

ATMOSPHERIC PHYSICS-GUIDED MACHINE LEARNING

Tom Beucler
University of Lausanne

November 16th, 2021

Atmospheric Science & Machine Learning at UNIL

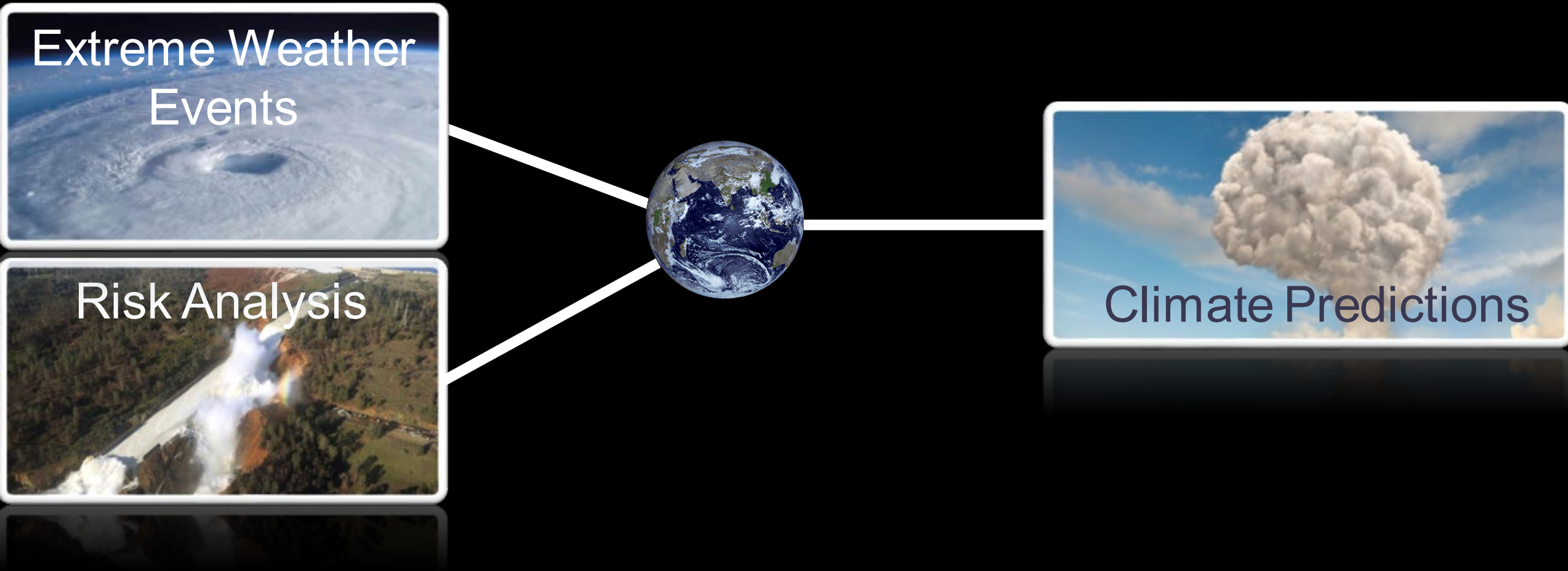


Image Sources: Adhithya Sandeep, John Lund, Cal. Dep. Wat. Res.



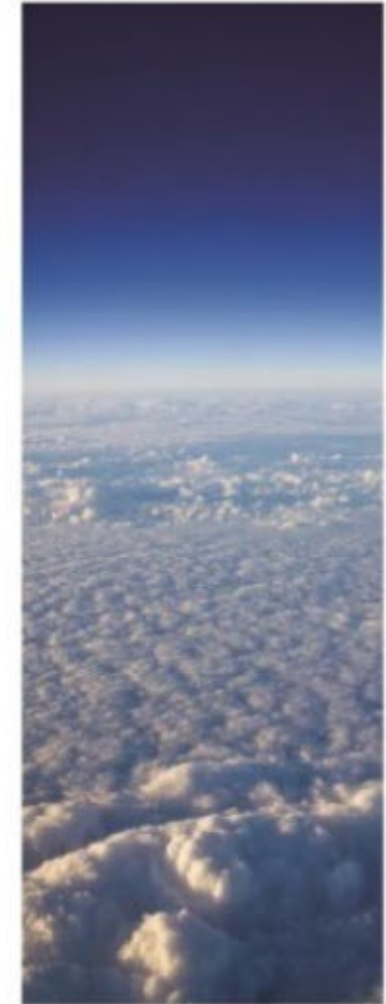
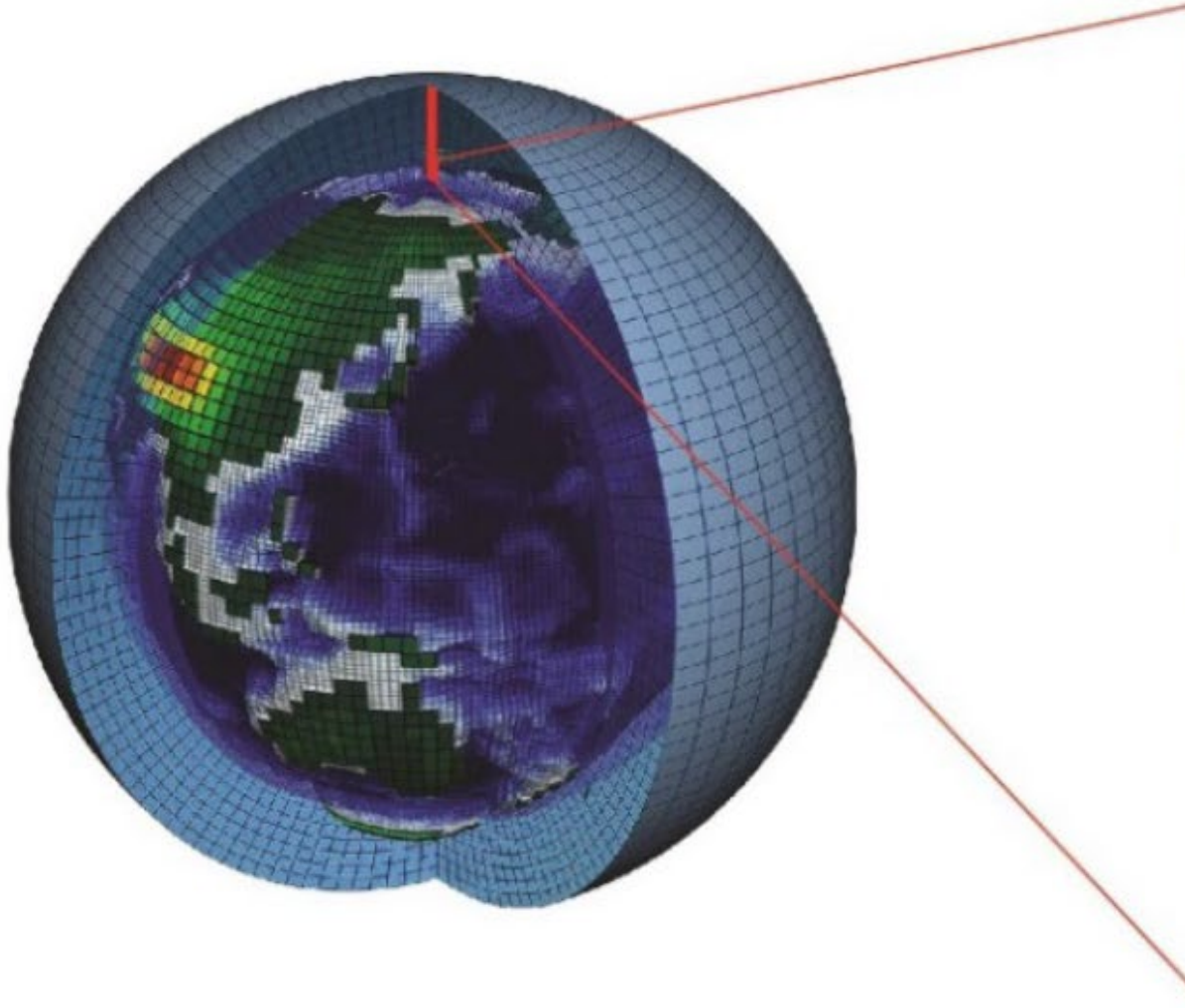
How to best combine ML
& physical knowledge?

Towards Data-Driven and
Physically-Consistent
Models of **Atmospheric Convection**





Motivation 1: Largest uncertainties in climate projections from clouds

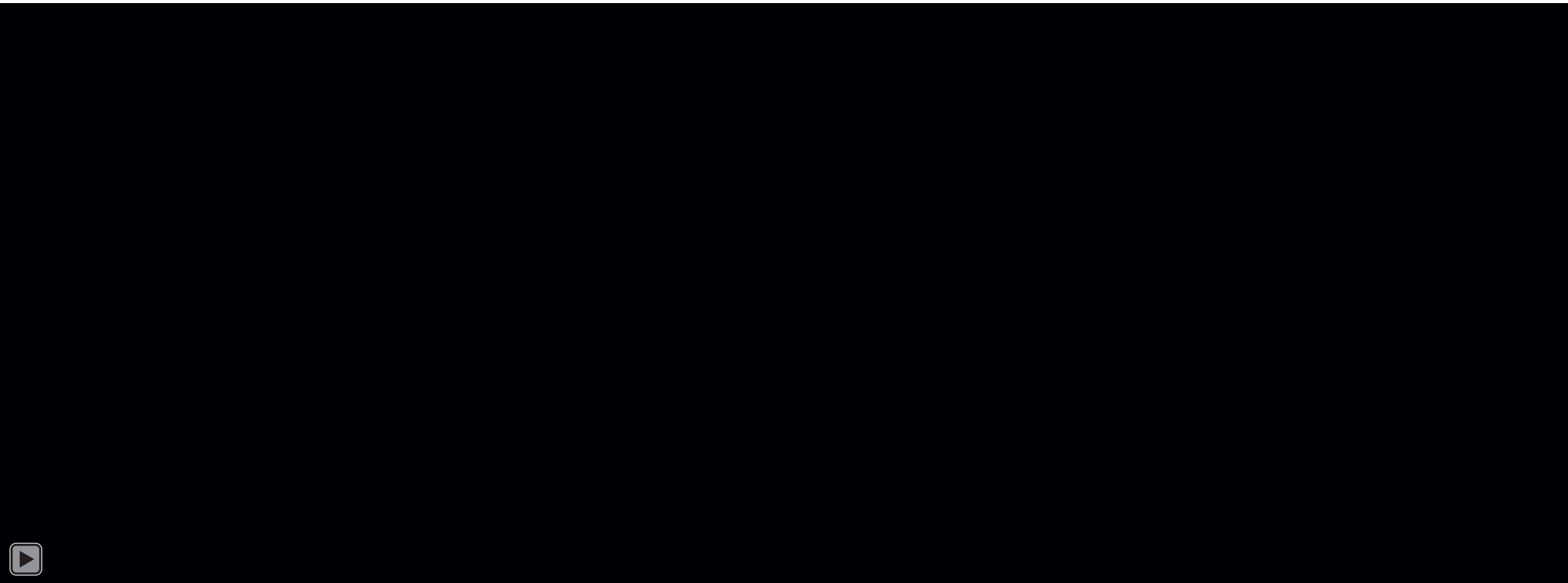


Goal

Source: Zelinka et al. (2020), Meehl et al. (In Review), Gentine, Eyring & Beucler (2020)

Motivation 1: Largest uncertainties in climate projections from clouds

Motivation 2: Global cloud-resolving models can resolve convection & clouds at $\sim 1\text{km}$, but only for short period (1 year)



Source: Stevens et al. (2019), Sato et al. (2009), SAM: Khairoutdinov and Randall (2003), Lee and Khairoutdinov

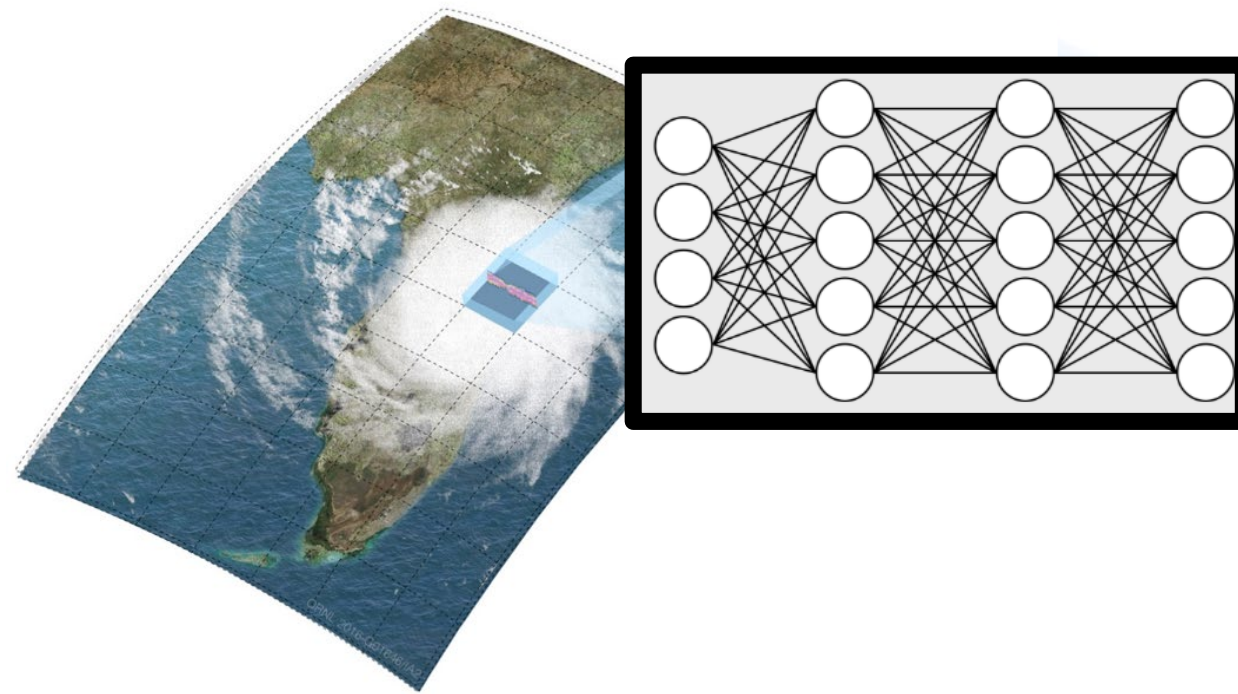
Motivation 1: Largest uncertainties in climate projections from clouds

Motivation 2: Global cloud-resolving models can resolve convection & clouds at $\sim 1\text{km}$, but only for short period (1 year)

Motivation 3: ML can accurately mimic $\sim 1\text{km}$ convective processes

See: Rasp et al. (2018), Brenowitz et al. (2018,2019), Gentine et al. (2018), Yuval et al. (2020), Krasnopolsky et al.

ML of Subgrid-Scale Thermodynamics



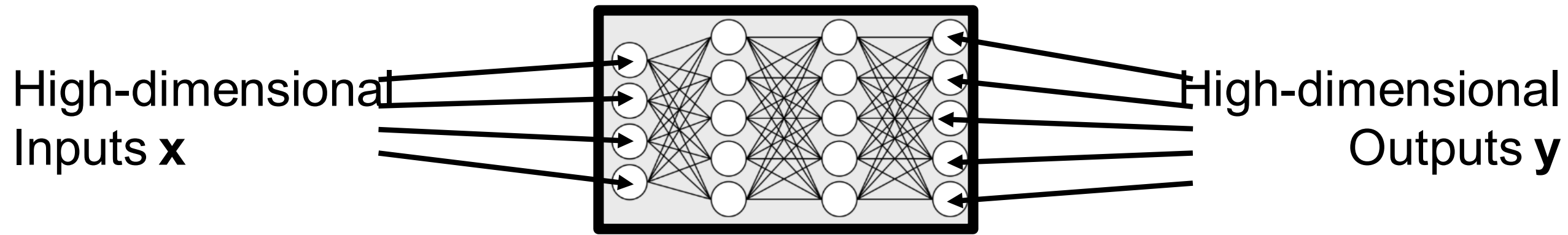
**Neural
Network:**
100 times faster

Setup : Super-Parameterized climate model with prescribed surface temp.

Year 1 for training (42M samples), Year 2 for validation/test

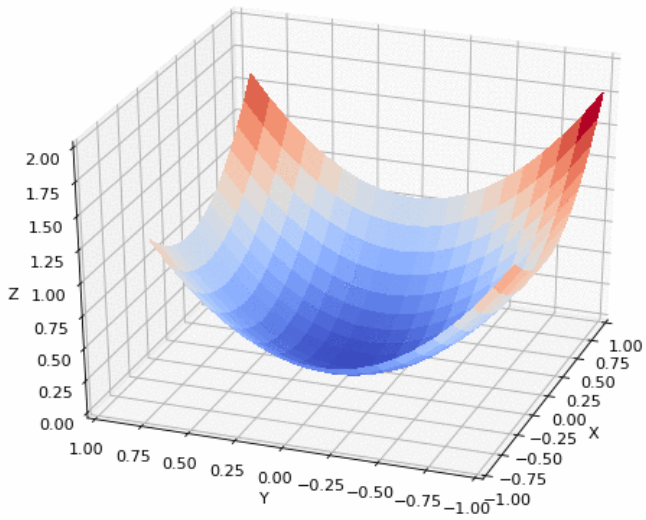
Image source: e3sm.org, Model source: Khairoutdinov et al. (2004)

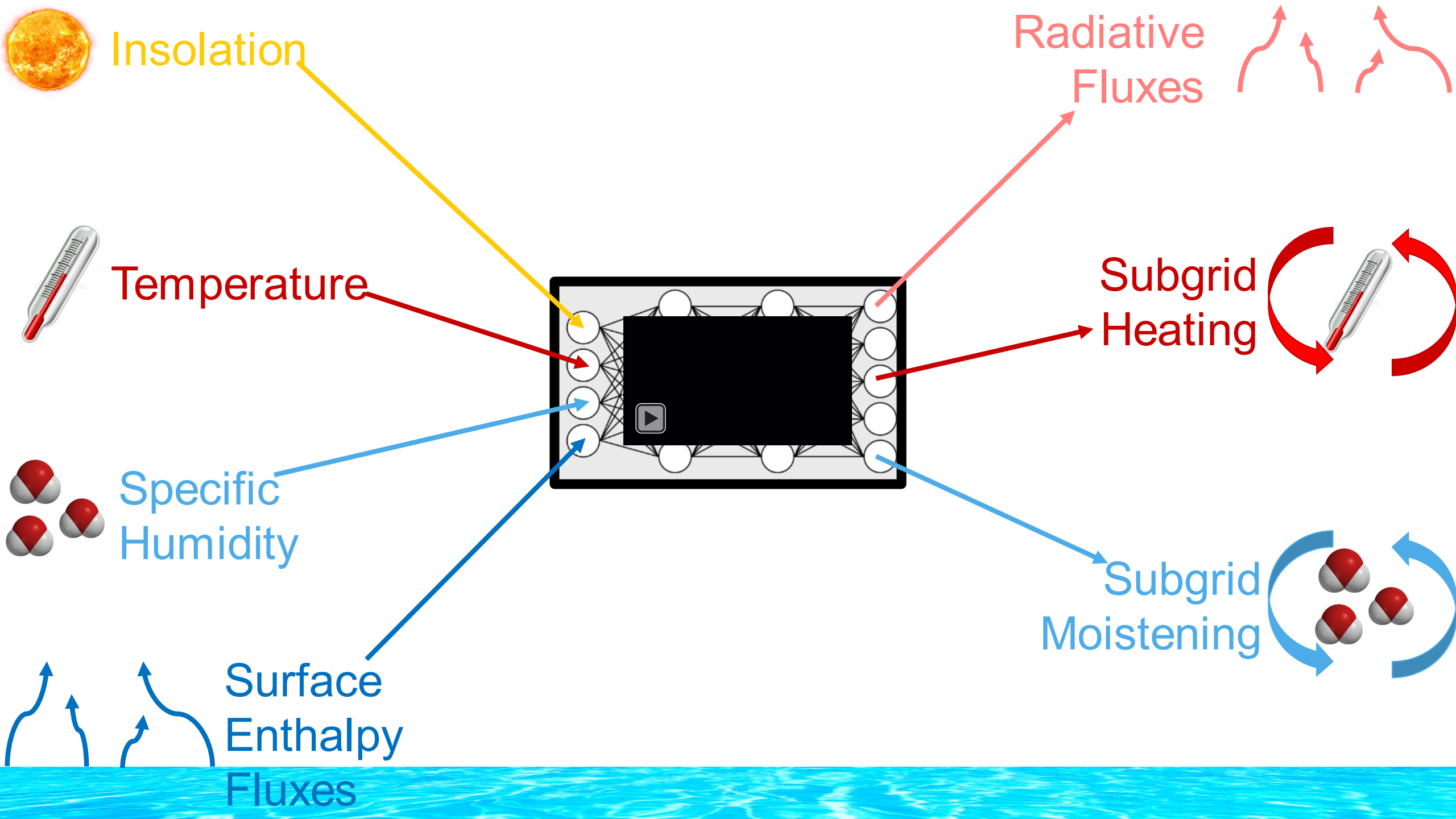
Neural Network = Non-linear regression tool



$$\mathbf{x} \mapsto \mathbf{y}$$

$$\min \text{ Loss function } (\mathbf{y}_{\text{Predicted}}, \mathbf{y}_{\text{Truth}})$$





Truth
Super-
param.
simulation

Prediction
NN
(offline)



Source: Mooers, Pritchard, Beucler et al. (2021)

See: Rasp et al. (2018), Brenowitz et al. (2018,2019), Gentine et al. (2018), Yuval et al. (2020), Krasnopolsky et al.

Can we eliminate physics entirely?

Verification: 2018-01-05 00:00 Z

Forecast: 2017-12-10 00:00 Z + 642 h

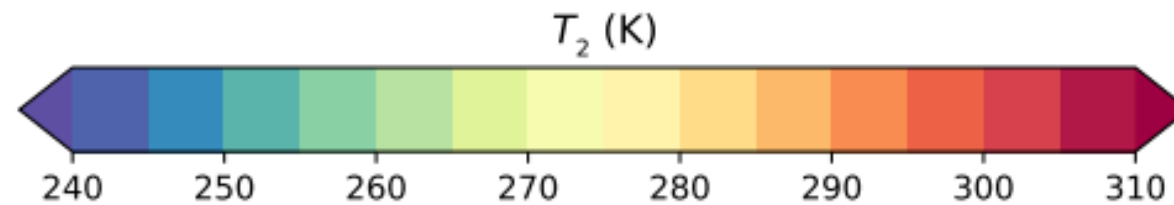
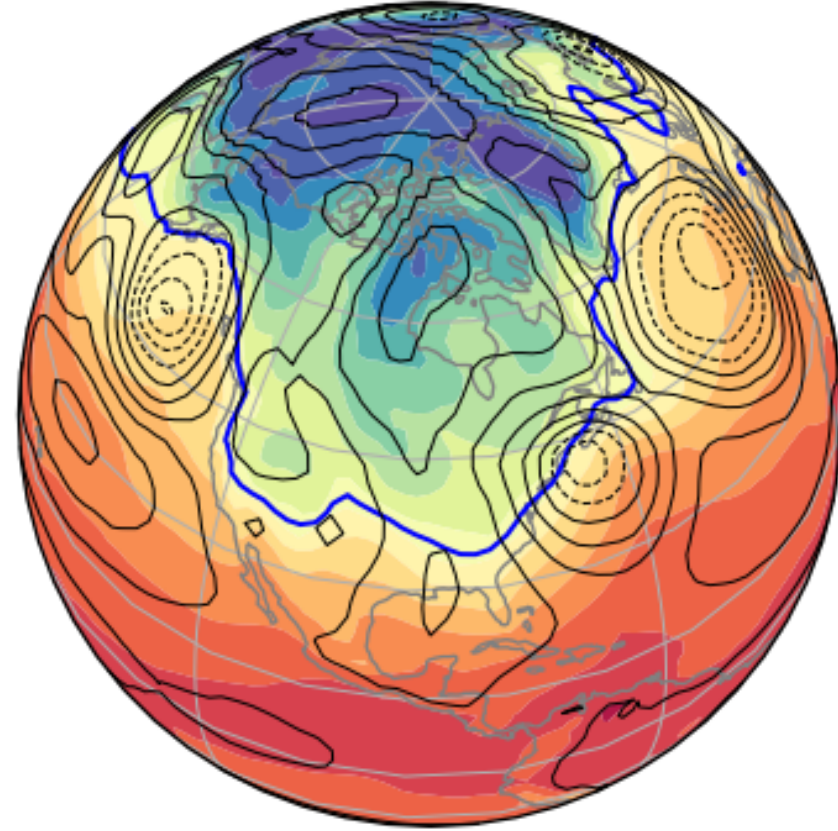
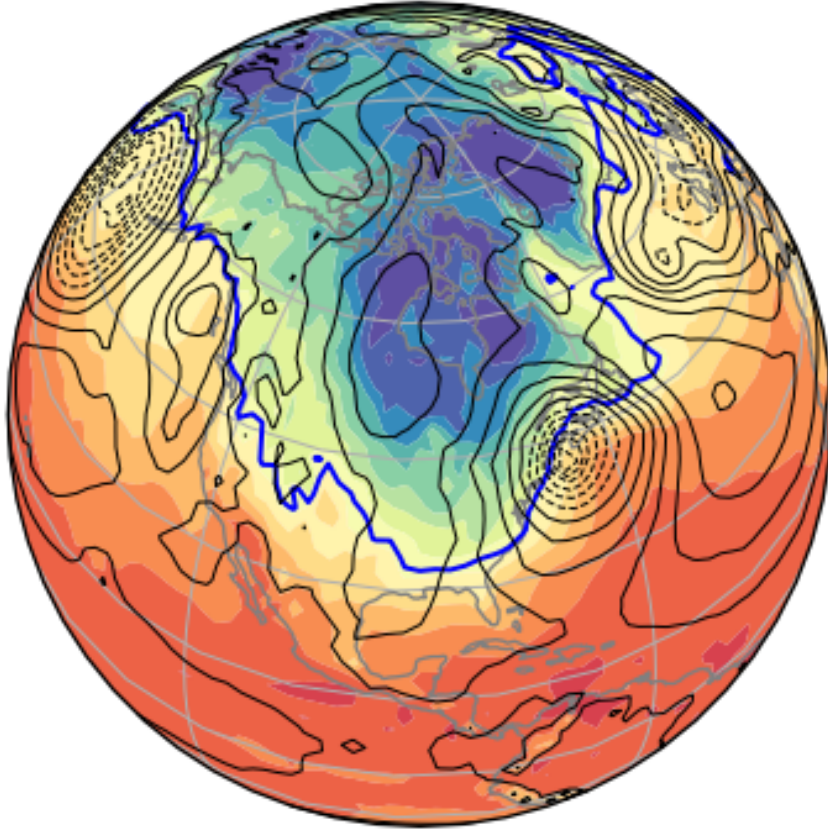


Image Source: Weyn et al. (2020), See also: Rasp et al. (2020)

Can we eliminate physics entirely?

