates the warming drift of SSTs, but the
513 deviations of MLDs in colder months amplified over years, even for KPP_LMD. While the
514 online flux calculation has the potential to reduce biases in the simulated SST, it could
515 conversely increase biases in the simulated MLDs.



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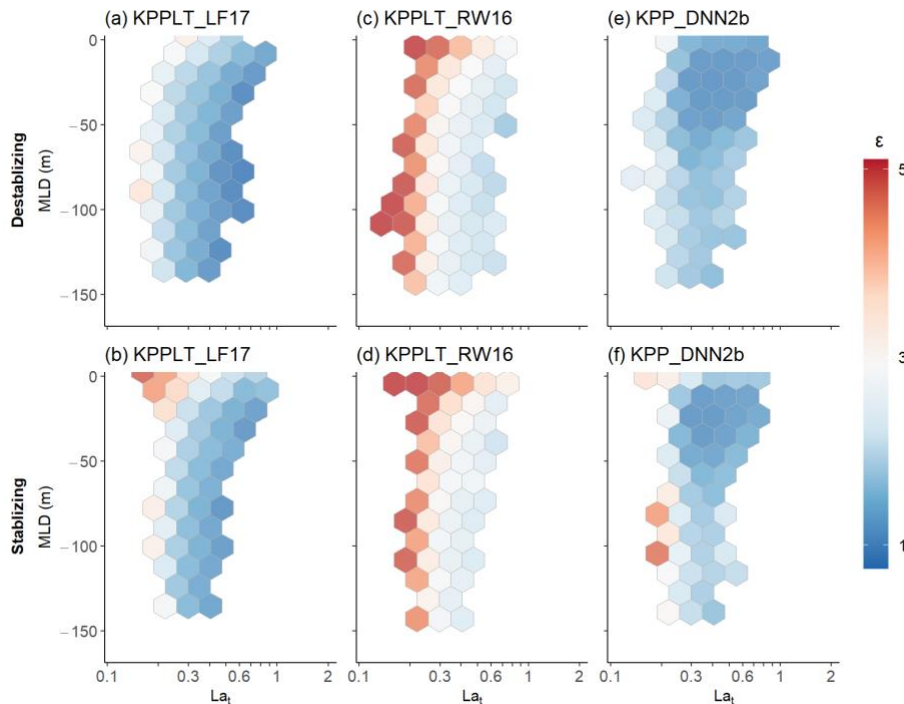
517 Figure 7. Comparison of simulated MLDs between GOTM simulations using PMEL derived flux
 518 products and those using COARE-v3.6 online calculated fluxes. The MLDs were diagnosed by
 519 the depth where water density exceeds surface water density by $0.03\text{kg}/\text{m}^3$. For clarity in
 520 demonstrating long-term trends and reducing the impact of short-term fluctuations, MLDs were
 521 smoothed using a 5-day running average.

522 **5.2 Comparison of the velocity scale coefficient and the unresolved shear coefficient**

523 Figure 8 presents the dependence of the velocity scale coefficient (ϵ in Equation 5) on
 524 turbulent Langmuir number and MLD and compares it across KPPLT_LF17, KPPLT_RW16,
 525 and KPP_DNN2b.

526 In all three schemes, the magnitude of ϵ shows a clear dependence on the non-
 527 dimensional turbulent Langmuir number (La_t). Specifically, a smaller La_t is associated with a
 528 larger ϵ , indicating wave-induced turbulence has a larger effect on mixing. ϵ by KPPLT_RW16
 529 (Figures 8c and 8d) is the largest among the three schemes. ϵ by KPP_DNN2b displays a
 530 dependence on the MLD as well. The deeper the MLD, the larger the ϵ .

531



532

533 **Figure 8.** Comparison of the velocity scales coefficient (ϵ) as computed by two of the
 534 deterministic KPPLT schemes, i.e., KPPLT_LF17 (panels a and b) and KPPLT_RW16 (panels c
 535 and d), and as predicted by the KPP_DNN2b (panels e and f). The color scale in each hexagon

536 represents the average enhancement of velocity scale ϵ over all data points contained in the
537 hexagon region. Only hexagons averaged over more than 50 data points are shown. The upper
538 row (panels a, b, c) corresponds to conditions of destabilizing buoyancy forces, whereas the
539 lower row (panels d, e, f) represents conditions under stabilizing buoyancy forces. Different from
540 the regime diagrams in Figure 2, the y-axis is the mixed layer depth (MLD).