Maybe for meteorology

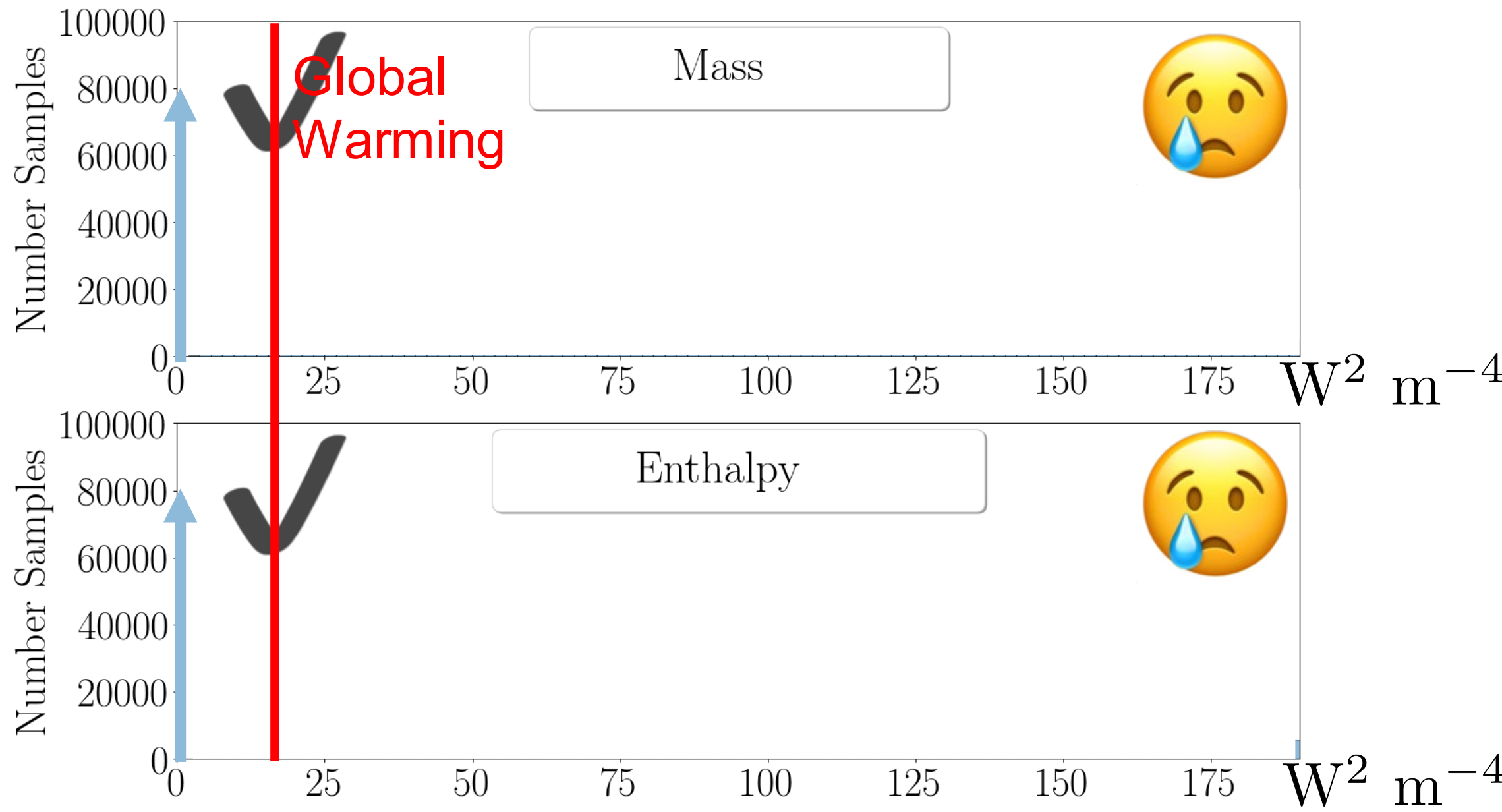
Not for climate

Problem 1: ML algorithms violate conservation laws

Problem 2: ML parametrization hard to interpret/trust

Problem 3: ML algorithms fail to generalize

Problem 1: Neural Nets typically violate conservation laws



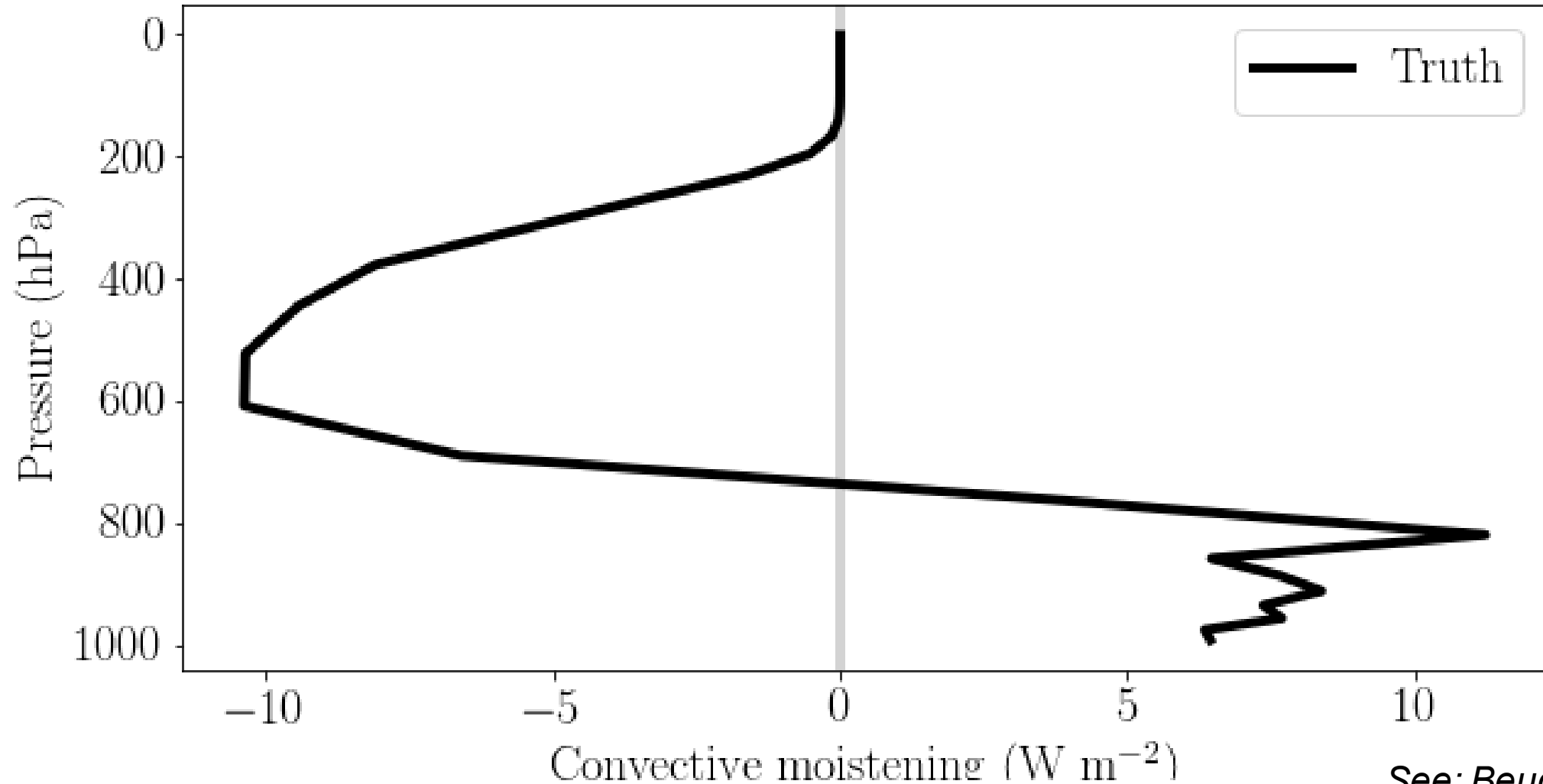
Problem 2: ML parametrizations are hard to interpret/trust



See: Brenowitz, Beucler et al. (2020)

Problem 3: ML algorithms fail to generalize

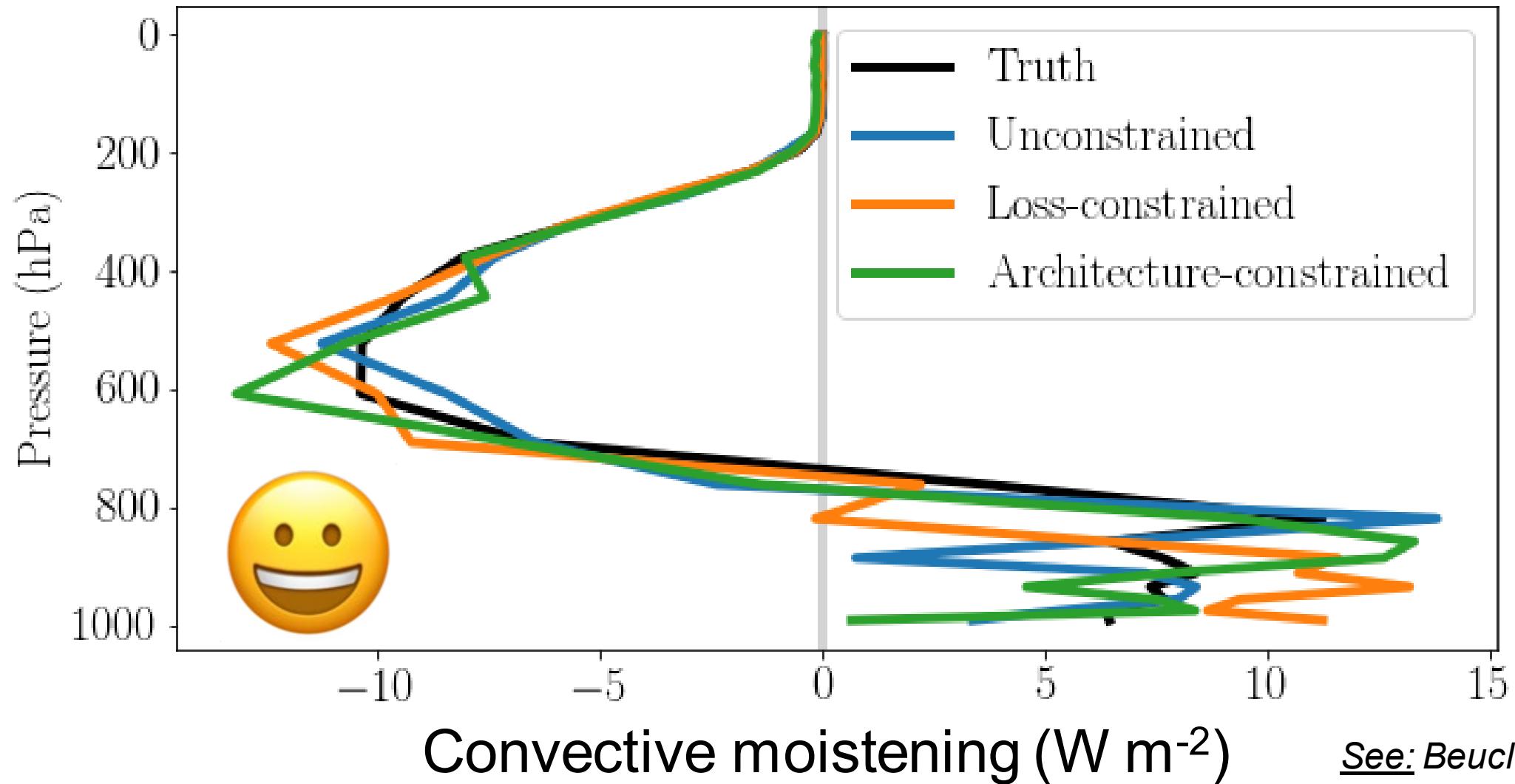
Daily-mean Tropical prediction in reference climate



See: Beucler et al. (2019)

Problem 3: ML algorithms fail to generalize

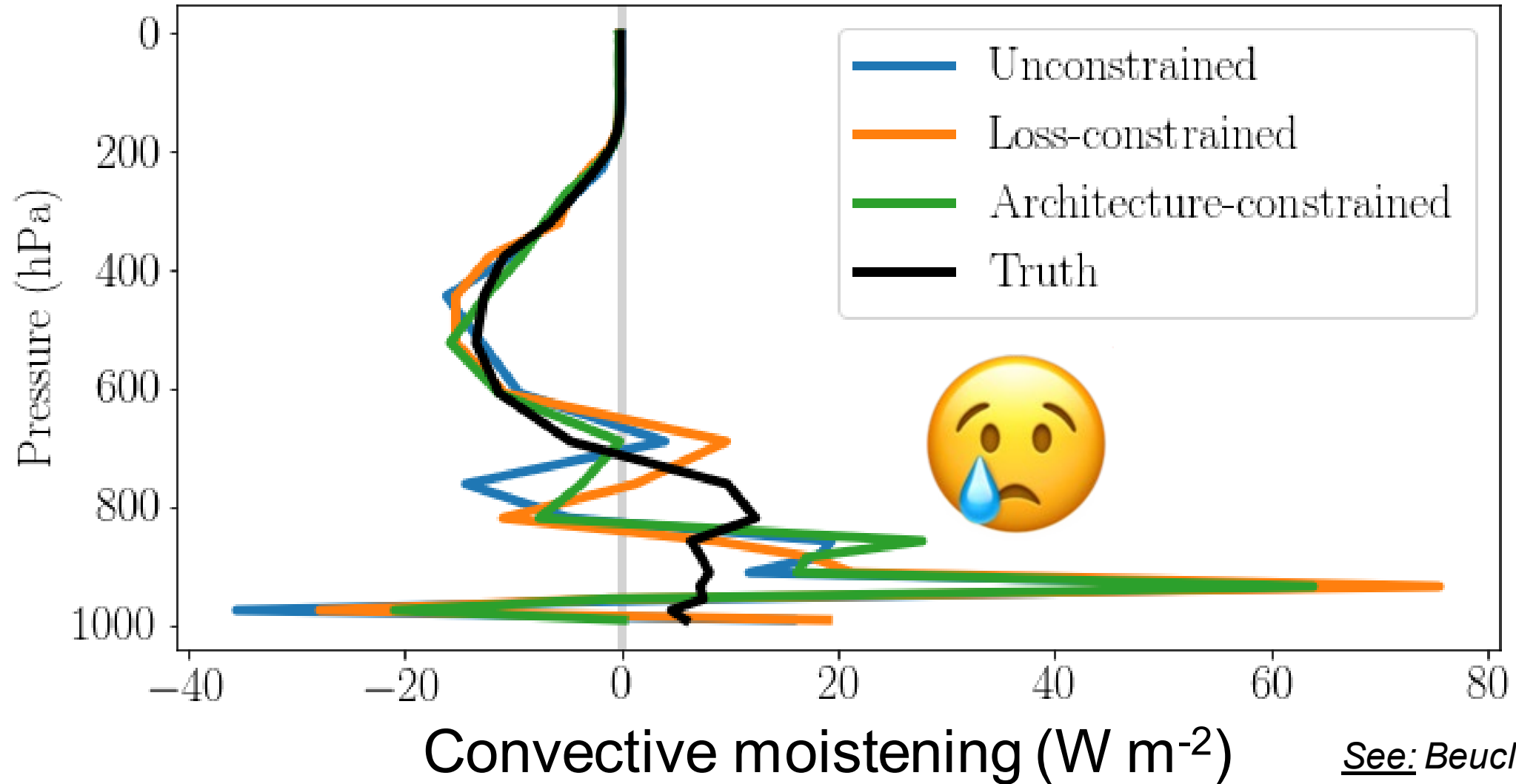
Daily-mean Tropical prediction in reference climate



See: Beucler et al. (2019)

Problem 3: ML algorithms fail to generalize

Daily-mean Tropical prediction in (+4K) warming experiment



See: Beucler et al. (2019)

Problem 1: ML algorithms violate conservation laws

Problem 2: ML parametrization hard to interpret/trust


Problem 3: ML algorithms fail to generalize

How can we design
interpretable, physically-consistent & data-
driven
models of convection?

How to best combine ML & physical knowledge?

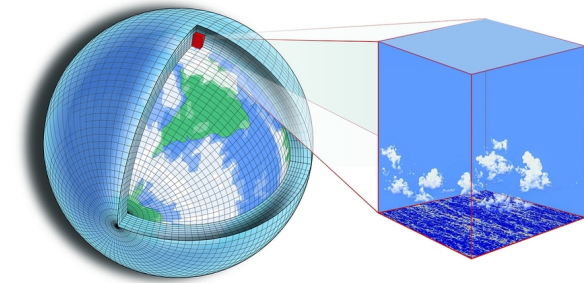
Physics-Guided ML: Add physical structure to restrict ML output to physically-plausible solutions

Physical
Structure



Reviews: Willard et al. (2020), Reichstein et al. (2019), Karpatne et al. (2017), Beucler et al. (2021)

Physics-Guided ML: Add physical structure to restrict ML output to physically-plausible solutions

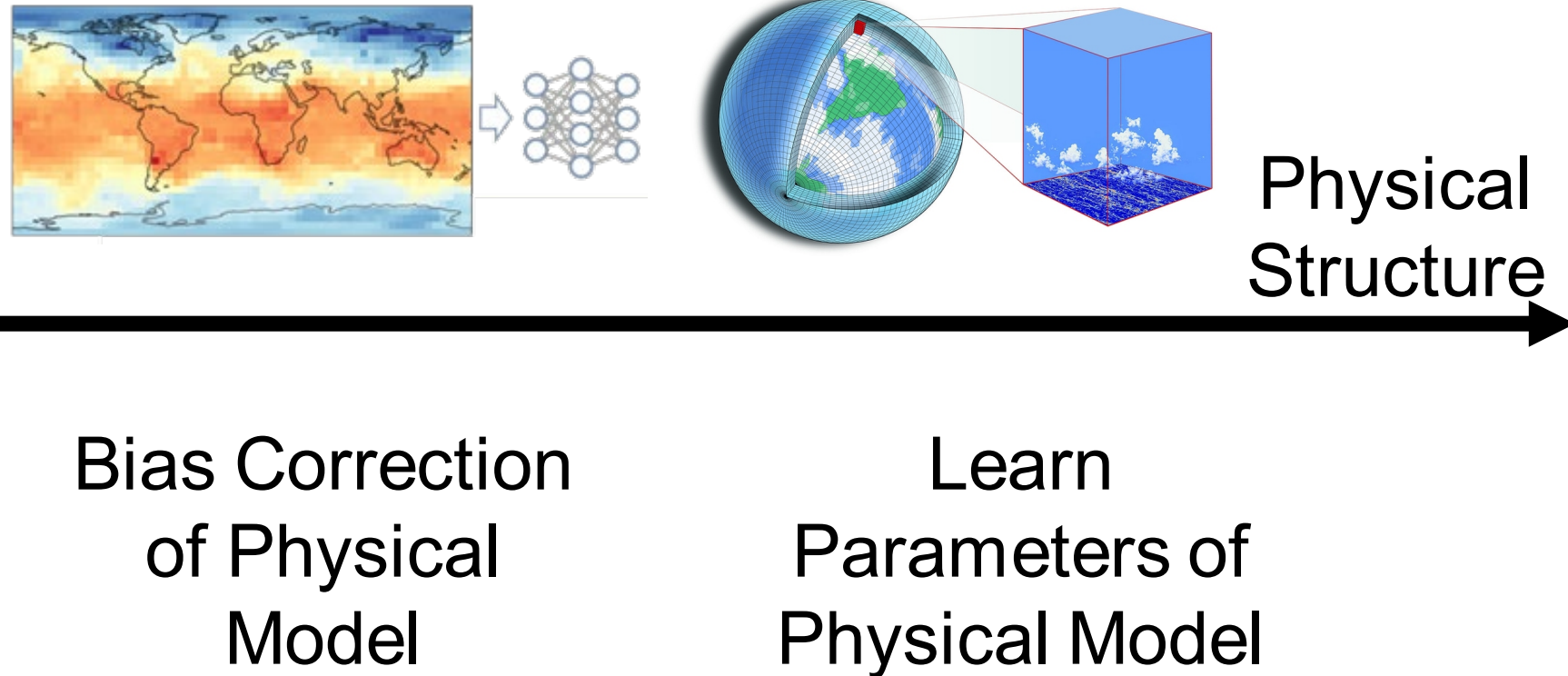


Physical
Structure

Learn
Parameters of
Physical Model

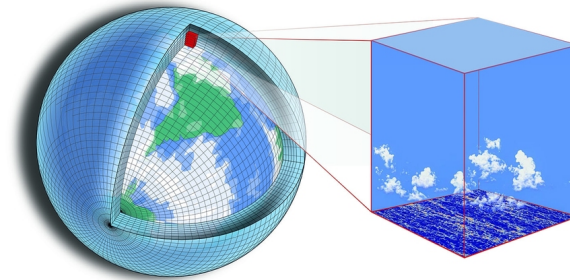
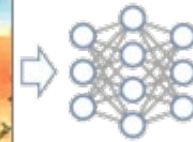
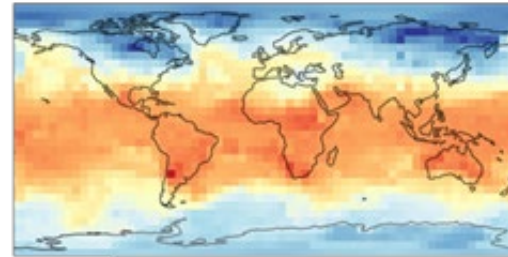
See: Schneider et al. (2017), Reichstein et al. (2019), Camps-Vall et al. (2018), Image Source: CliMA, Caltech

Physics-Guided ML: Add physical structure to restrict ML output to physically-plausible solutions



See: Rasp and Lerch (2018), Grönquist et al. (2021), Bonavita and Laloyaux (2020), Image Source: Rasp et al. (2020)

Physics-Guided ML: Add physical structure to restrict ML output to physically-plausible solutions