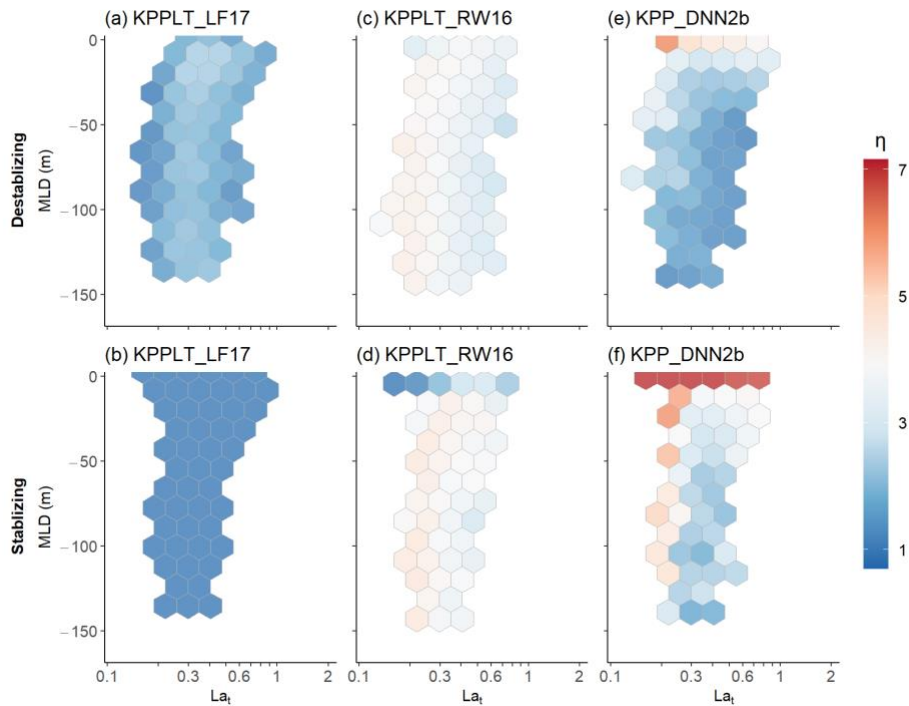
541

542 Figure 9 shows the unresolved shear coefficient (η in Equation 6) for KPPLT_LF17,
543 KPPLT_RW16, and KPP_DNN2b. As demonstrated in the simulated temperature profiles and
544 SST (Figures 4 and 5), the magnitude of the unresolved shear coefficient η is more important
545 than the magnitude of the velocity scale ϵ coefficient in the simulation of upper-ocean
546 temperature and stratification.

547 For KPPLT_LF17 (Figures 9a and 9b), η only varies with forcing conditions when
548 surface buoyancy forcing is destabilizing. Under stabilizing buoyancy forcing conditions, the
549 velocity scale of unresolved shear U_t^2 by KPPLT_LF17 is the same as that by KPP_LMD, thus
550 $\eta = 1.0$ regardless of the wind-wave-buoyancy condition or MLD. Under destabilizing
551 buoyancy forcing conditions, the average value of η ranges from 1.0 to 2.5, but there is no
552 apparent correlation between η and either La_t or MLD. For KPPLT_RW16 (Figures 9c and 9d),
553 there is an apparent relationship between η and La_t , and no apparent tendency differences under
554 different buoyancy forcing conditions or MLD. The more dominant the wave effect over the
555 wind effect, the smaller the La_t and the larger the η .

556 In KPP_DNN2b (Figures 9e and 9f), η is not only impacted by La_t , but also by MLD and
557 surface buoyancy forcing. Similar to KPPLT_LF17 and KPPLT_RW16, η increases with
558 decreasing turbulence Langmuir number for all MLDs. Different from the two KPPLT schemes,

559 there is an evident relationship between η and MLD: η decreases with increasing MLD.
 560 Langmuir circulation arises from wave-current interaction close to the surface, where it exhibits
 561 the greatest intensity (e.g., McWilliams et al., 1997). Weller and Price (1988) found no
 562 significant wave effect at the base of the mixed layer if the MLD exceeds $-40m$ deep.
 563 Furthermore, η also depends on whether the surface buoyancy forcing is stabilizing or
 564 destabilizing. For the same La_t and MLD, η is larger when surface buoyancy forcing is
 565 stabilizing.



566

567

568 **Figure 9.** Same as Figure 8, but for the unresolved shear coefficient (η)

569

570 **5.3 The Efficiency of KPP_DNNs**

571 A parameterization must be efficient so that it can be used in realistic ocean models for
 572 long-term integrations. The efficiency of the KPP_DNNs is evaluated by comparing them with
 573 the traditional KPP and KPPLT schemes (refer to Table 1) within the GOTM framework.

574 simulations were conducted on a dedicated single core of Intel Cascade Lake (Intel®
 575 Xeon® Platinum 8260 Processor) CPUs on the Louisiana Optical Network Initiative's high-
 576 performance computing server (LONI-HPC). The year 2013 served as the benchmark period for
 577 the GOTM model runs to evaluate efficiency. In all simulations, the forcing and configuration
 578 were identical. To ensure accuracy in measuring computational efficiency, we disabled output.

579 The results showed that the run times for KPP_DNNs are comparable with those of
 580 traditional KPP and KPPLT schemes. Specifically, the run time for KPP_DNNs exceeds less
 581 than 4% that of KPP_LMD and KPPLT_VR12 and is slightly shorter than that for KPPLT_LF17
 582 and KPPLT_RW16. This comparison suggests that KPP_DNN schemes are suitable for
 583 implementation in realistic ocean and climate models.

584

585 **Table 2.** List of parameterization names and their run time.