Physical
Structure

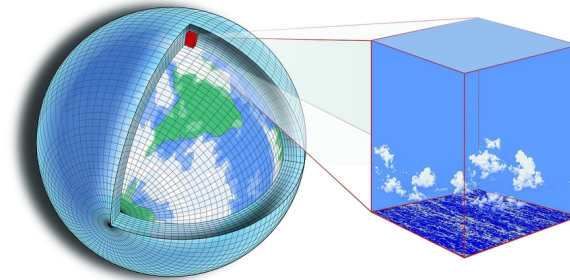
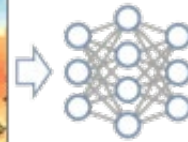
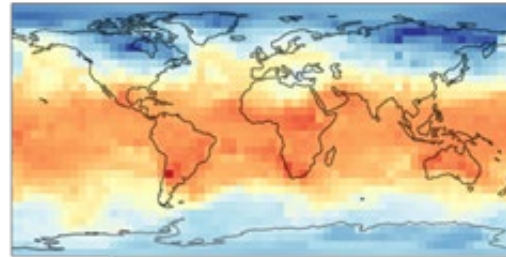
Physics-
Constrained Loss
or Architecture

Bias Correction
of Physical
Model

Learn
Parameters of
Physical Model

See: Karpatne et al. (2017), Wu et al. (2020), Raissi et al. (2019), Image Source: R. Gauthier-Butterfield, UCI (2021)

Problem 1: Neural Nets typically violate conservation laws



Physical
Structure

Physics-
Constrained Loss
or Architecture

Bias Correction
of Physical
Model

Learn
Parameters of
Physical Model

See: Karpatne et al. (2017), Wu et al. (2020), Raissi et al. (2019), Image Source: R. Gauthier-Butterfield, UCI (2021)

Physics-Constrained **Loss Function**

Idea: Introduce a penalty for violating conservation (\sim Lagrange multiplier):

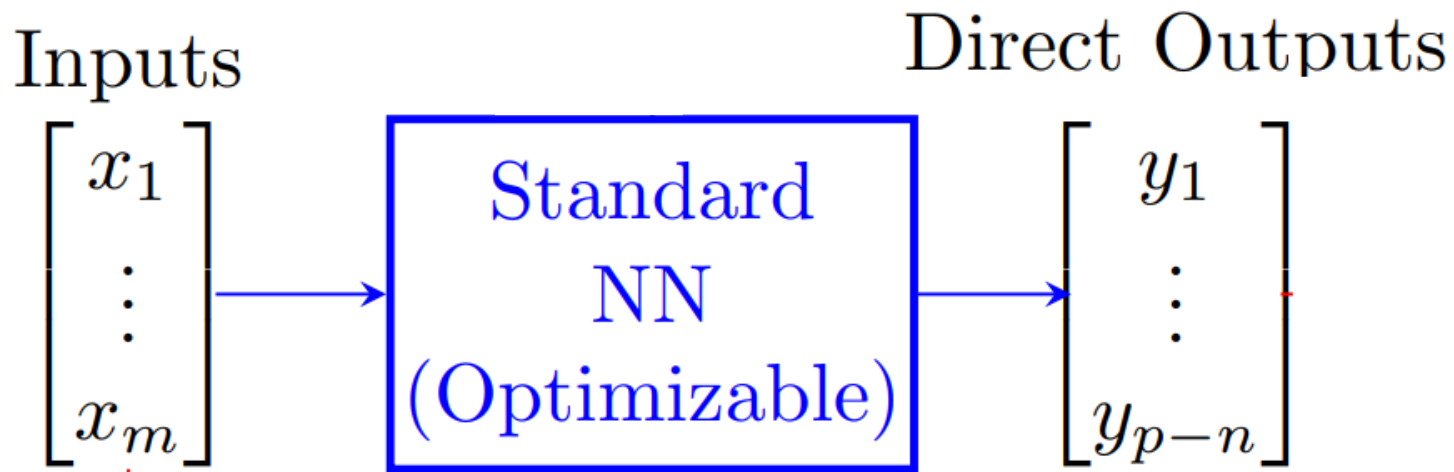
$$\text{Loss} = \alpha (\text{Squared Residual from conservation laws}) + (1 - \alpha) (\text{Mean squared error})$$

Physics-Constrained Architecture

Idea: Introduce a penalty for violating conservation (\sim Lagrange multiplier):

$$\text{Loss} = \alpha (\text{Squared Residual from conservation laws}) + (1 - \alpha) (\text{Mean squared error})$$

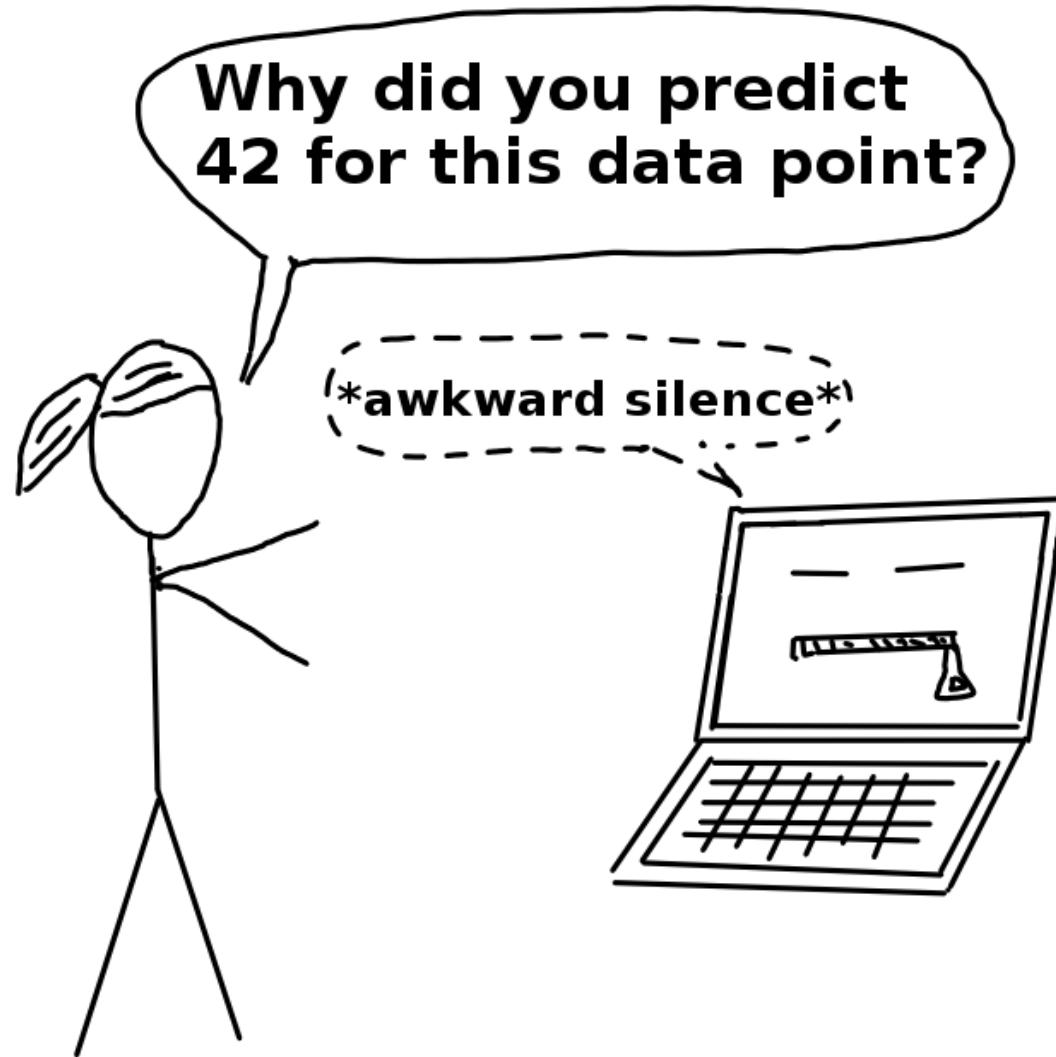
Constraint layers to enforce conservation laws to within machine precision!



Problem 1: Neural Nets typically violate conservation laws

We can enforce conservation laws in NNs
Conservation of mass, energy, and radiation

Problem 2: For climate modeling,
we need trustworthy/interpretable parametrizations



Source: *Interpretable Machine Learning*, C. Molnar (2019)

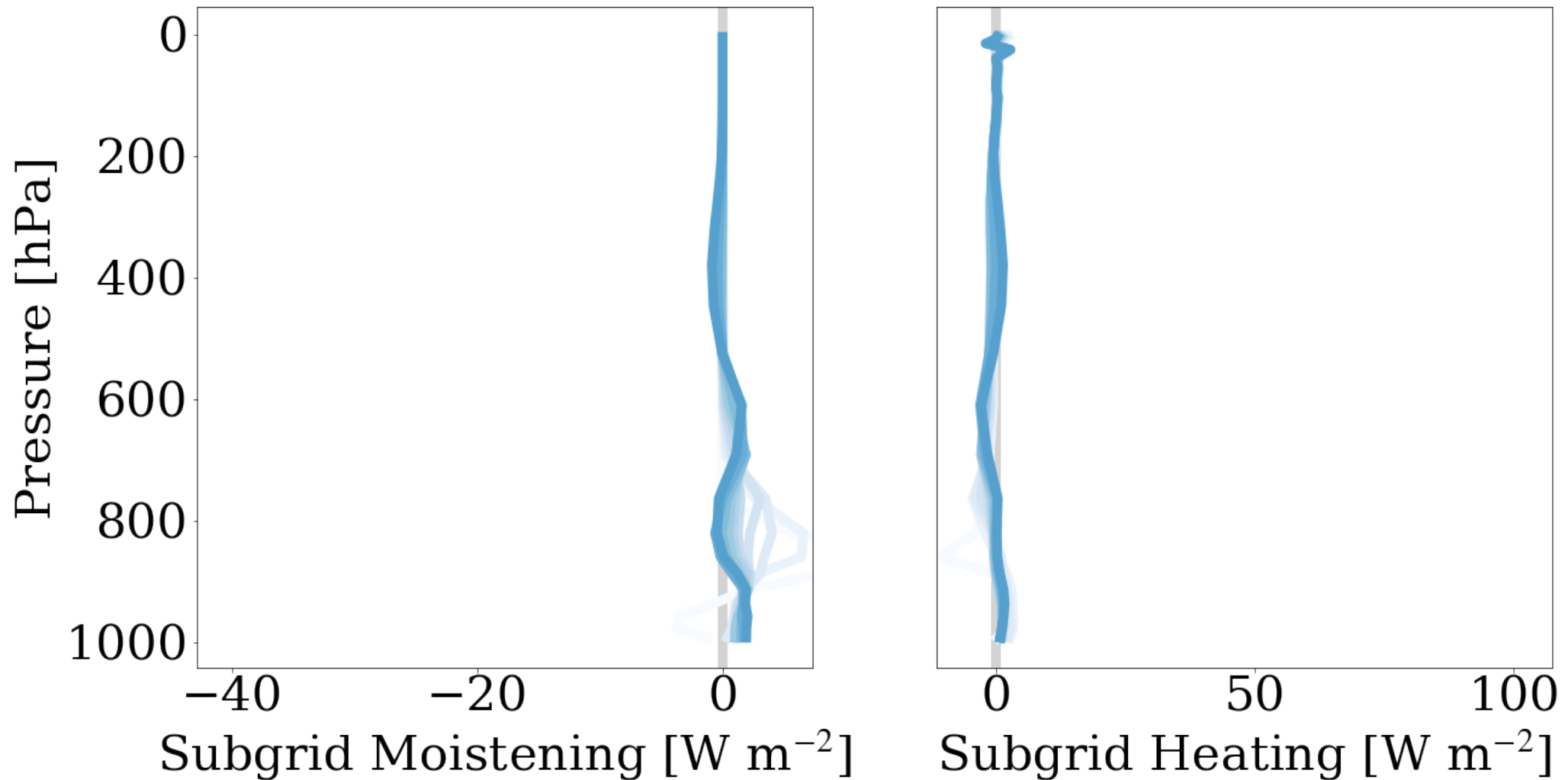
Problem 2: ML parametrizations are hard to interpret/trust

Idea: Tailor 2 NN interpretability methods to parameterization convection

See: McGovern et al. (2019), Toms et al. (2019), Montavon et al. (2018), Molnar et al. (2018)

fixed l.t. stability, mid-tropospheric moisture fuels convection

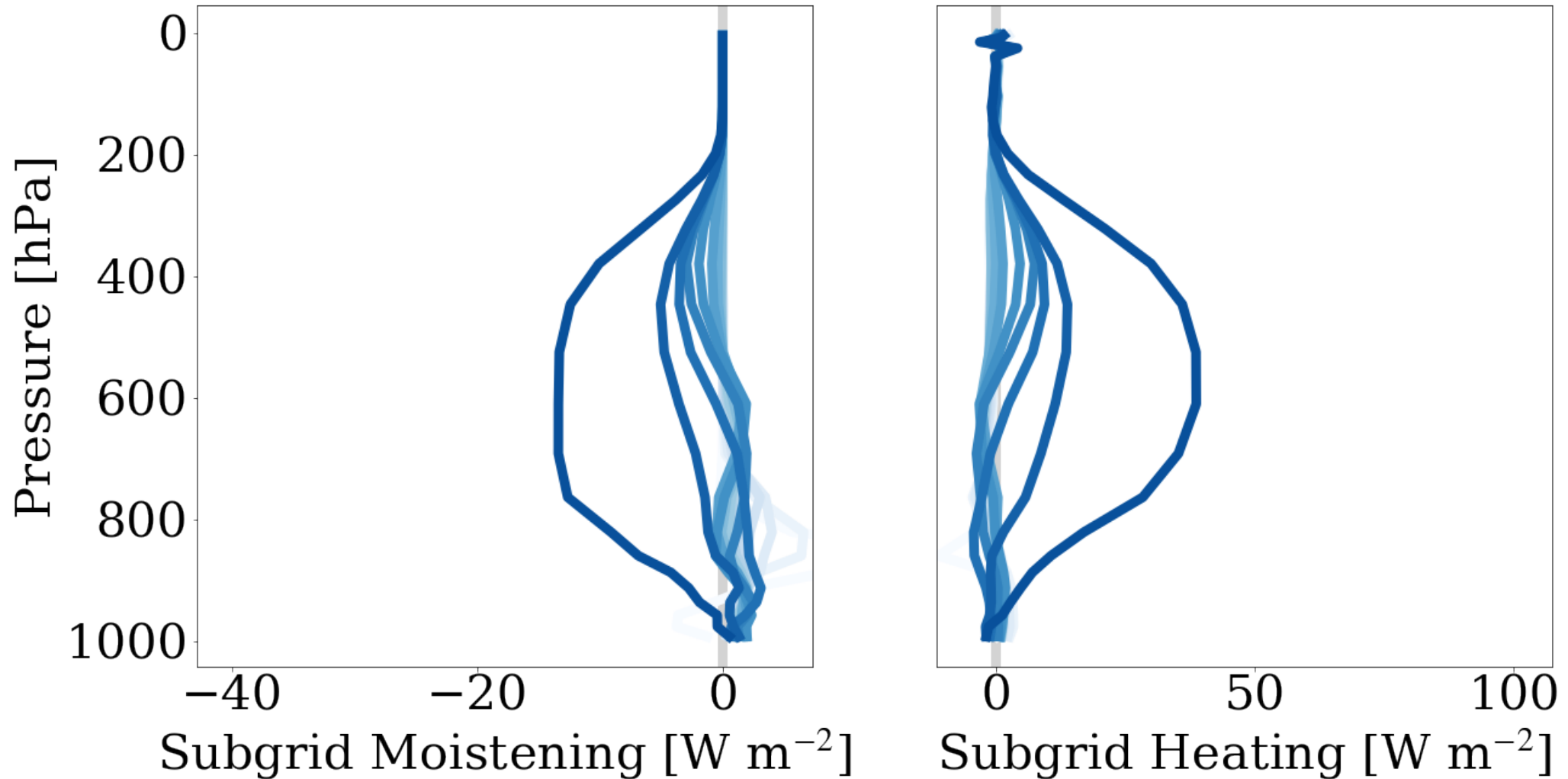
QM = 20.0 kg/m²



See: Brenowitz, Beucler et al. (2020)

fixed l.t. stability, mid-tropospheric moisture fuels convection

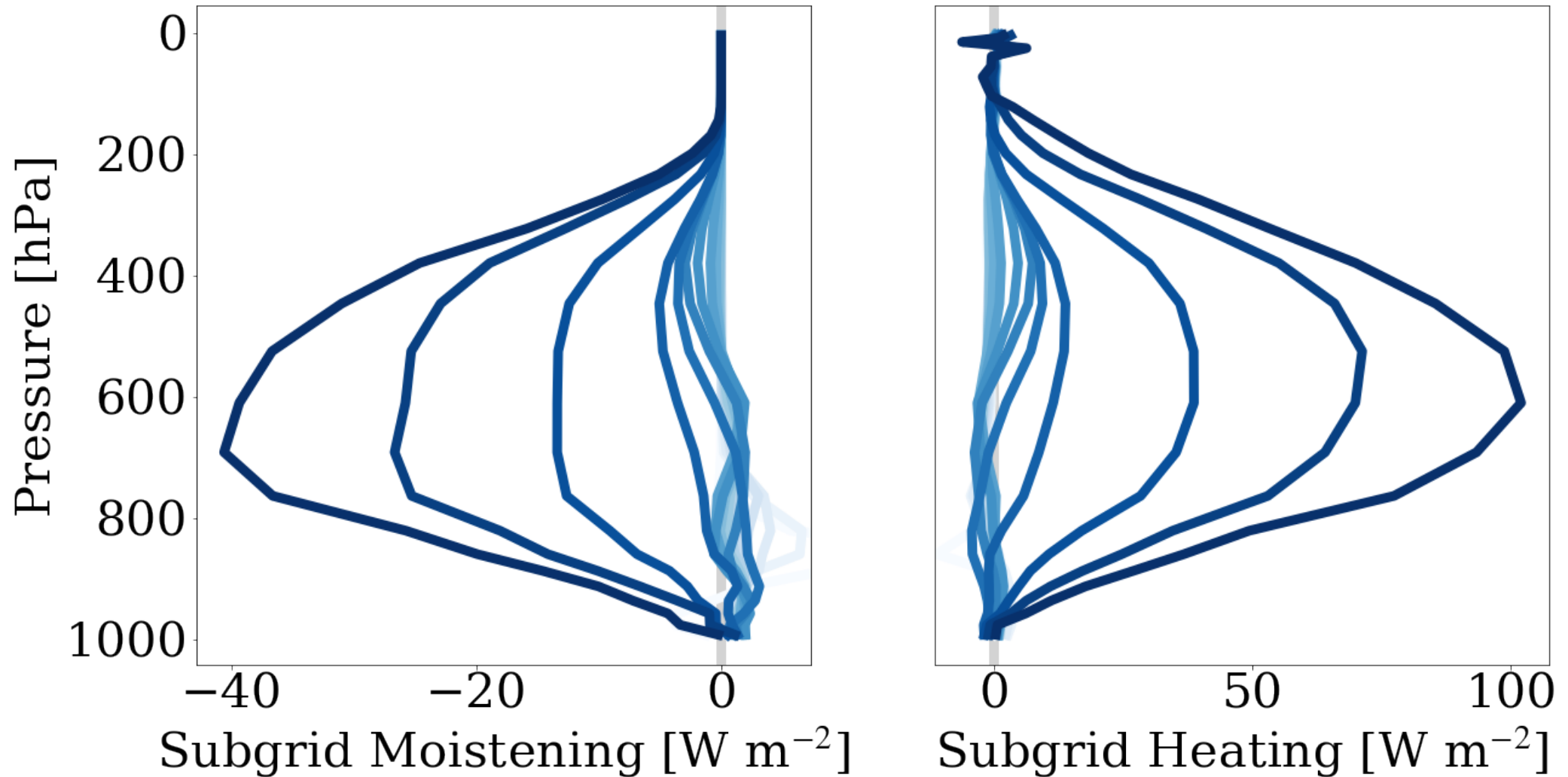
$$QM = 30.5 \text{ kg/m}^2$$



See: Brenowitz, Beucler et al. (2020)

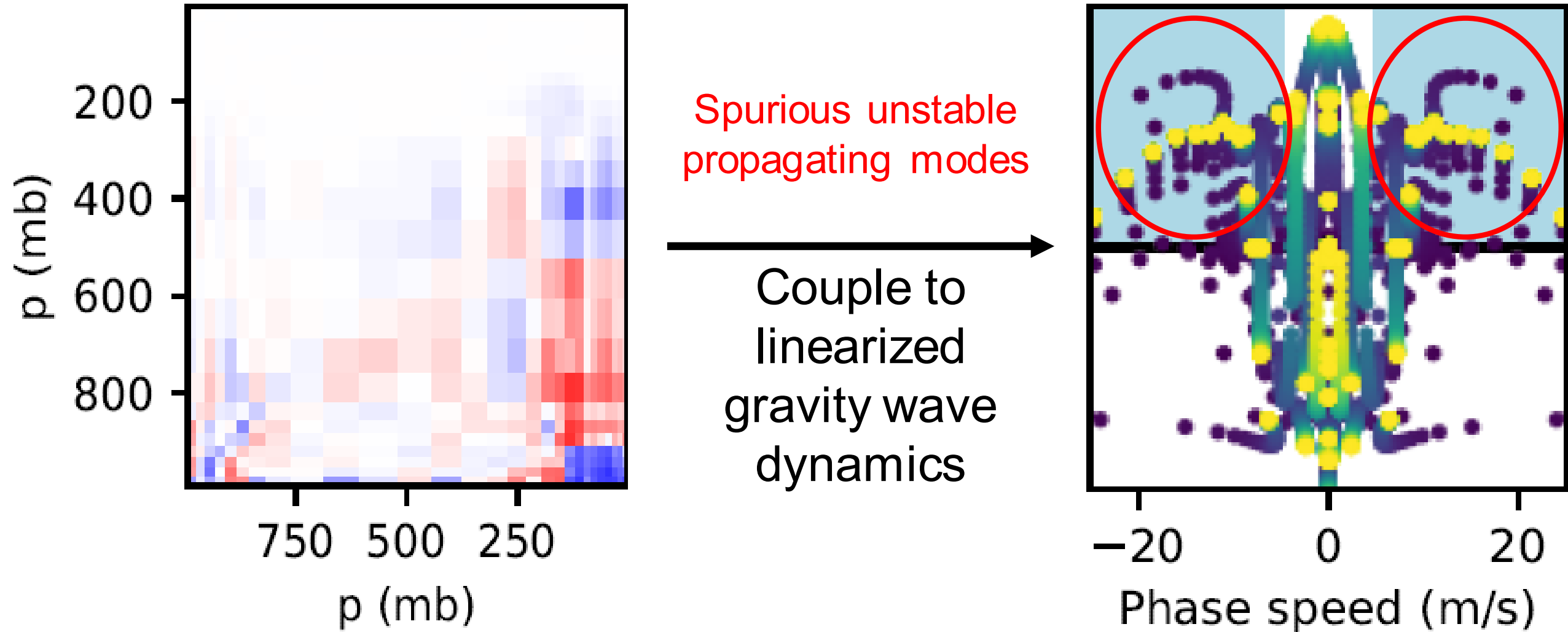
fixed l.t. stability, mid-tropospheric moisture fuels convection

$$QM = 34.7 \text{ kg/m}^2$$



See: Brenowitz, Beucler et al. (2020)

Jacobian calculated via automatic differentiation helps interpret and stabilize parameterization



See: Kuang (2018, 2007), Herman and Kuang (2013), Beucler et al. (2018), Brenowitz, Beucler et al. (2020)

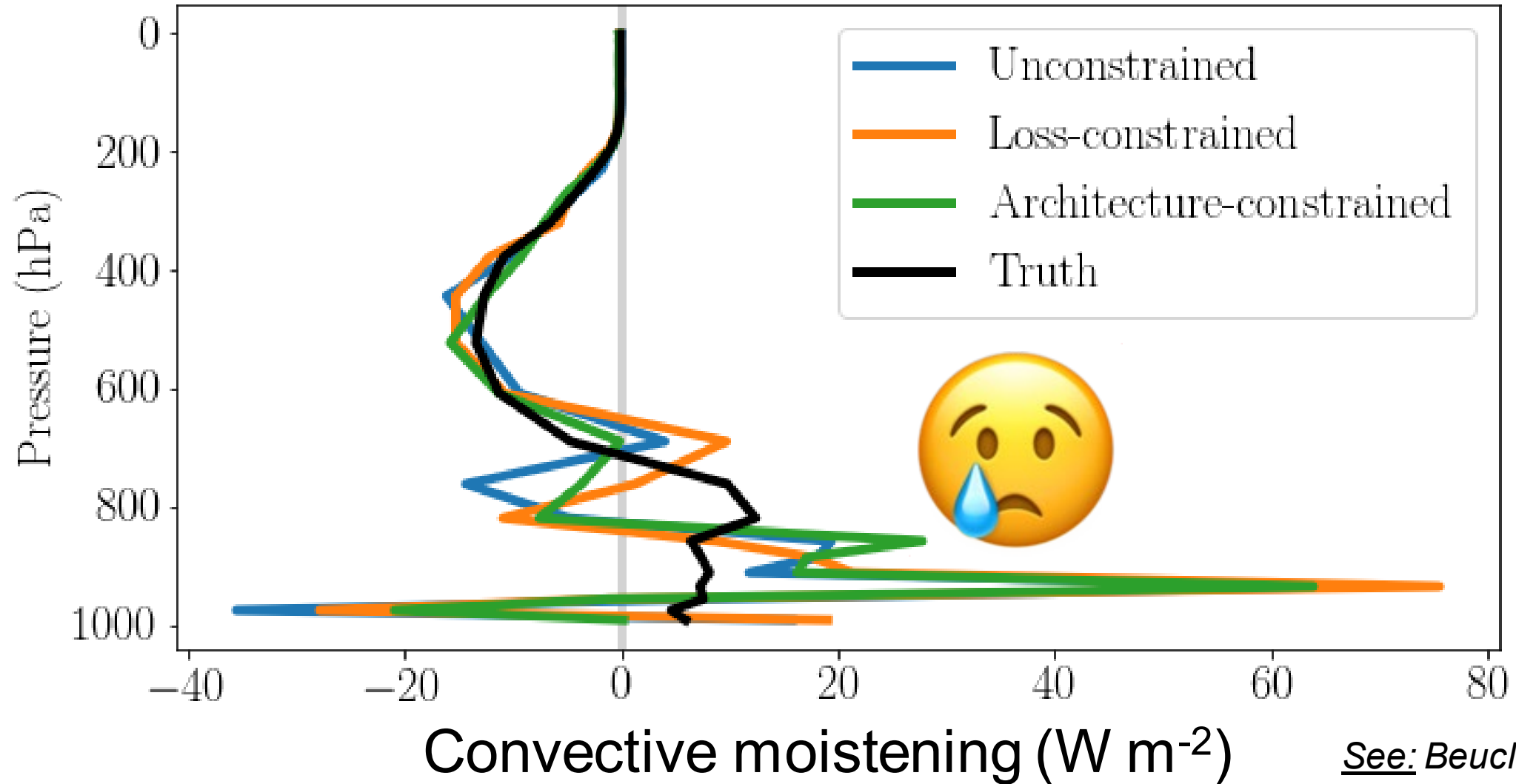
Problem 2: ML parametrizations are hard to interpret/trust

We can tailor interpretability methods
Partial Dependence Plots + Gradients

Attribution Maps

Problem 3: ML algorithms fail to generalize

Daily-mean Tropical prediction in (+4K) warming experiment



See: Beucler et al. (2019)



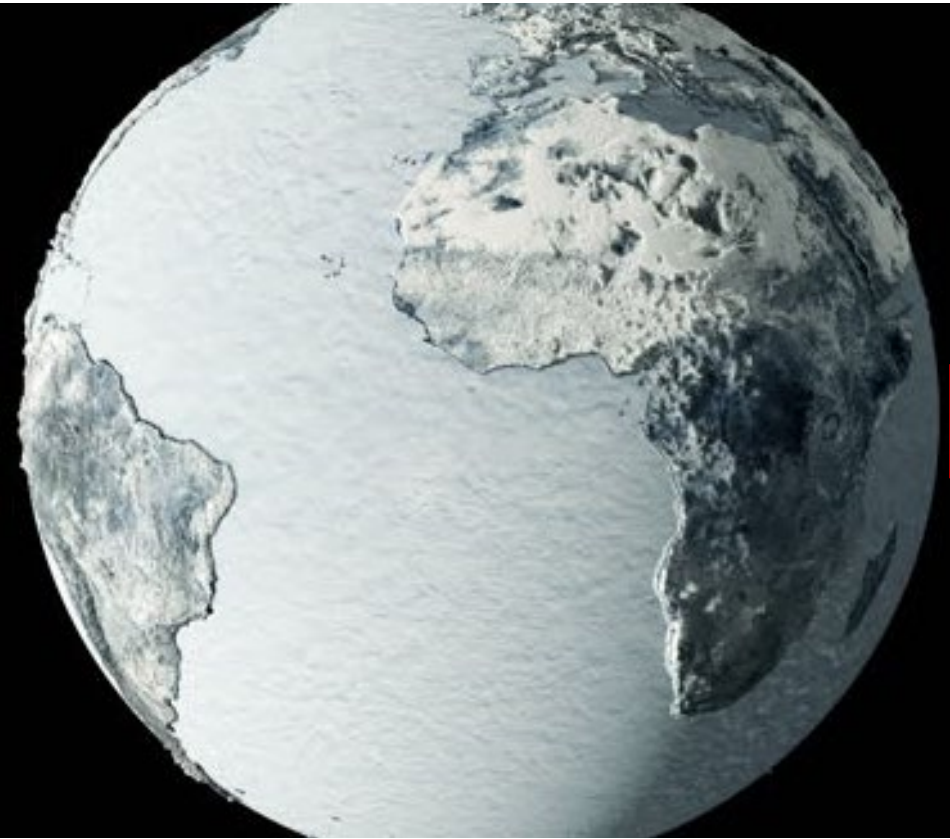
Idea: Break the model even more!



Image: IT Biz Advisor

Generalization Experiment: Uniform +8K warming

Training and Validation on
cold aquaplanet simulation



+8K

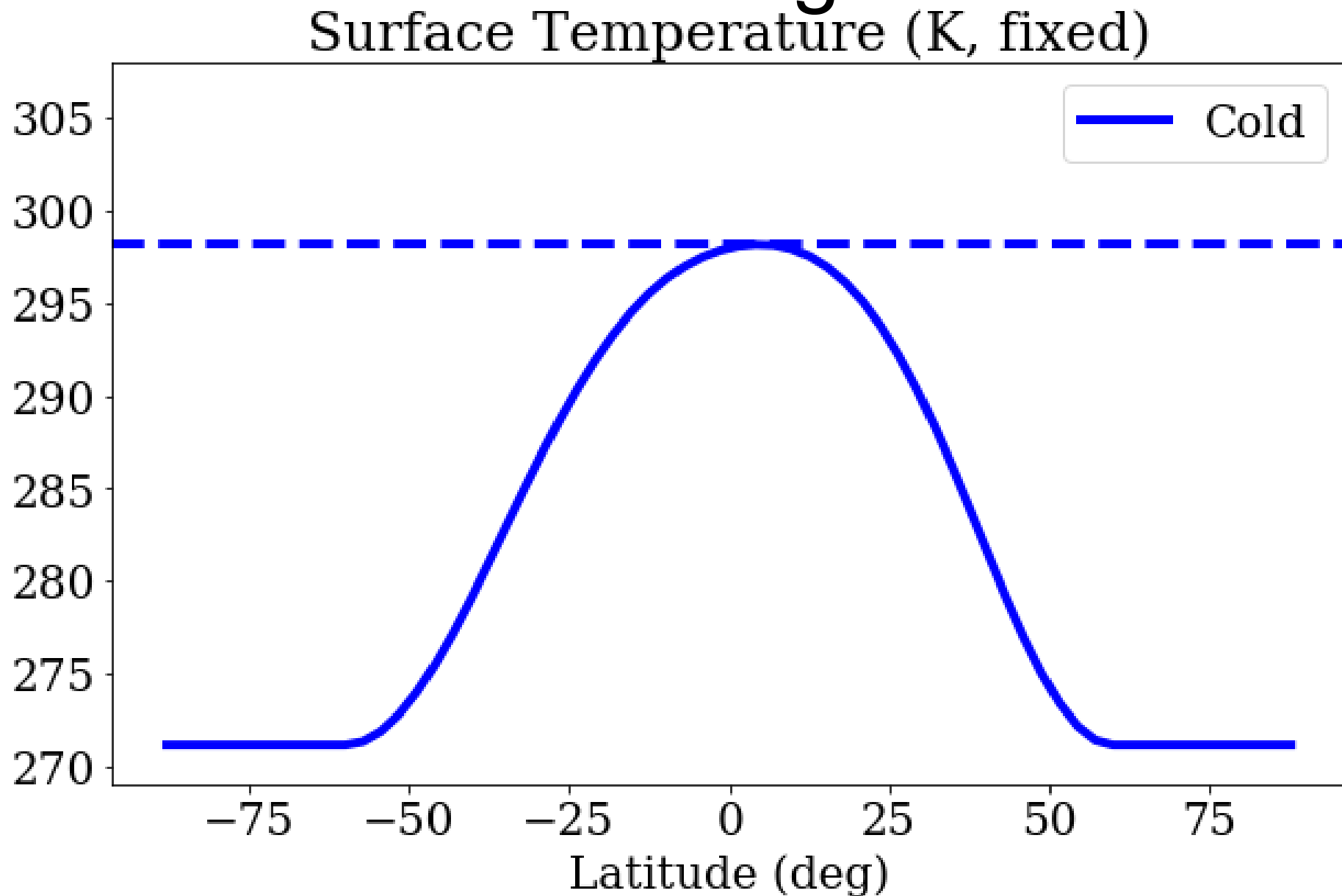


Test on warm aquaplanet simulation

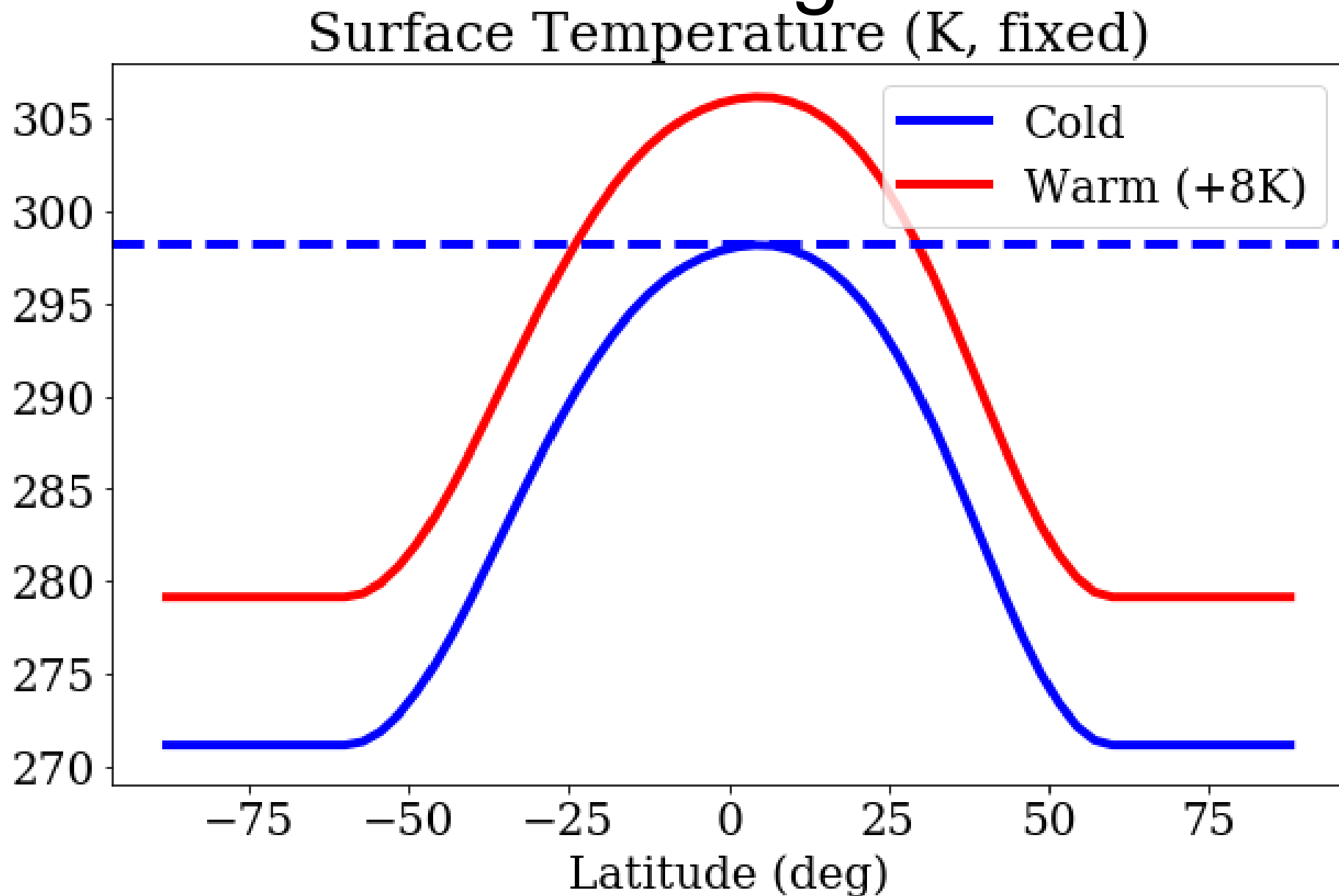


Images: Rashevskiy Viacheslav, Sebastien Decoret

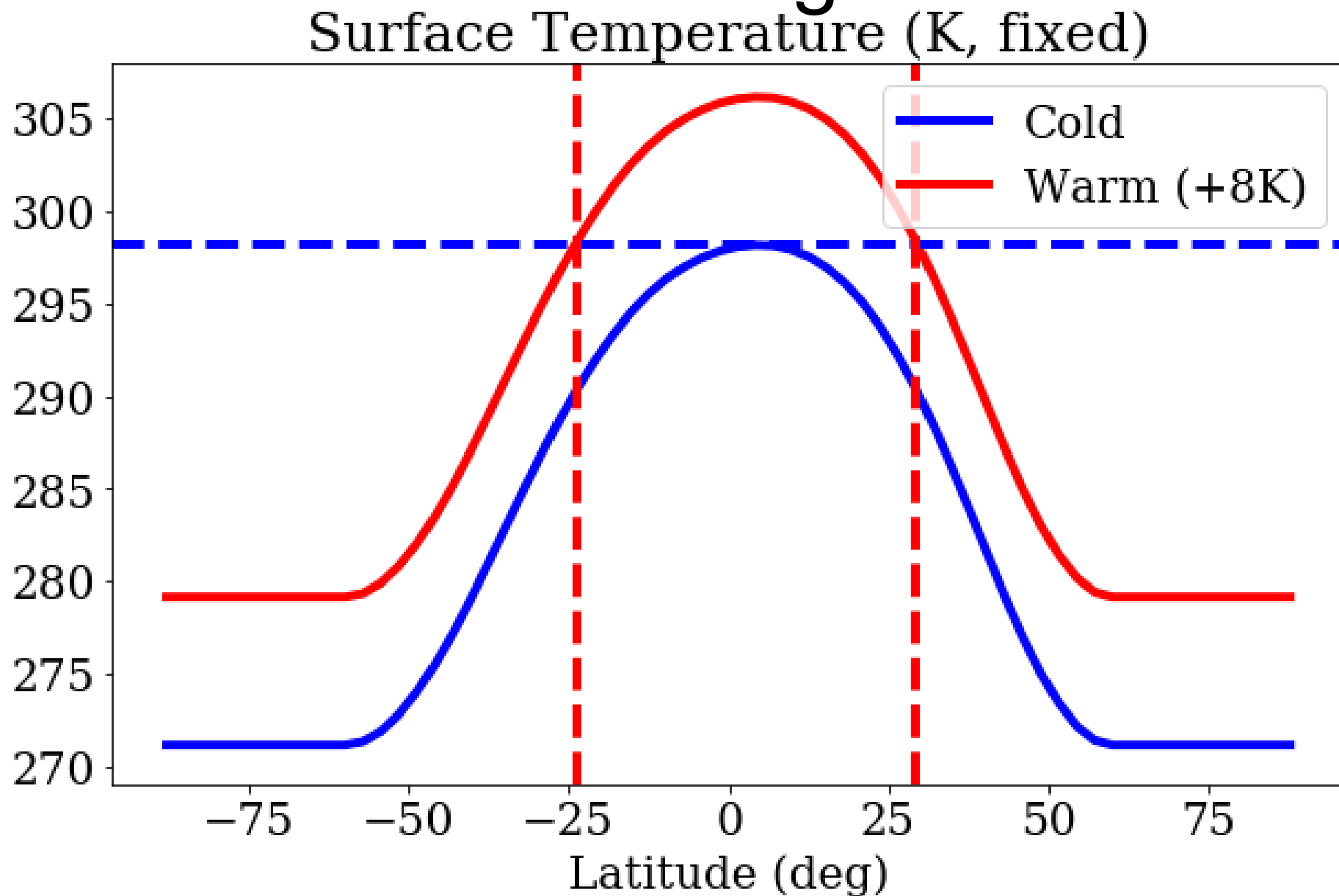
Generalization Experiment: Uniform +8K warming



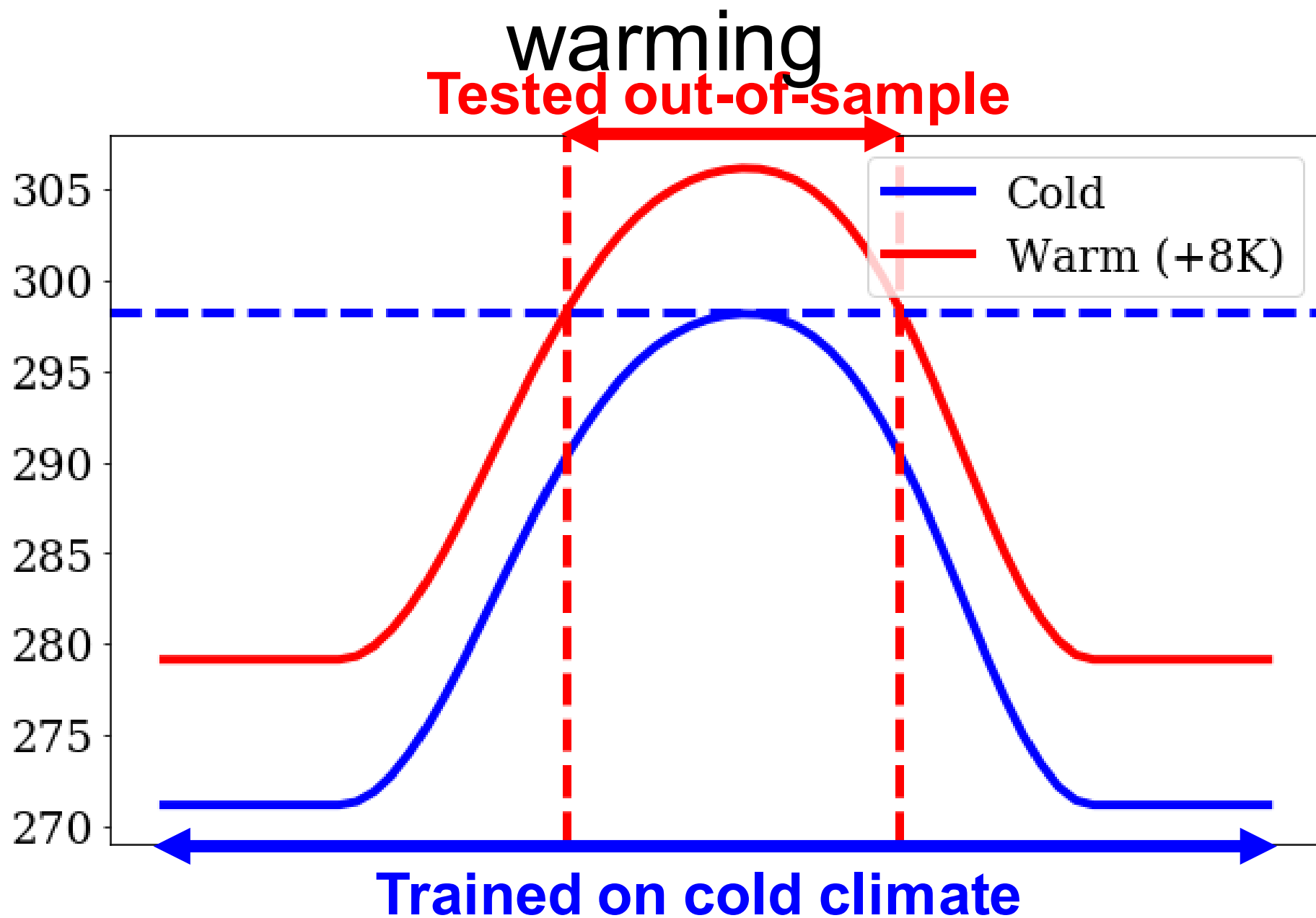
Generalization Experiment: Uniform +8K warming



Generalization Experiment: Uniform +8K warming

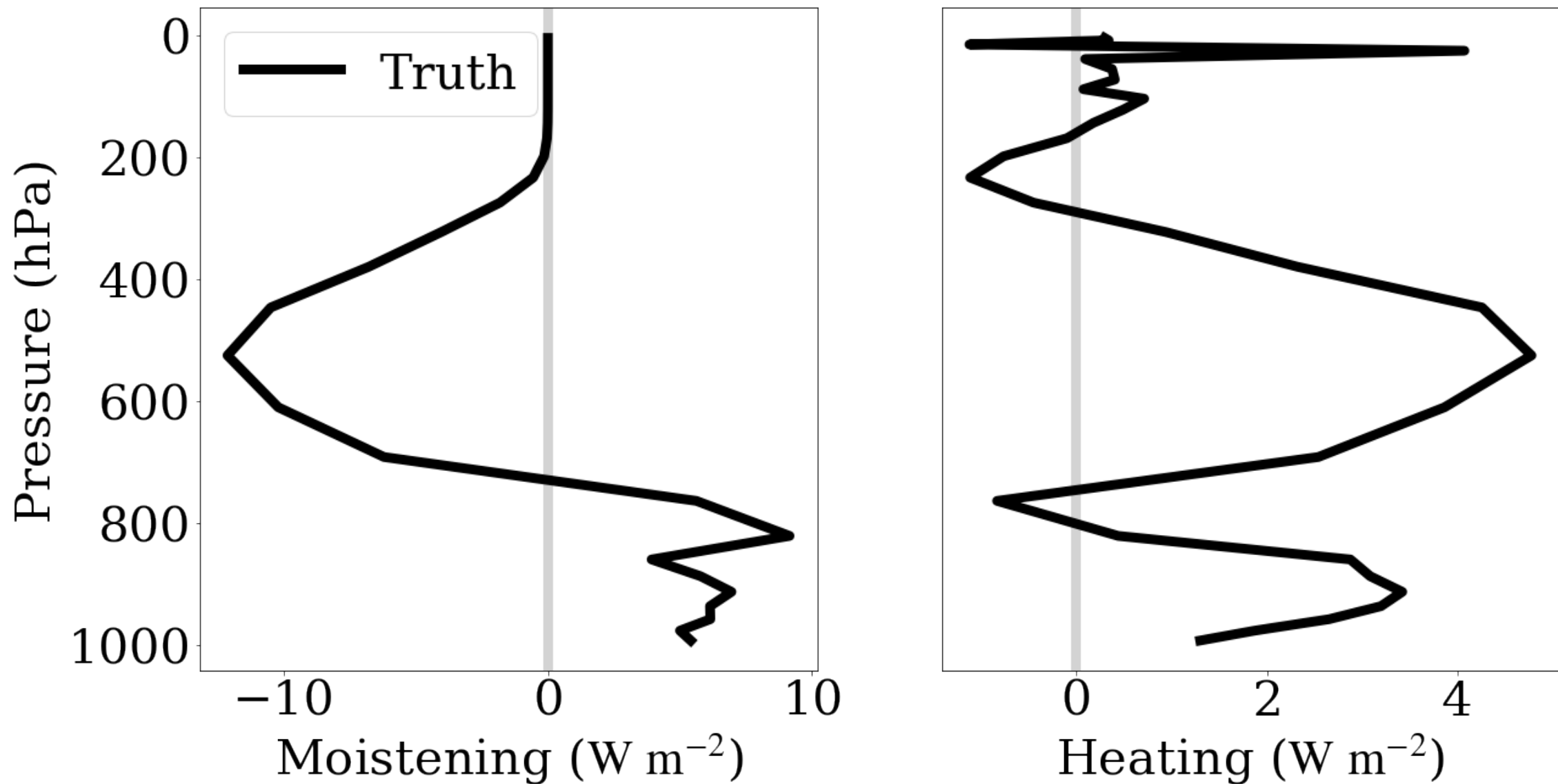


Generalization Experiment: Uniform +8K



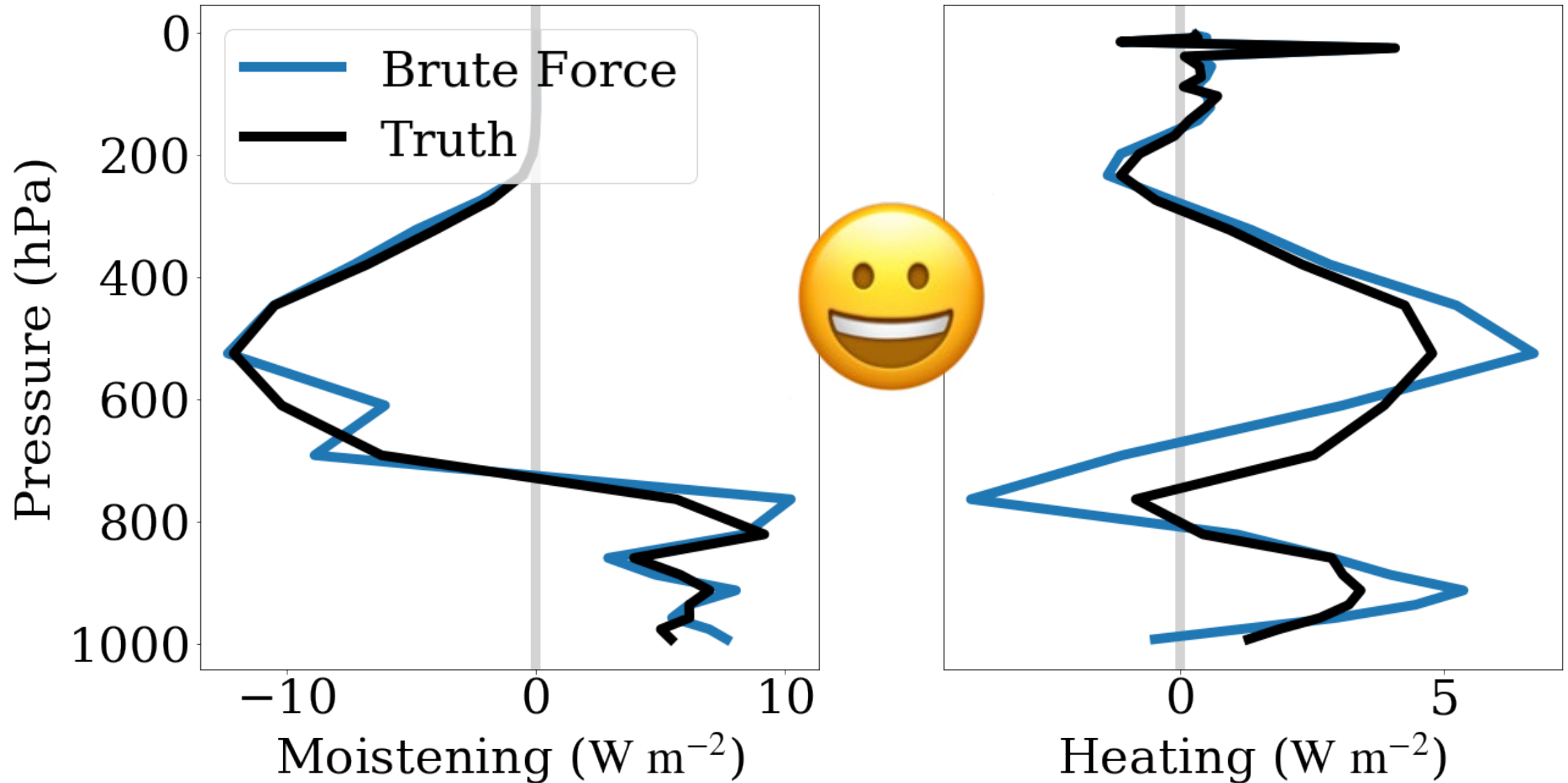
Problem 3: NNs fail to generalize to unseen climates