Simulation Name	Run Time (seconds)
KPP_LMD	3.06
KPPLT_VR12	3.07
KPPLT_LF17	3.48
KPPLT_RW16	4.12
KPP_DNN1	3.09
KPP_DNN2a	3.16
KPP_DNN2b	3.20

586

587 **6 Conclusions**

588 In this study, feedforward deep neural networks (DNNs) tuned using 11-year solutions of
589 turbulence-resolving large eddy simulations (LES) driven by realistic forcing conditions at ocean
590 station Papa (OSP), are used to improve one of the most popular parameterizations for mixing in
591 the ocean surface boundary layer (OSBL), the K-Profile Parameterization (KPP). Specifically,
592 the DNNs are used to parameterize two coefficients, the velocity scale coefficient ϵ and the
593 unresolved shear coefficient η in equations 5 and 6, that revise two uncertain but important
594 parameters in the KPP. The fine-tuned KPP_DNNs are implemented into the general ocean
595 turbulence model (GOTM), a one-dimensional column model serving as a testbed of turbulence
596 parameterization. The KPP_DNNs are compared with seven popular traditional deterministic
597 schemes, including the first-order KPP and the second-moment closure (SMC) schemes within
598 the GOTM using simulations for upper-ocean conditions at OSP between 2011 and 2016. Key
599 conclusions from this study are summarized as follows:

- 600 • The KPP_DNNs are stable for integration over several years. They are also efficient and
601 have comparable run time to traditional deterministic KPP schemes.
- 602 • When using the pre-derived flux productions, the simulated mixed layer is the warmest
603 and the shallowest using the schemes without wave effects, i.e., KPP_LMD, and SMC,
604 i.e., SMC_KC94. The simulated re-stratification in spring is faster in SMC than in KPP.
- 605 • With the addition of wave effects, i.e., using KPPLTs, SMCLT, KPP_DNN2a and
606 KPP_DNN2b, the simulated mixed layer tends to be cooler and deeper. The simulated
607 mixed layer is the coolest and the deepest using KPPLT_RW16.
- 608 • Biases in the simulated SST are smaller when using a bulk flux to calculate buoyancy
609 flux online (Simulation set 2) than when using pre-calculated flux (Simulation set 1).

610 However, biases in the simulated MLDs are larger when using the on-line buoyancy flux
611 calculation.

- 612 • In the KPP framework, the unresolved shear coefficient η shall be considered
613 simultaneously with the velocity scale coefficient ϵ . Impacts on the simulated sea surface
614 temperature (SST) and mixed layer depth (MLD) are limited if only ϵ is considered.
- 615 • In all KPPLT_LF17, KPPLT_RW16 and KPP_DNN2b, the magnitude of ϵ is impacted
616 by the relative strength of wave effect. The more dominant the wave effect, the smaller
617 the turbulent Langmuir number (La_t), the larger the ϵ .
- 618 • In KPP_DNN2, the value of η also changes with the thickness of mixed layer and
619 whether the surface buoyancy forcing is stabilizing or destabilizing. η is much larger if
620 the mixed layer is shallow but decreases fast with the increasing of MLD. When MLD
621 and La_t are identical, η is smaller when surface buoyancy forcing is destabilizing than
622 stabilizing.

623 The KPP_DNN schemes not only reproduce the dependence of turbulent mixing on
624 Langmuir number, but also uncover the correlation with the MLD and whether the surface
625 buoyancy forcing is stabilizing or destabilizing. This study highlights the potential of leveraging
626 deep learning to identify and incorporate complex, multifaceted influences on turbulent mixing
627 in the OSBL,

628 The next step involves implementing and evaluating the KPP_DNNs in a realistic ocean
629 model for a regional ocean. Although KPP_DNN2a does not include waves as an input, it
630 implicitly includes wave-induced mixing as it is trained using LES solutions with wave effects.
631 Given its reasonable results and its simplicity without the need to couple the ocean model with a
632 wave model, it would be the first choice. We are currently conducting LES simulations for the

633 Gulf of Mexico and will train the KPP_DNNs using those simulations. The KPP_DNN2a will be
634 implemented in the HYCOM model configured for the Gulf of Mexico (Dukhovskoy et al.,
635 2015; Laxenaire et al., 2023).

636 **Acknowledgments**

637 JY and JHL were supported by the Office and Naval Research through grant N00014-23-1-2553.
638 EC and OZ were supported by the Office of Naval Research through grant N00014-23-1-2547.
639 Computation was performed at supercomputers provided by the high-performance computing at
640 Louisiana State University and Louisiana Optical Network Initiative (LONI). This is PMEL
641 publication #5622.

642

643 **Open Research**

644 The observed temperature and salinity profiles, the forcing data, the derived surface fluxes at
645 OSP can be downloaded from the Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory website
646 (<https://www.pmel.noaa.gov/ocs/data/disdsl/>). The GOTM codes with KPP_DNN model and
647 COARE bulk flux algorithm implemented are available at
648 https://github.com/lsocean/KPP_DNN_in_GOTM.

649

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