Daily-mean Tropical prediction in cold climate

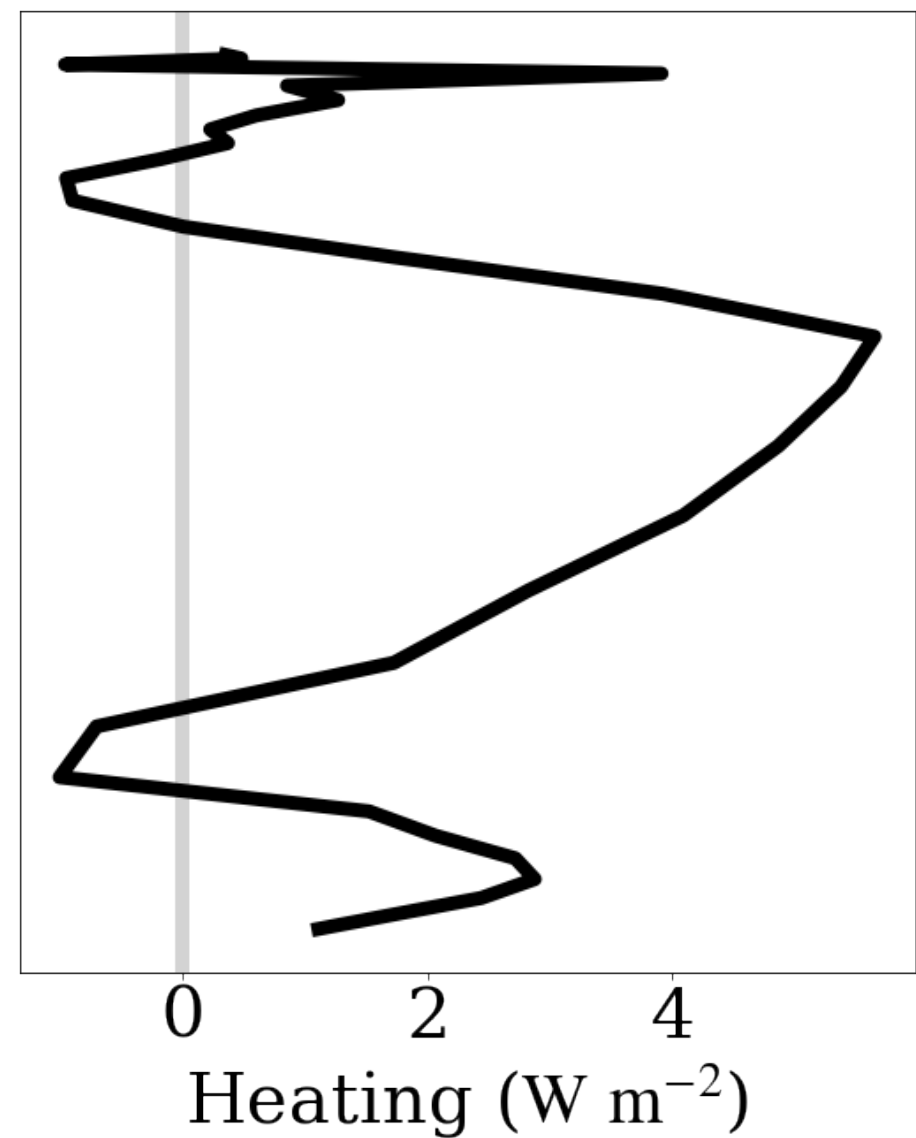
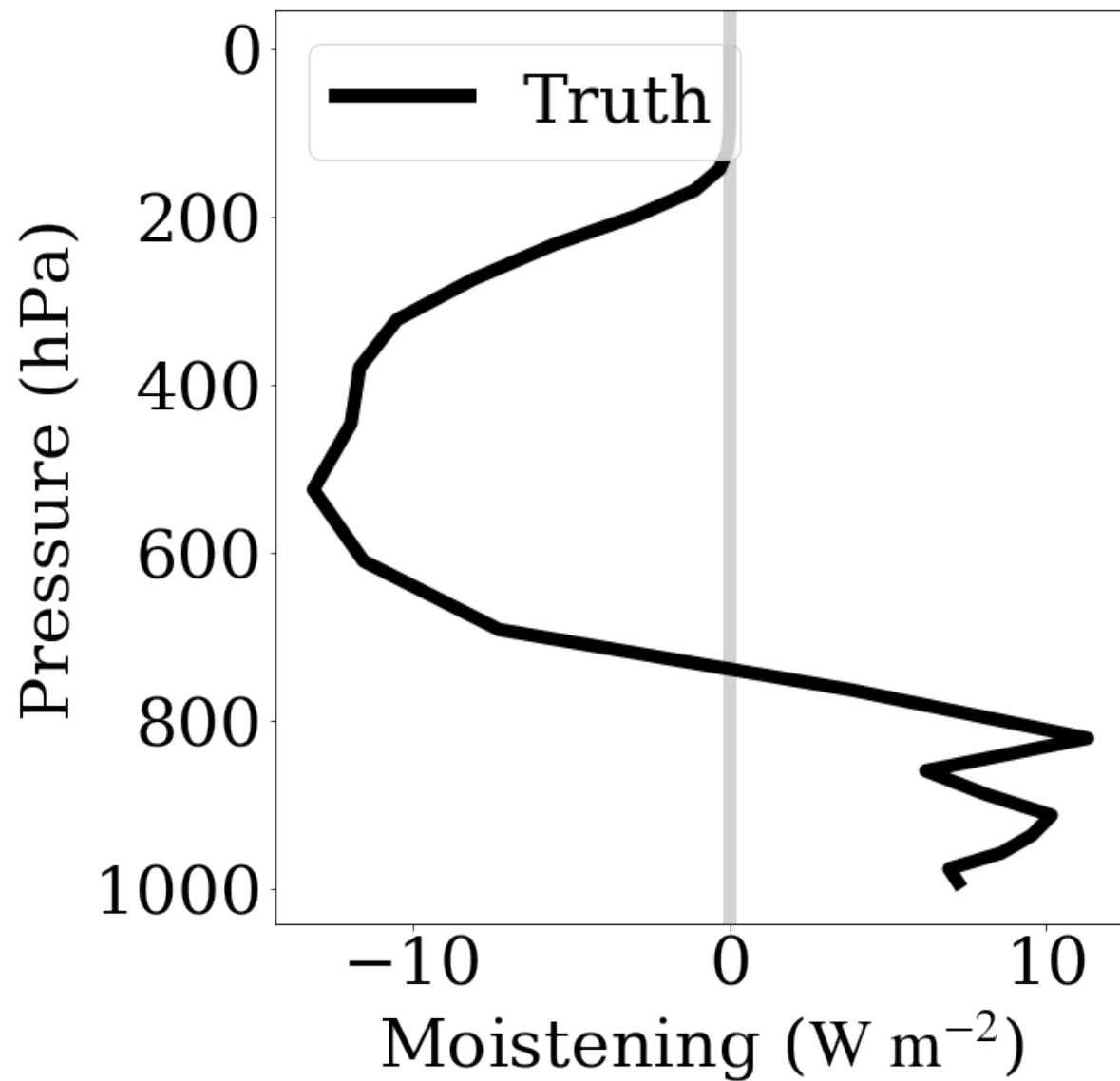


Problem 3: NNs fail to generalize to unseen climates

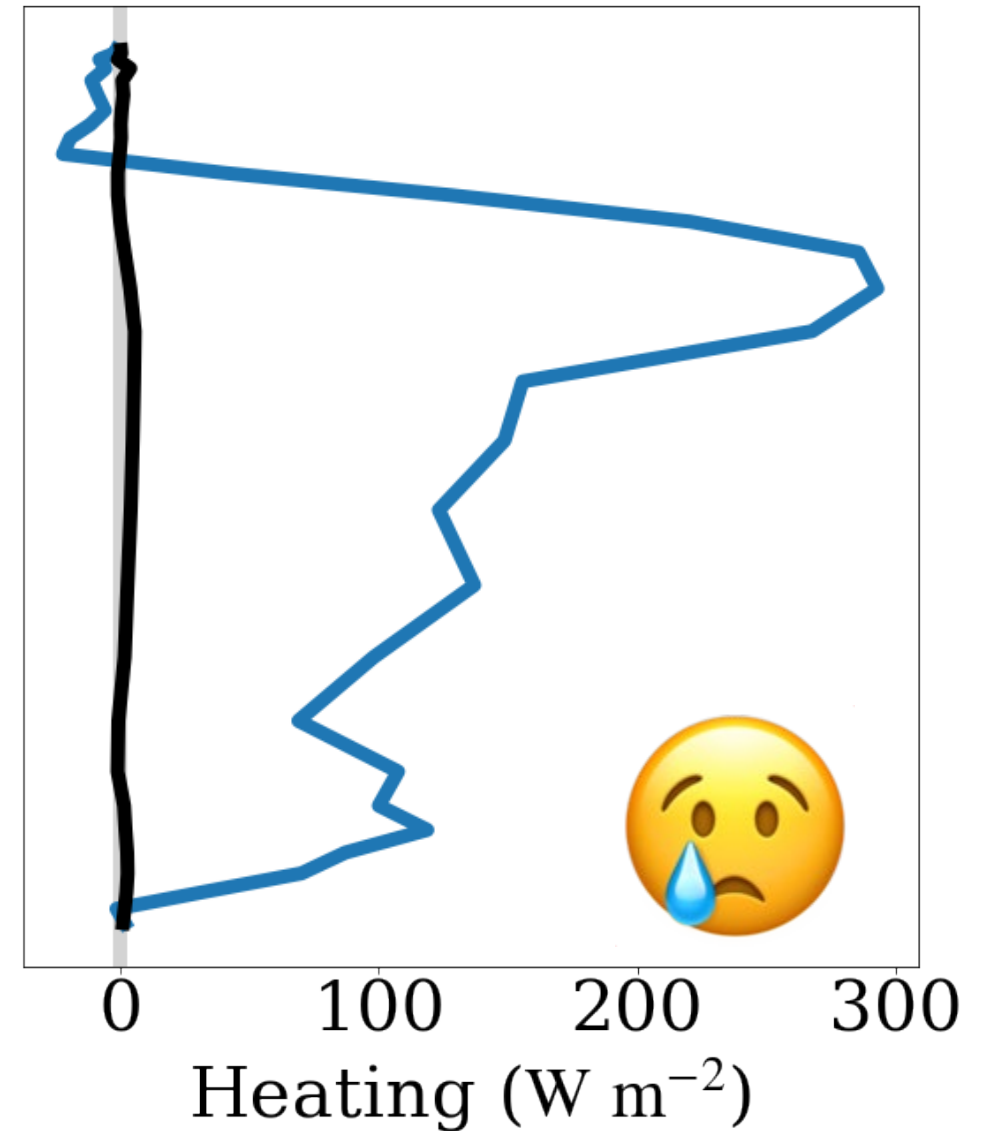
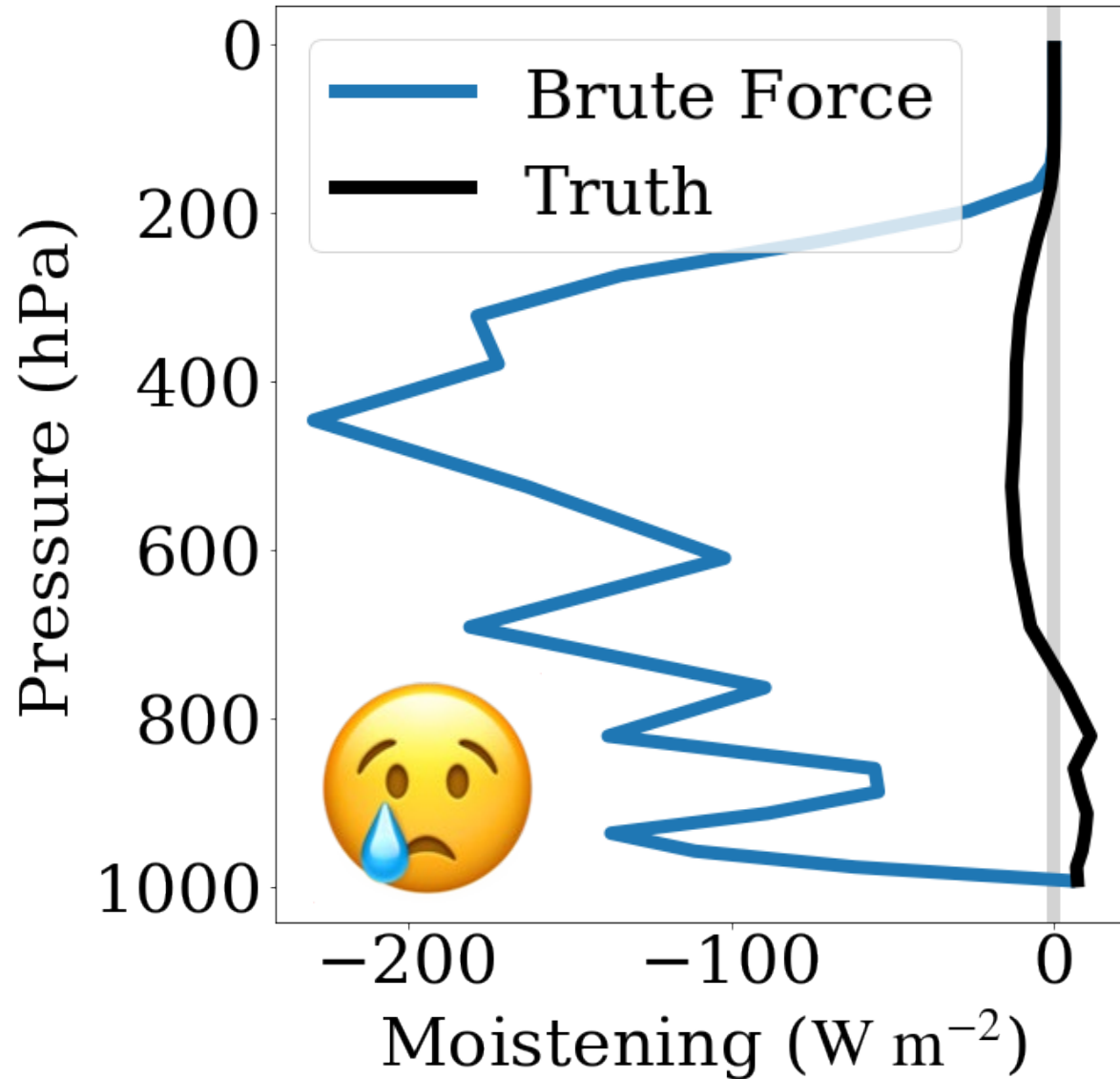
Daily-mean Tropical prediction in cold climate



Daily-mean Tropical prediction in warm climate



Daily-mean Tropical prediction in warm climate





Physically rescale the data
to convert extrapolation into interpolation


$$\begin{bmatrix} \text{Specific humidity } (p) \\ \text{Temperature } (p) \\ \text{Surface Pressure} \\ \text{Solar Insolation} \\ \text{Latent Heat Flux} \\ \text{Sensible Heat Flux} \end{bmatrix}$$

NN
 \mapsto

$$\begin{bmatrix} \text{Subgrid moistening } (p) \\ \text{Subgrid heating } (p) \\ \text{Radiative fluxes} \end{bmatrix}$$

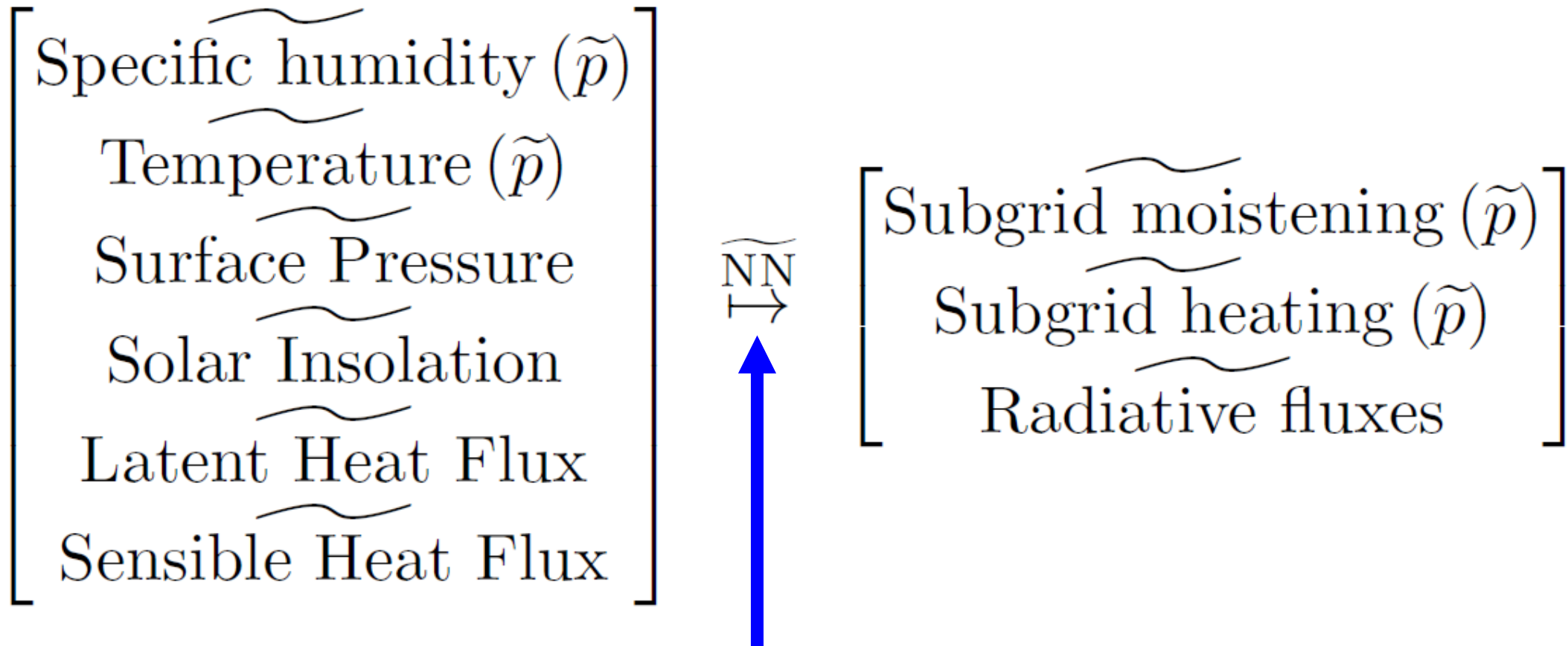

Brute Force: Not Climate-Invariant



Physically rescale the data to convert extrapolation into interpolation



Goal: Uncover **climate-invariant** mapping from climate to convection



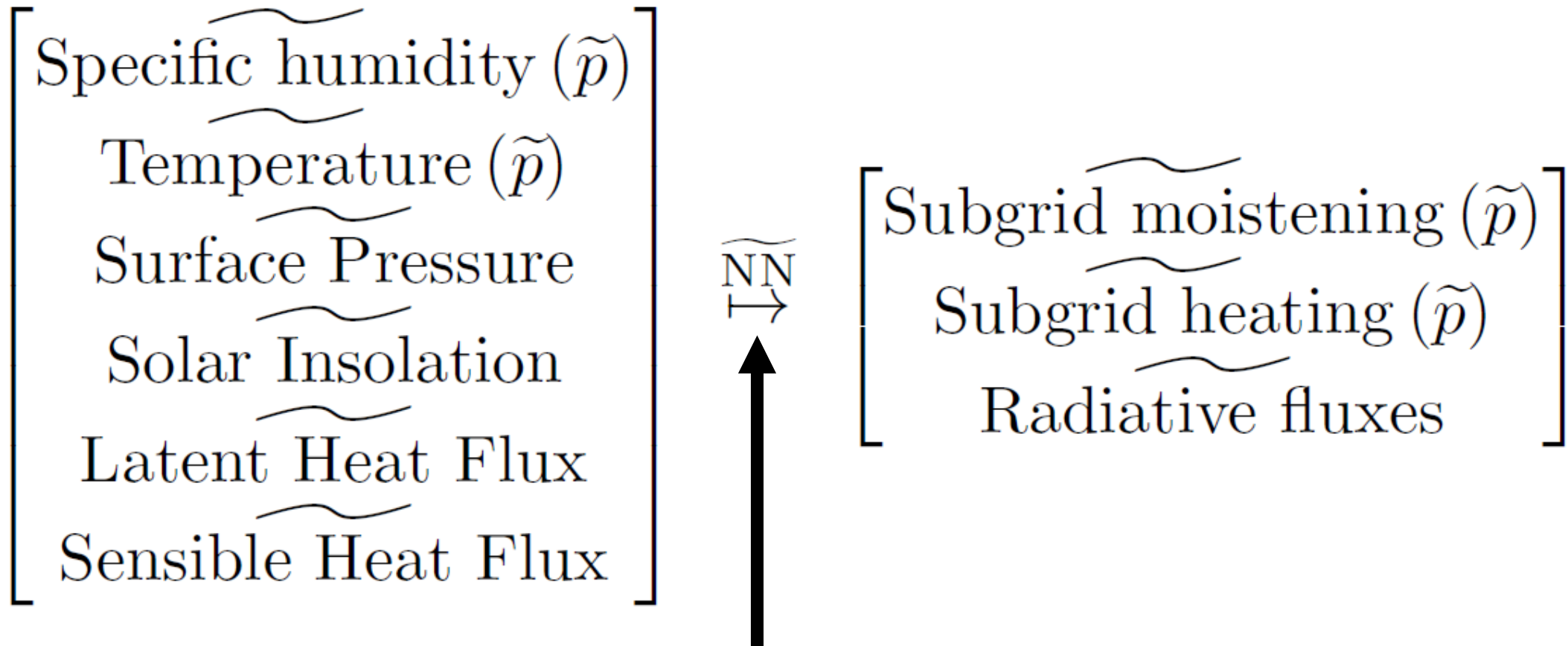
Goal: Climate-Invariant



Physically rescale the data to convert extrapolation into interpolation



Goal: Uncover **climate-invariant** mapping from climate to convection



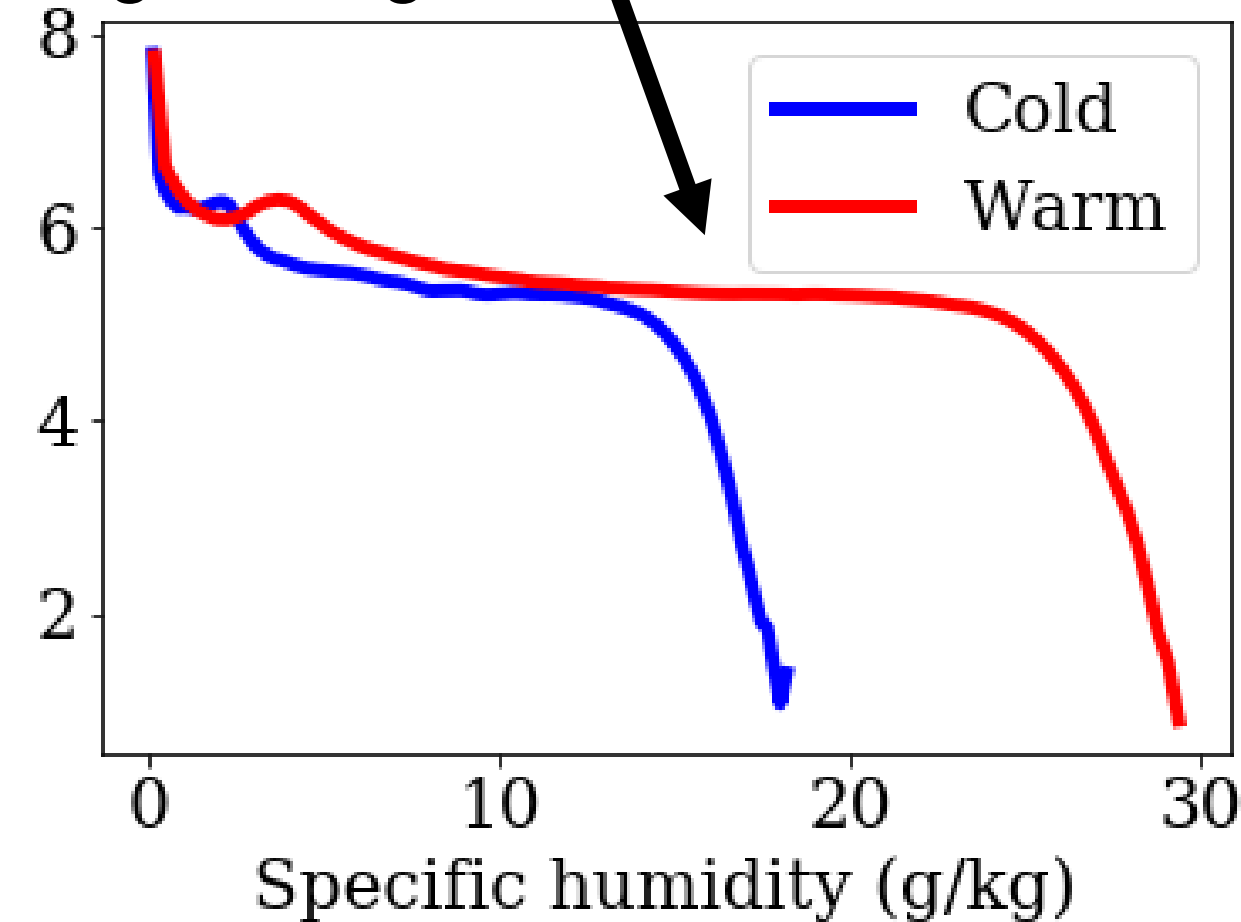
How to choose the physical

Specific humidity (z) \rightarrow Relative humidity (z)

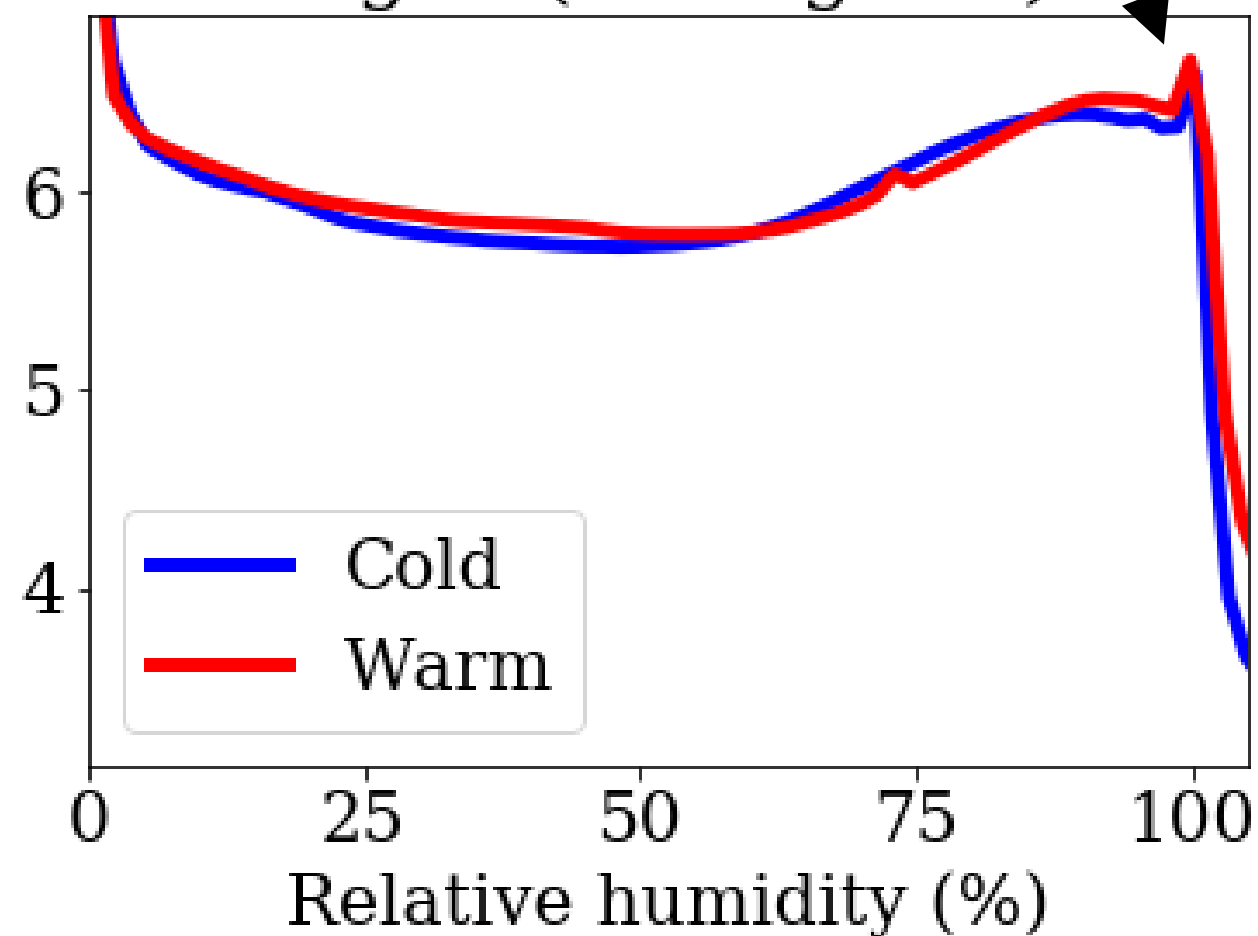
**Extrapolatio
n**

Interpolation

Log. Histogram

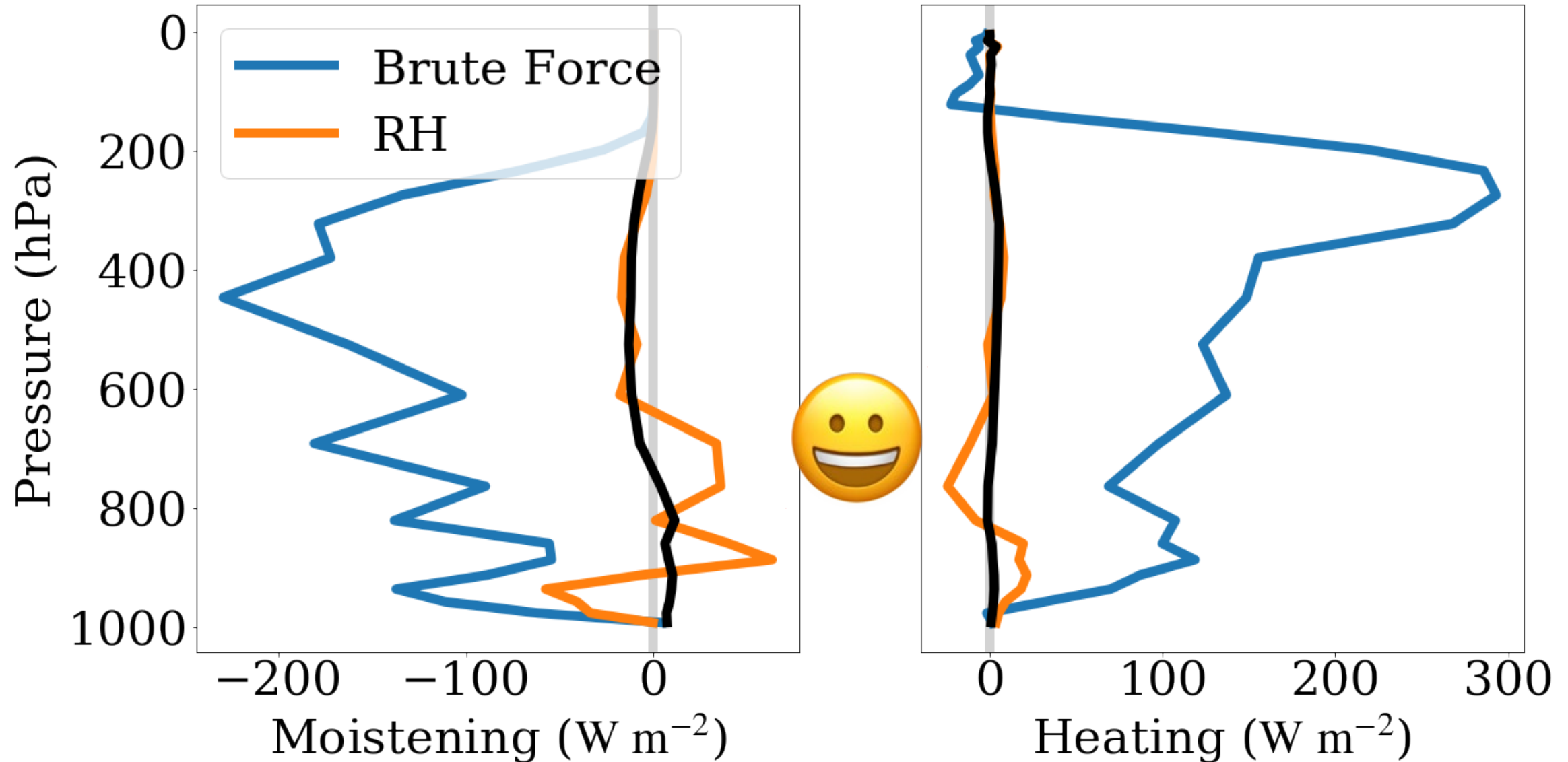


log10 (Histogram)

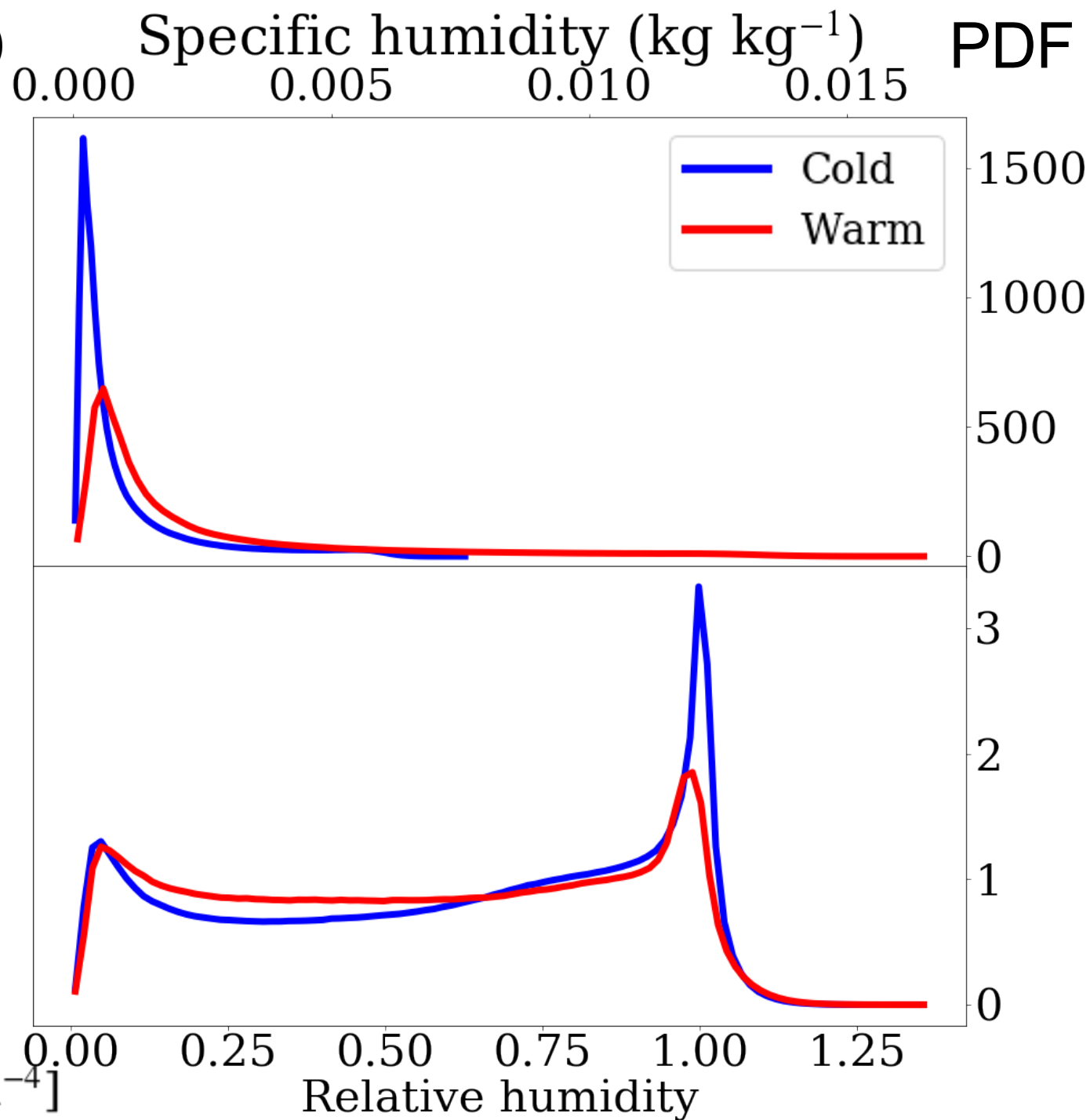
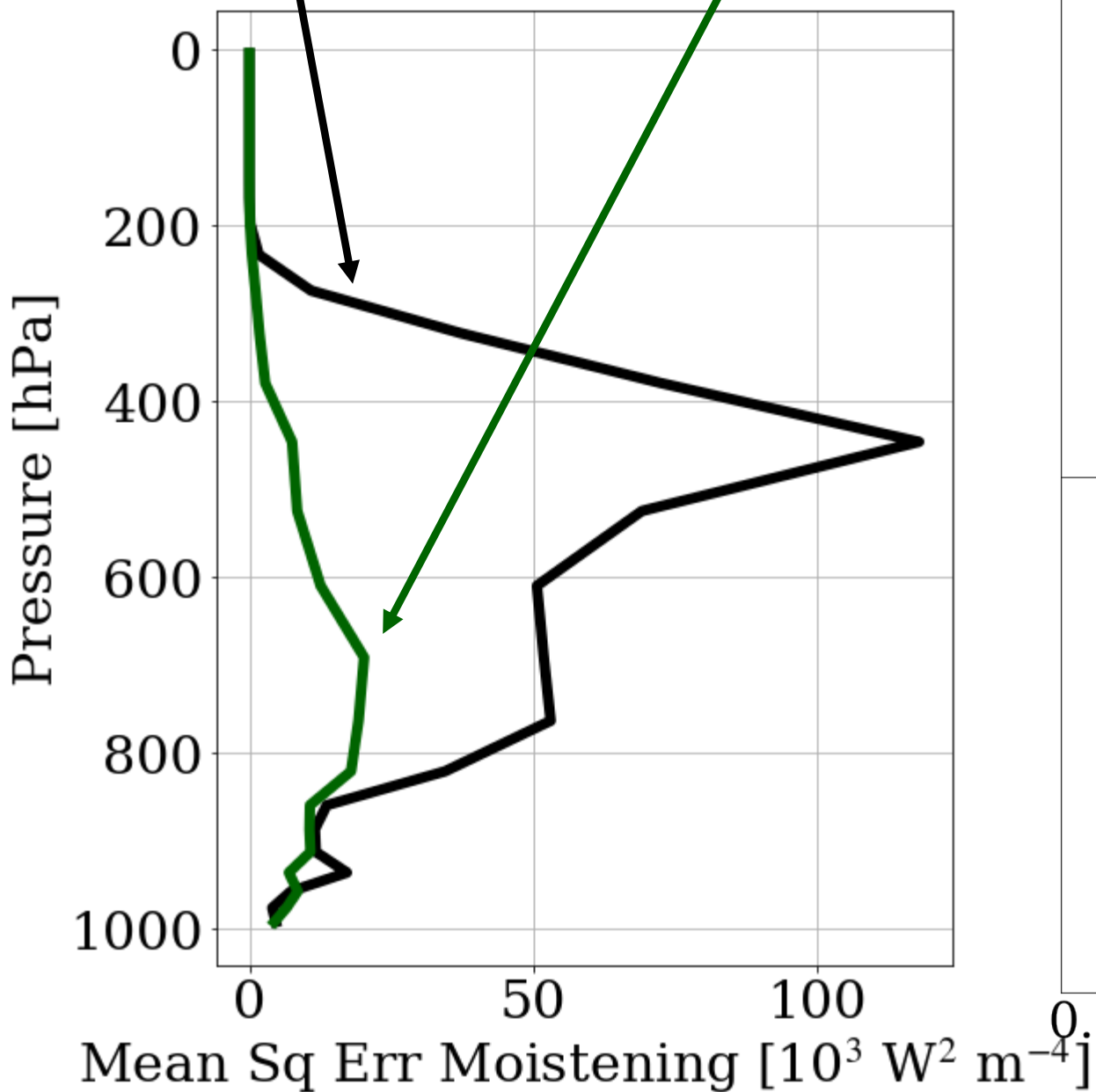


Specific humidity (z) \rightarrow Relative humidity (z)

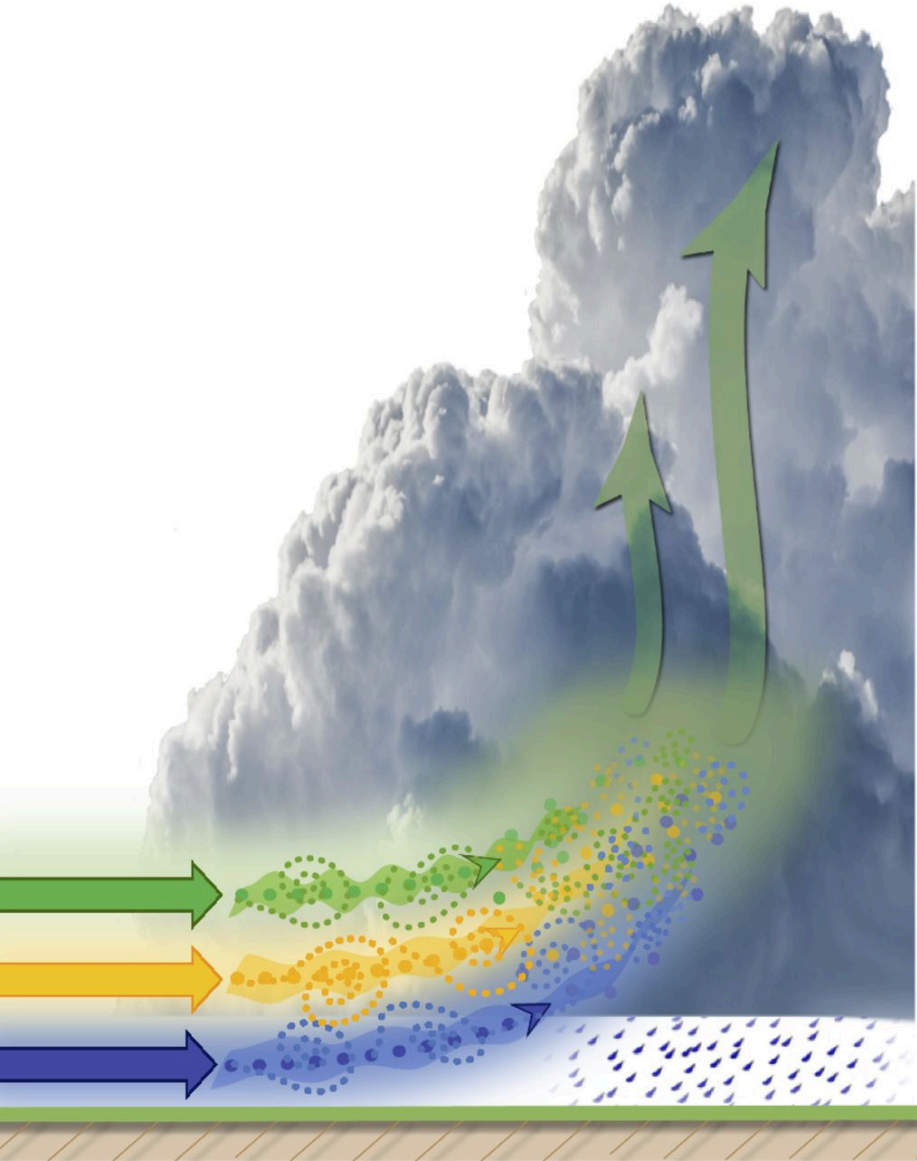
Generalization improves dramatically!



Specific humidity (z) \rightarrow Relative humidity (z)

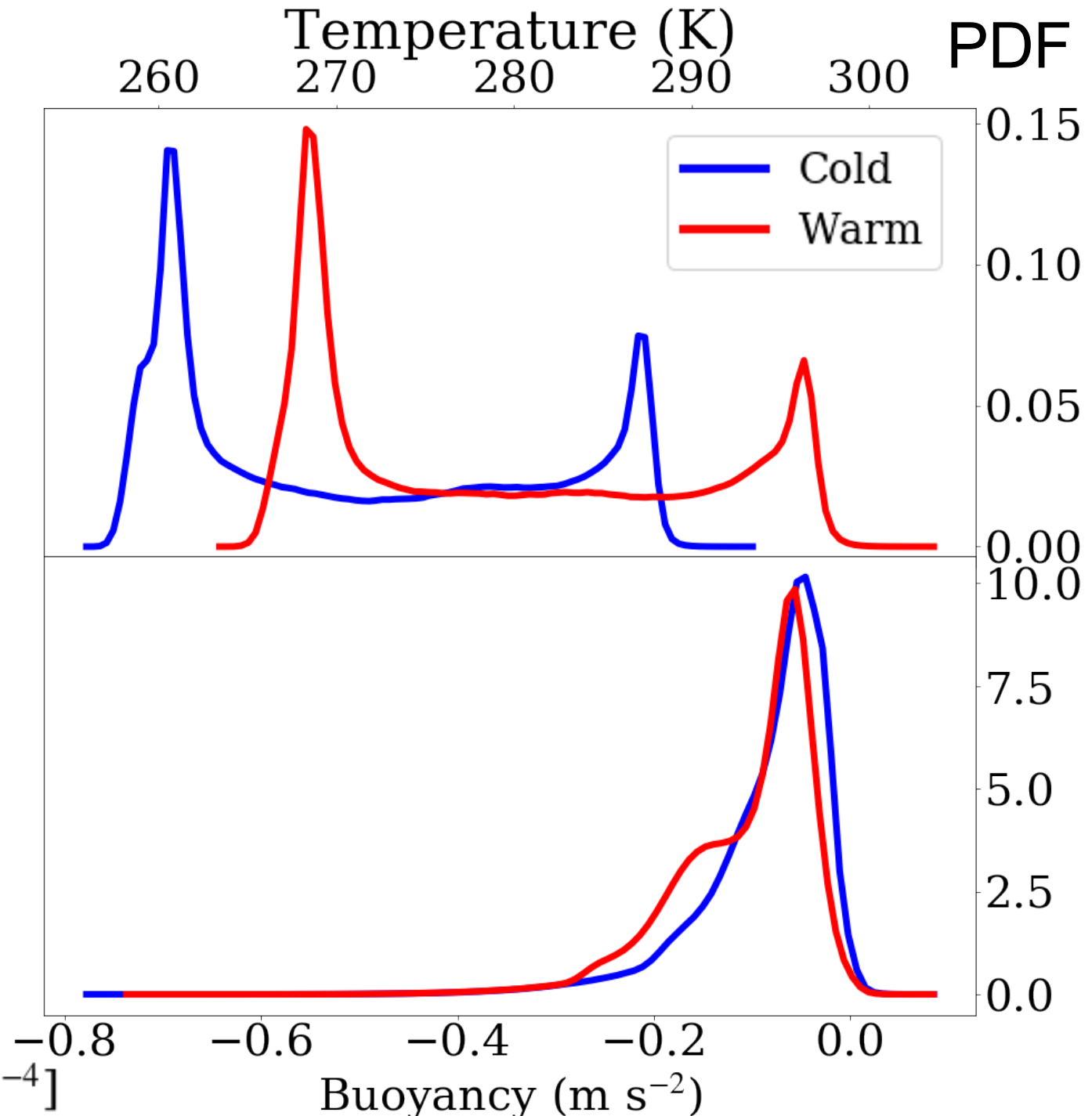
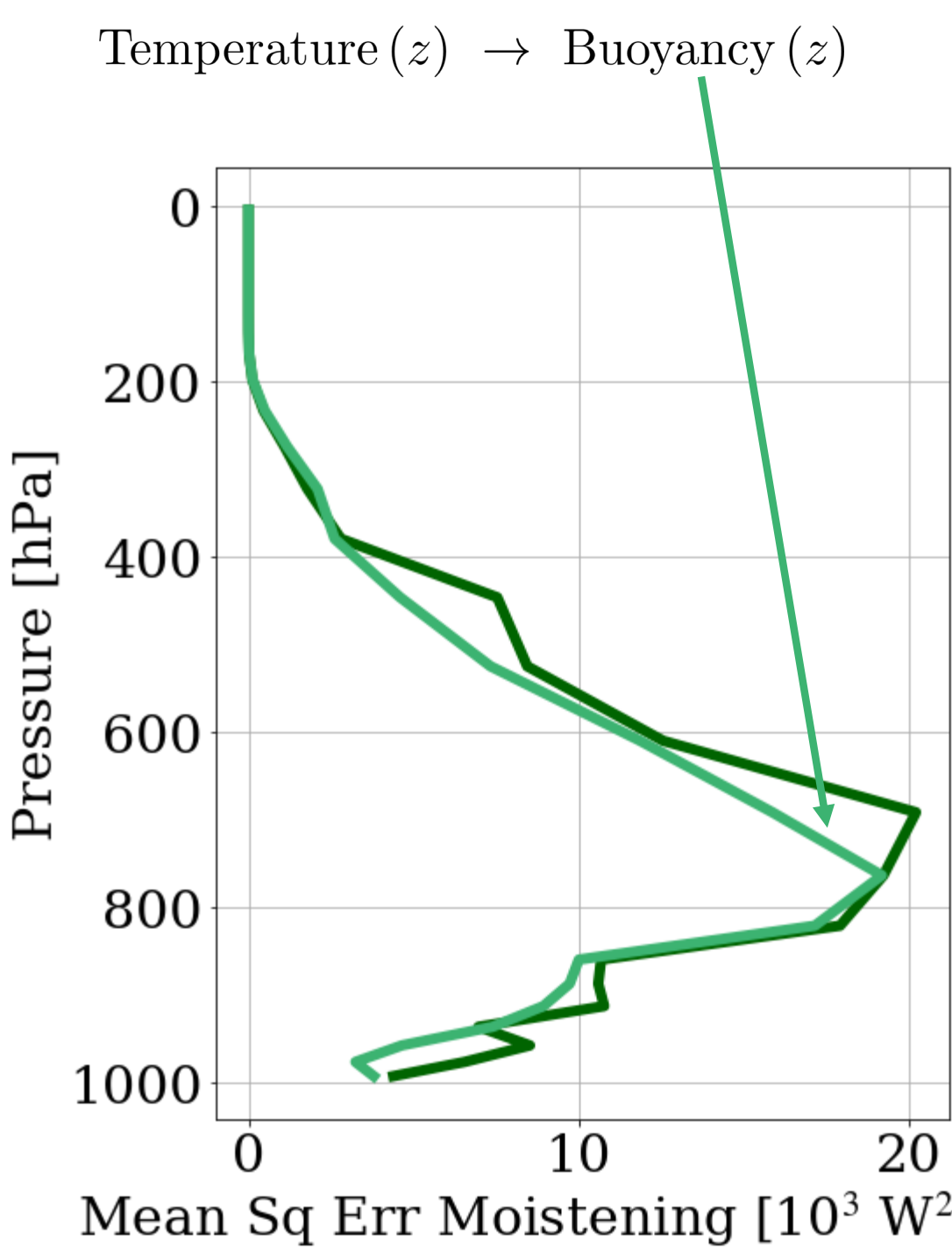


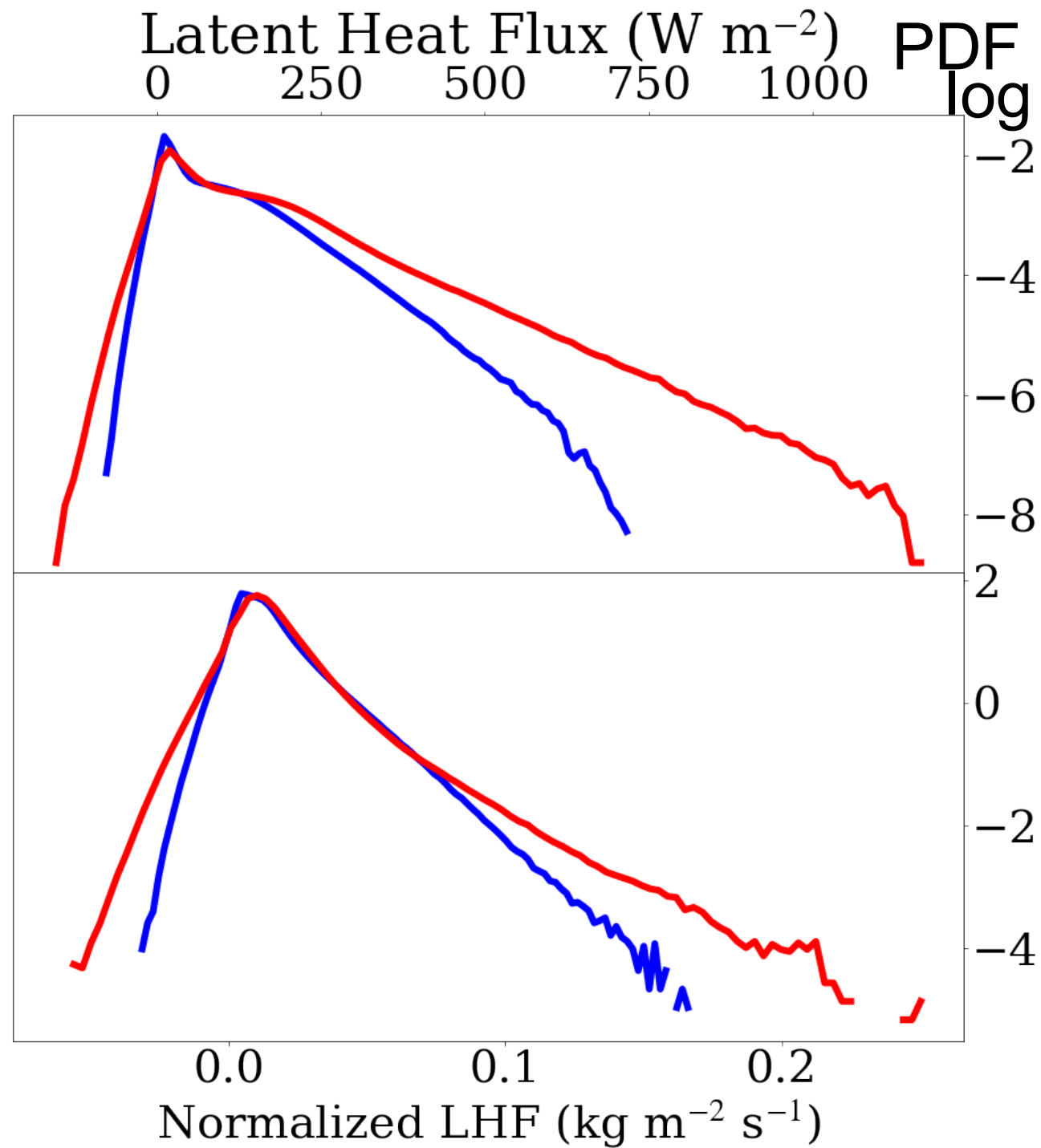
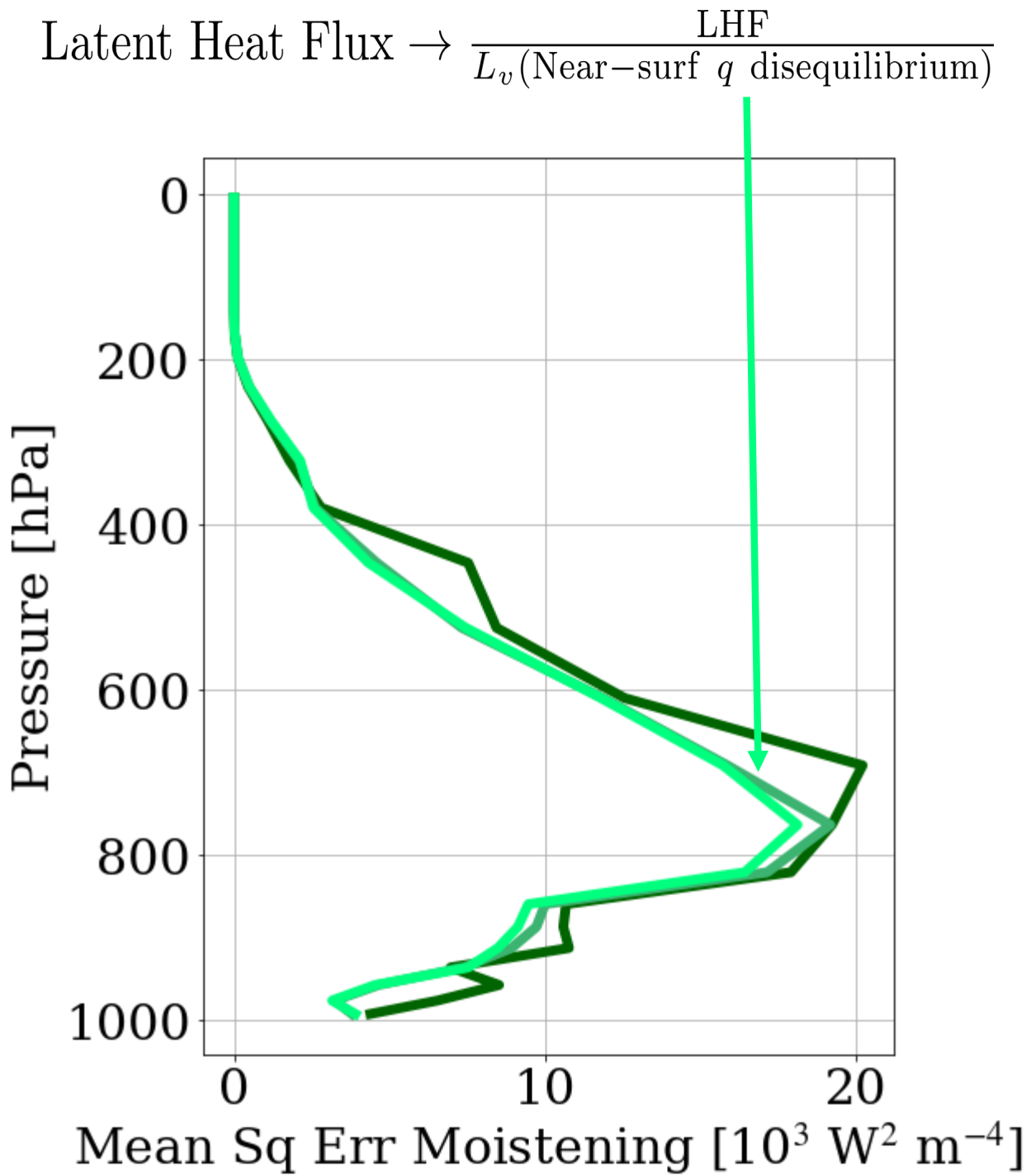
Observations suggest a strong relationship between buoyancy & moist convection across scales



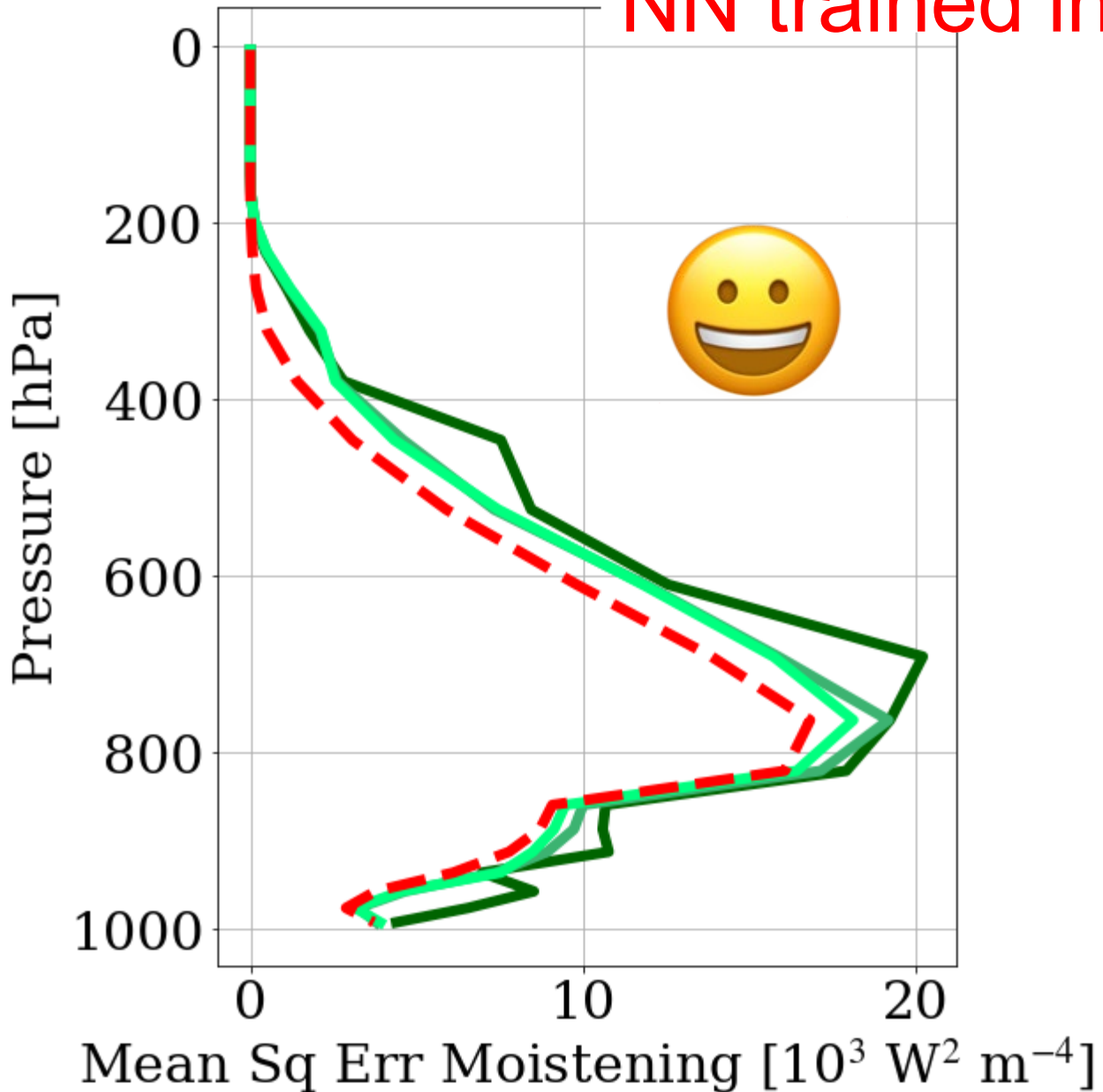
$$\text{Buoyancy}(z) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} g \times \frac{\text{Temp}_{\text{parcel}} - \text{Temp}(z)}{\text{Temp}(z)}$$

See: Schiro et al. (2018), Ahmed & Neelin (2018), Ahmed et al. (2020)

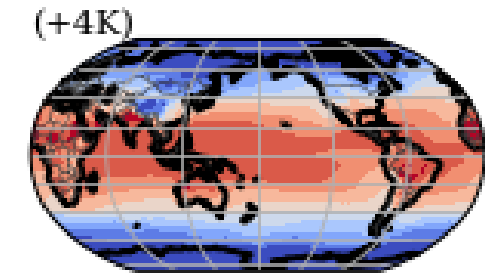
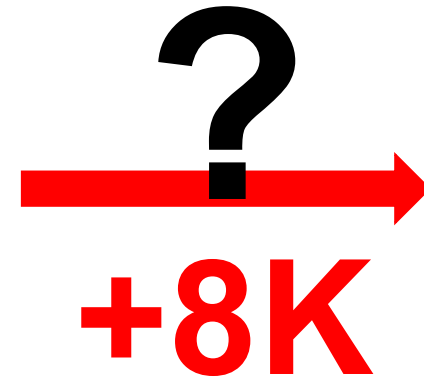
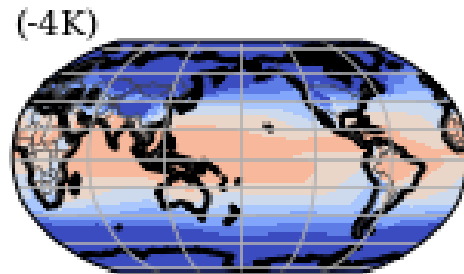
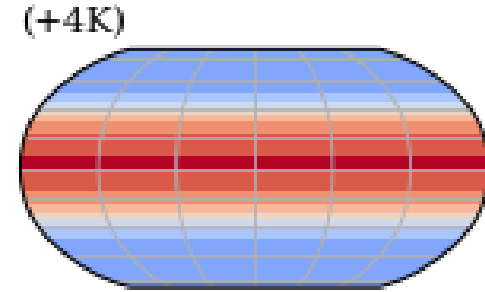
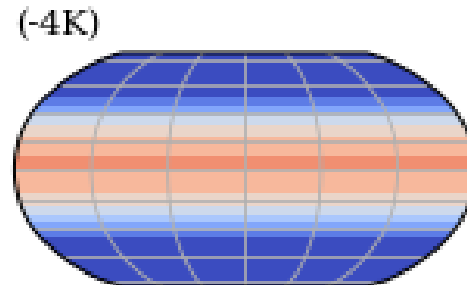
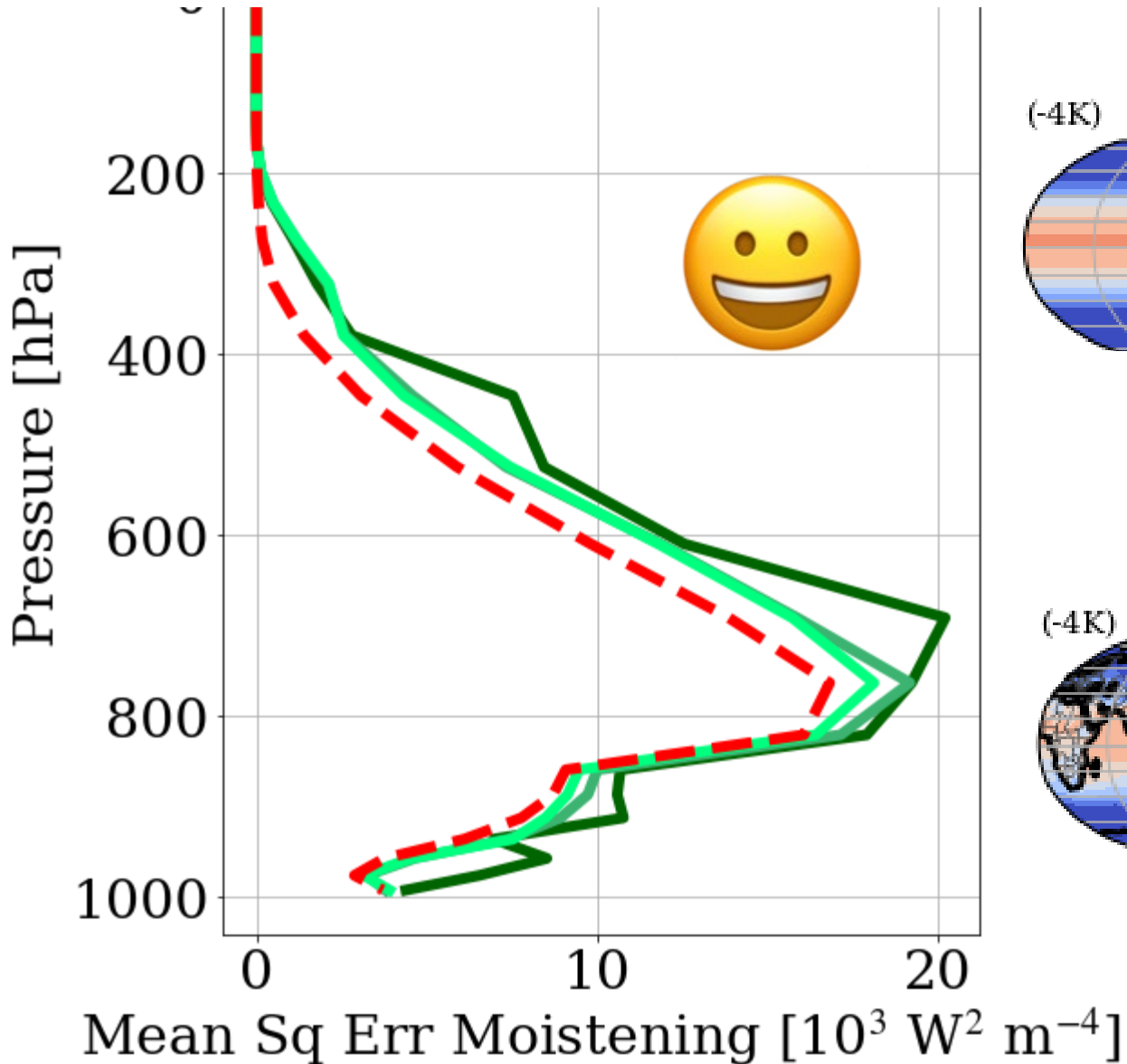




Climate-Invariant NNs generalization error close to NN trained in warm climate



Problem 3: Physically Rescaling Inputs allows NNs to generalize from cold to warm climate

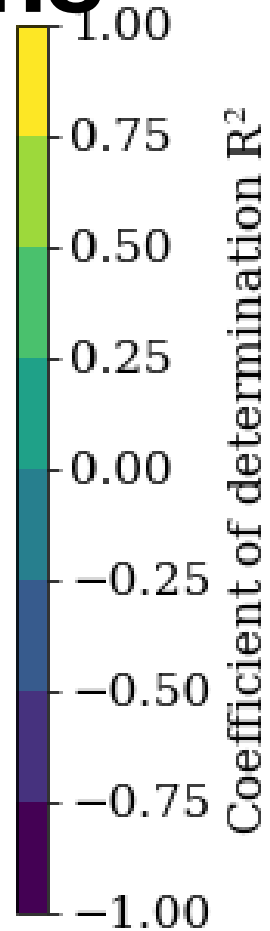
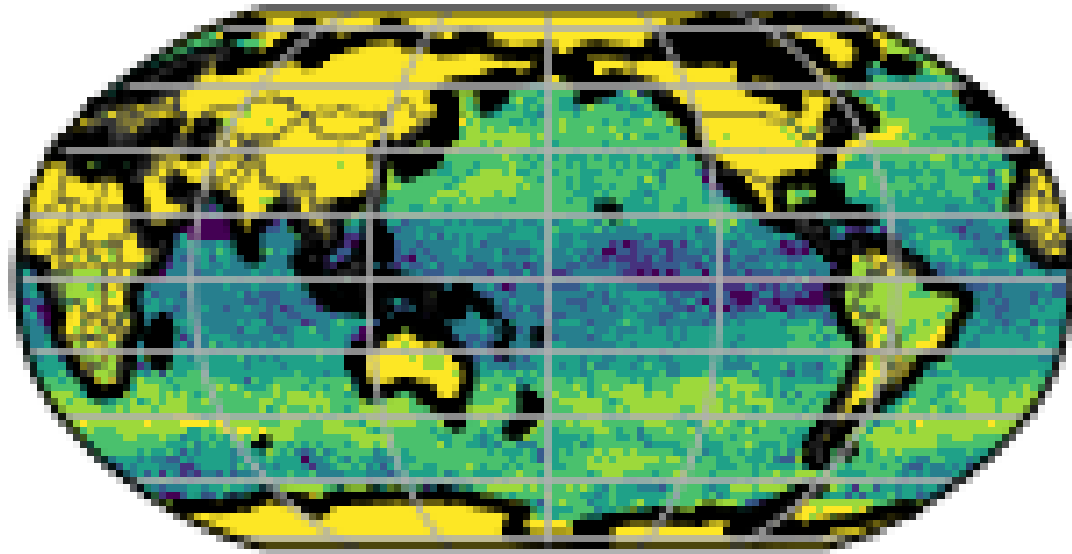
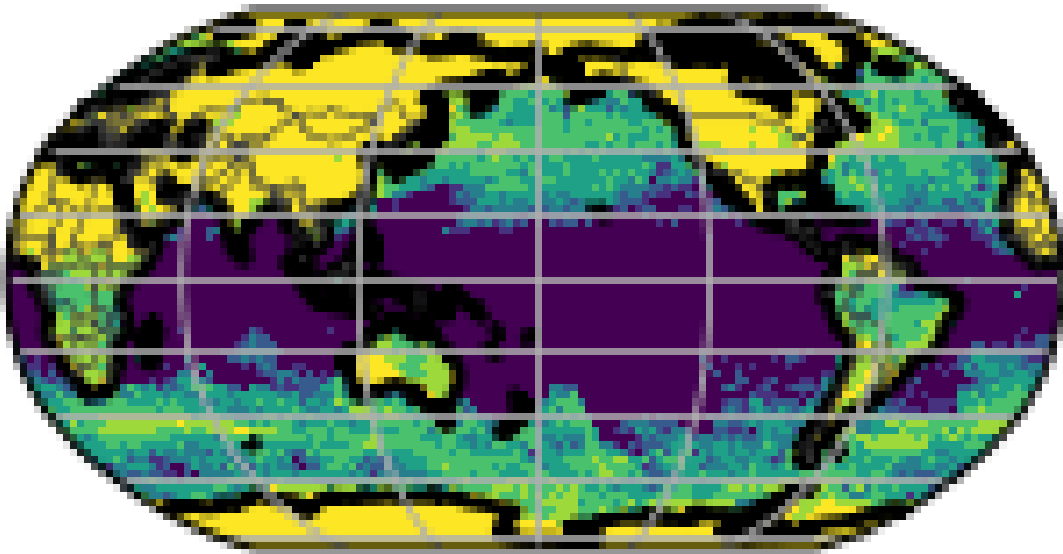


Physically-Rescaled Neural Networks Generalize Better

Across Climates in **Earth-like configurations**

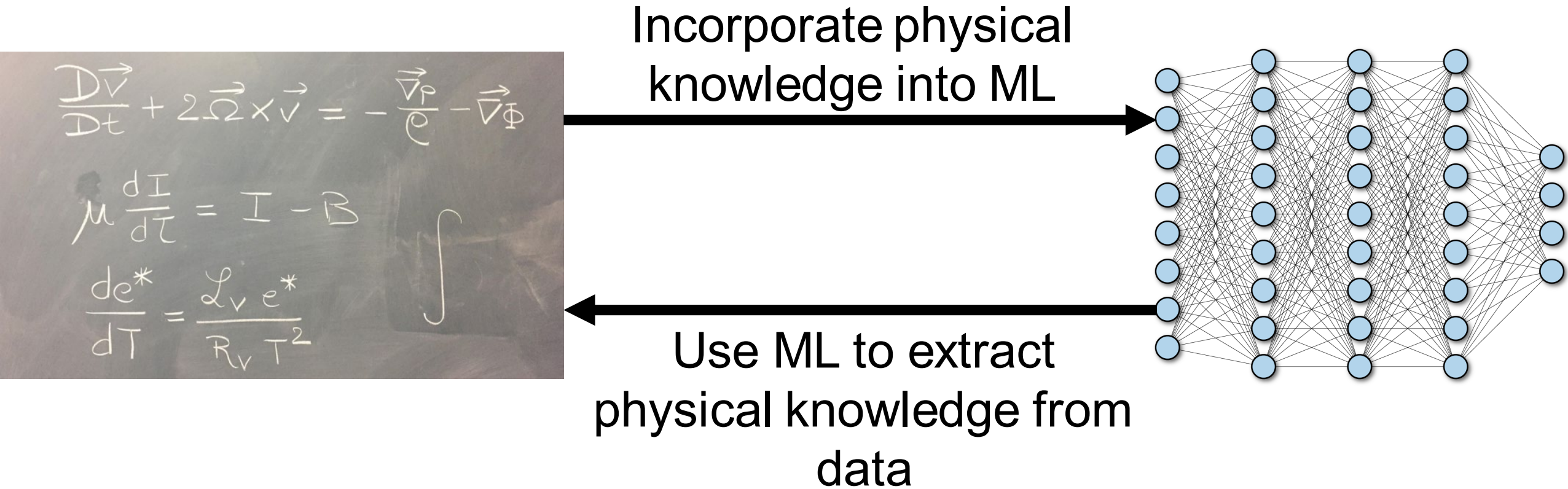
Without Rescaling

With Physical Rescaling

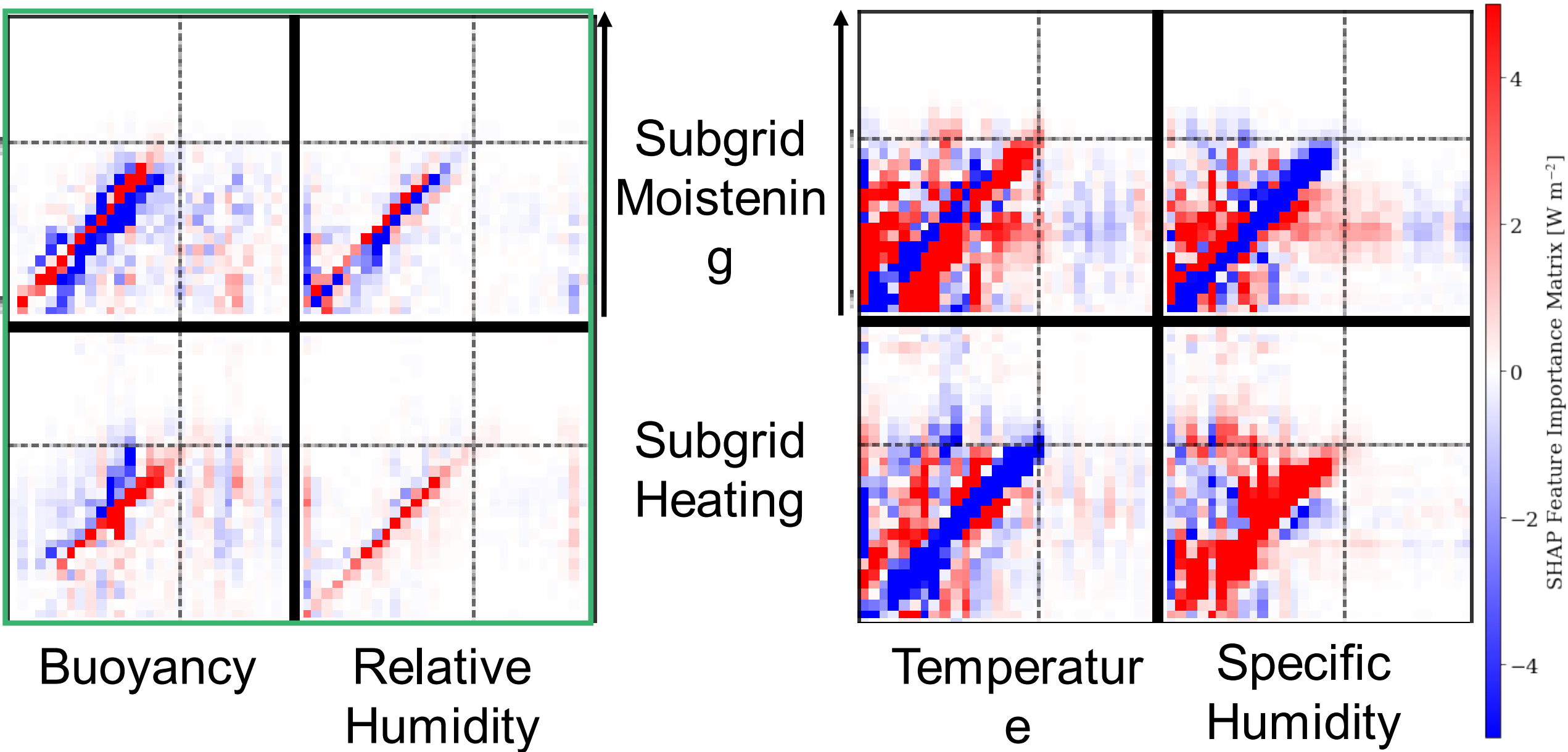


Near-Surface Subgrid Heating

Outlook 1: Extracting Physics from Data



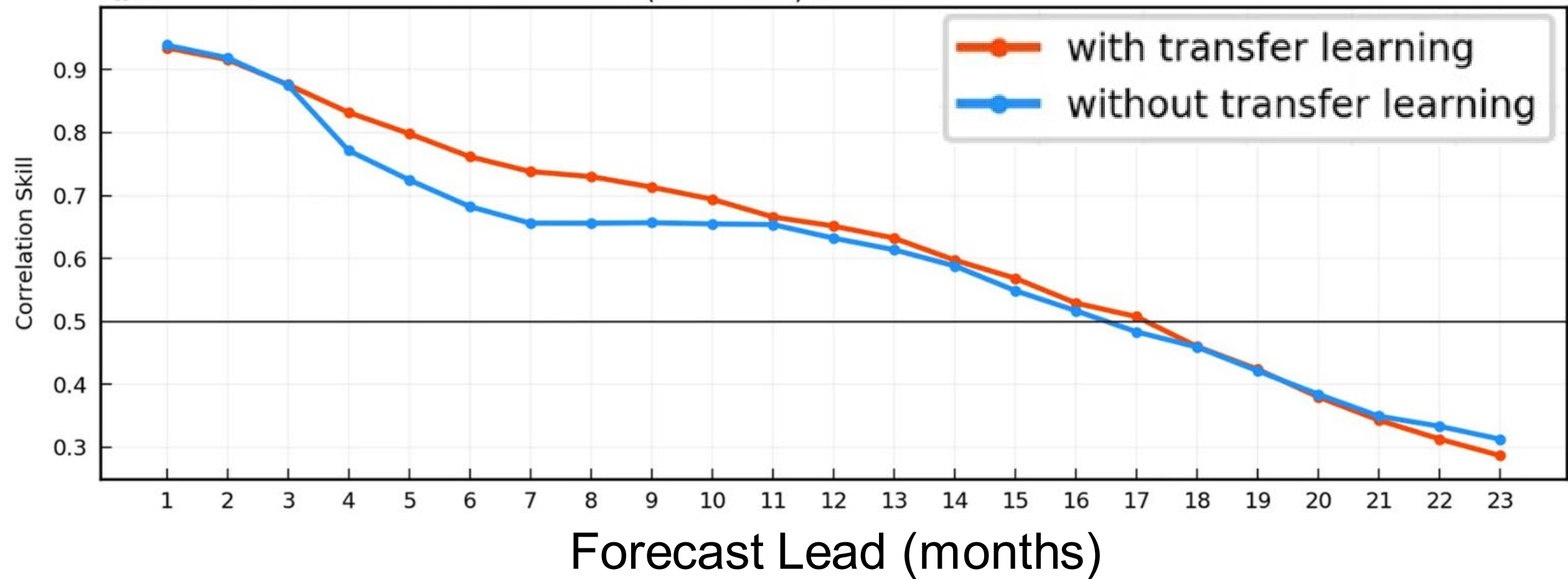
Climate-invariant NNs more local than Brute-Force NNs



Extracting convective regimes from cloud-resolving



Outlook 2: Transferring knowledge across climates/geographies/models/observations



Adapted from: Ham et al. (2019), See: Barnes et al. (2020), Rasp & Thuerey (2021)

Problem: Observations of convection are sparse

**Global
Observing
System**

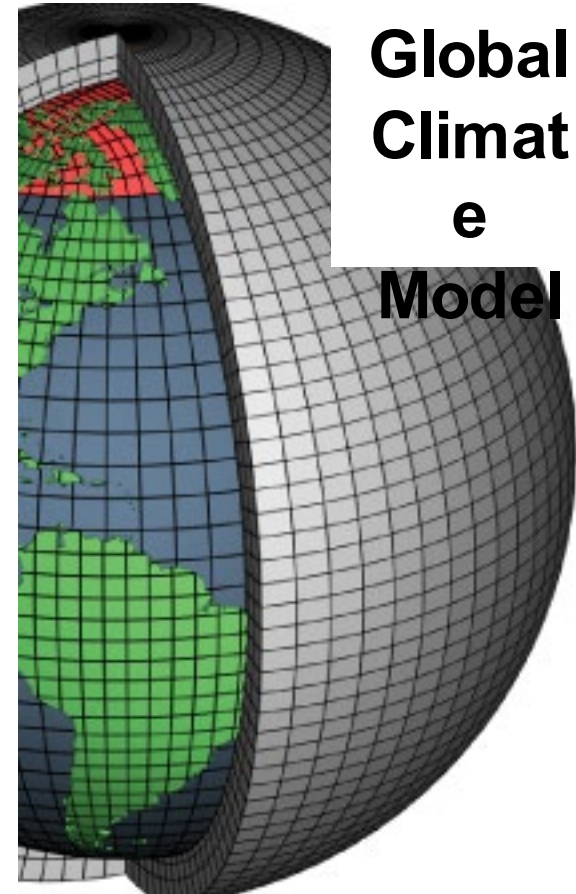


Specific humidity
(kg/kg)

Temperature
(K)



**Global
Climate
Model**



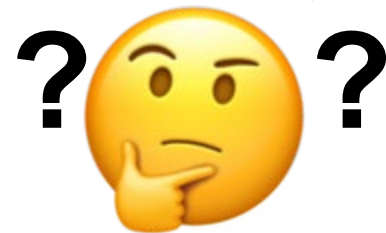
Problem: Observations of convection are sparse

Global
Observing
System

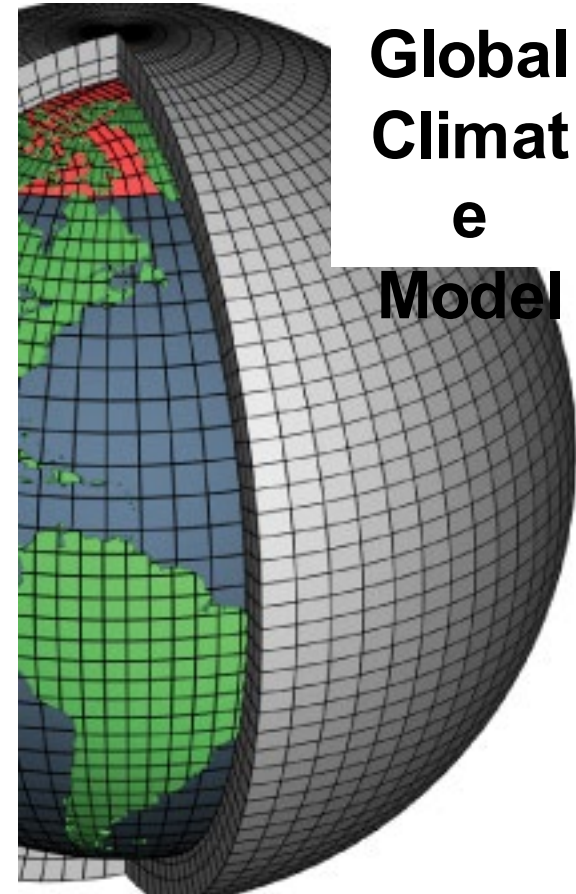


Moistening
tendency (W/m^2)

Heating tendency
(W/m^2)



Global
Climate
Model



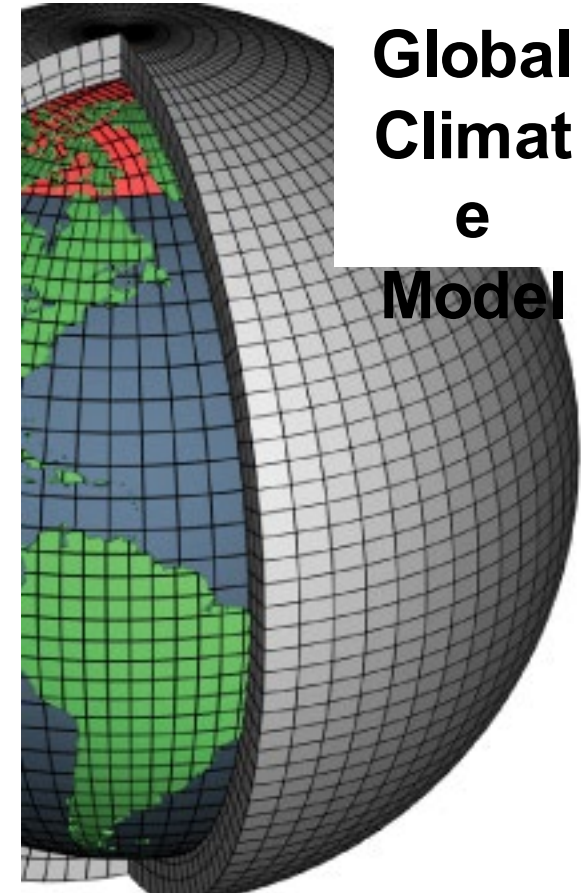
Images: NASA, NOAA

Problem: Observations of convection are sparse



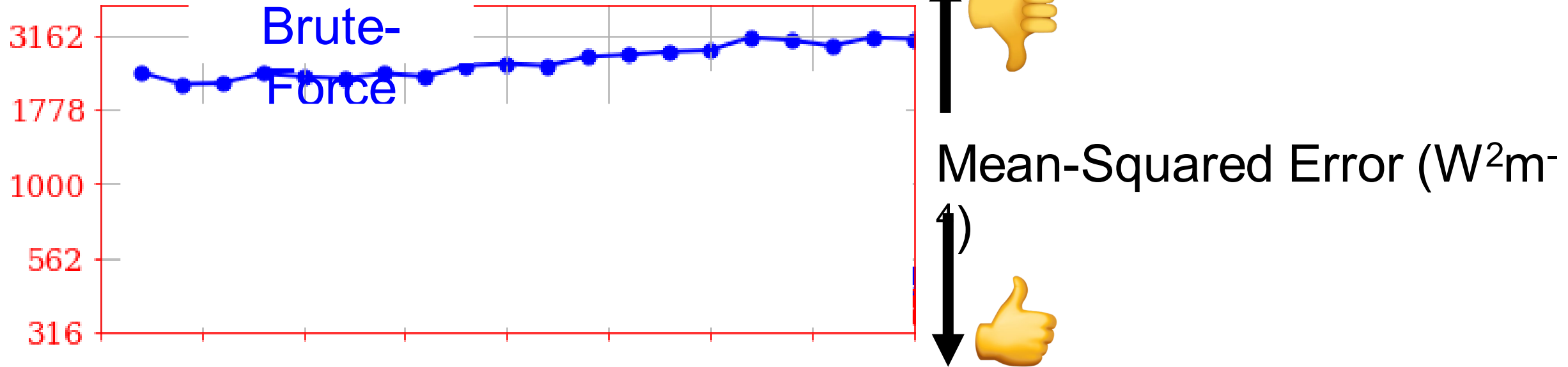
Moistening
tendency (W/m^2)

Heating tendency
(W/m^2)



Climate-Invariant NNs learn transferable mappings

Tested in Warm Aquaplanet



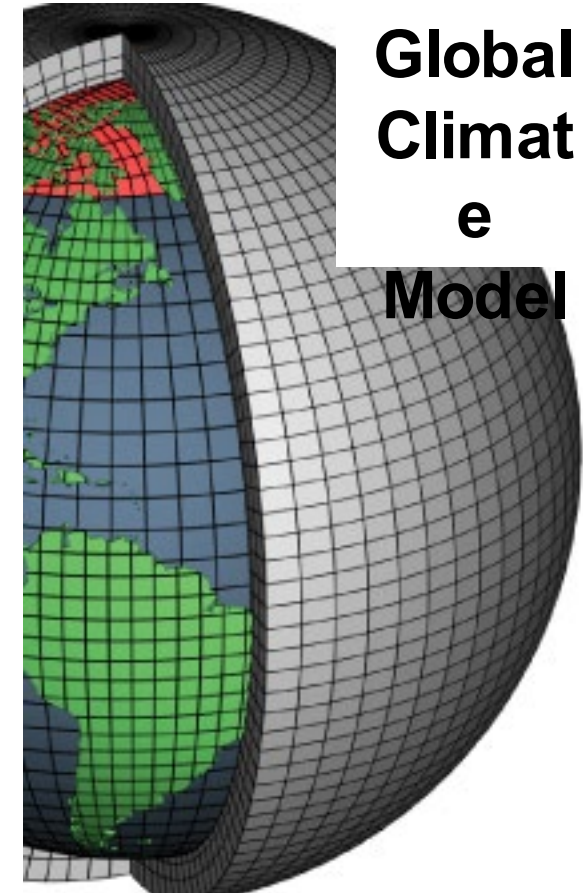
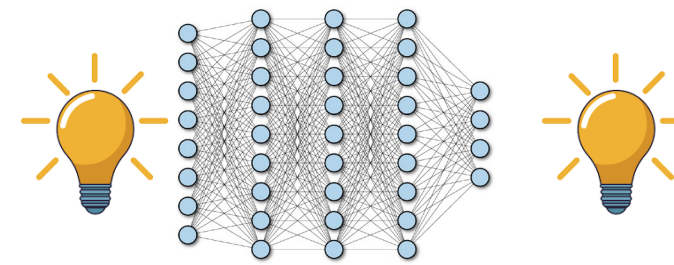
Including from
Aquaplanet to Earth-
like
simulations!

Outlook 2: Physics-informed ML may assist the data assimilation of sparse observations



Moistening
tendency (W/m^2)

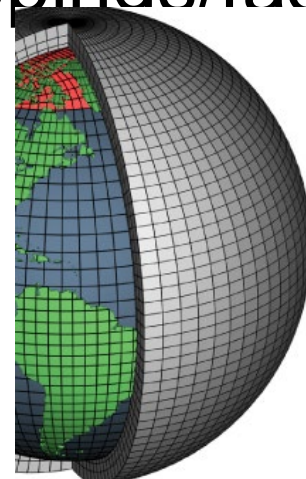
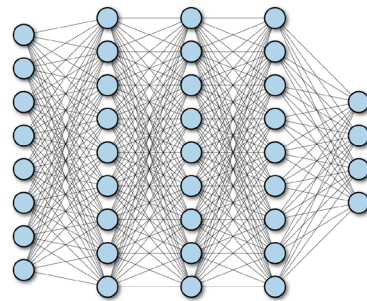
Heating tendency
(W/m^2)



Images: EUREC⁴A, NOAA

Atmospheric Physics can Help Machine Learning

- 1) Enforce physical constraints approx. (loss) or exactly (architecture)
- 2) Tailor ML interpretability methods for emulation of physical processes
- 3) Help NNs generalize by physically rescaling inputs & outputs
- 4) Rescaled ML learns more general mappings/facilitates transfer learning





Unil
UNIL | Université de Lausanne

Thank you

∂^3 AWN
*data-driven
Atmospheric & Water
dyNamics*



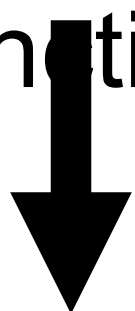
www.unil.ch/dawn
tom.beucler@unil.ch



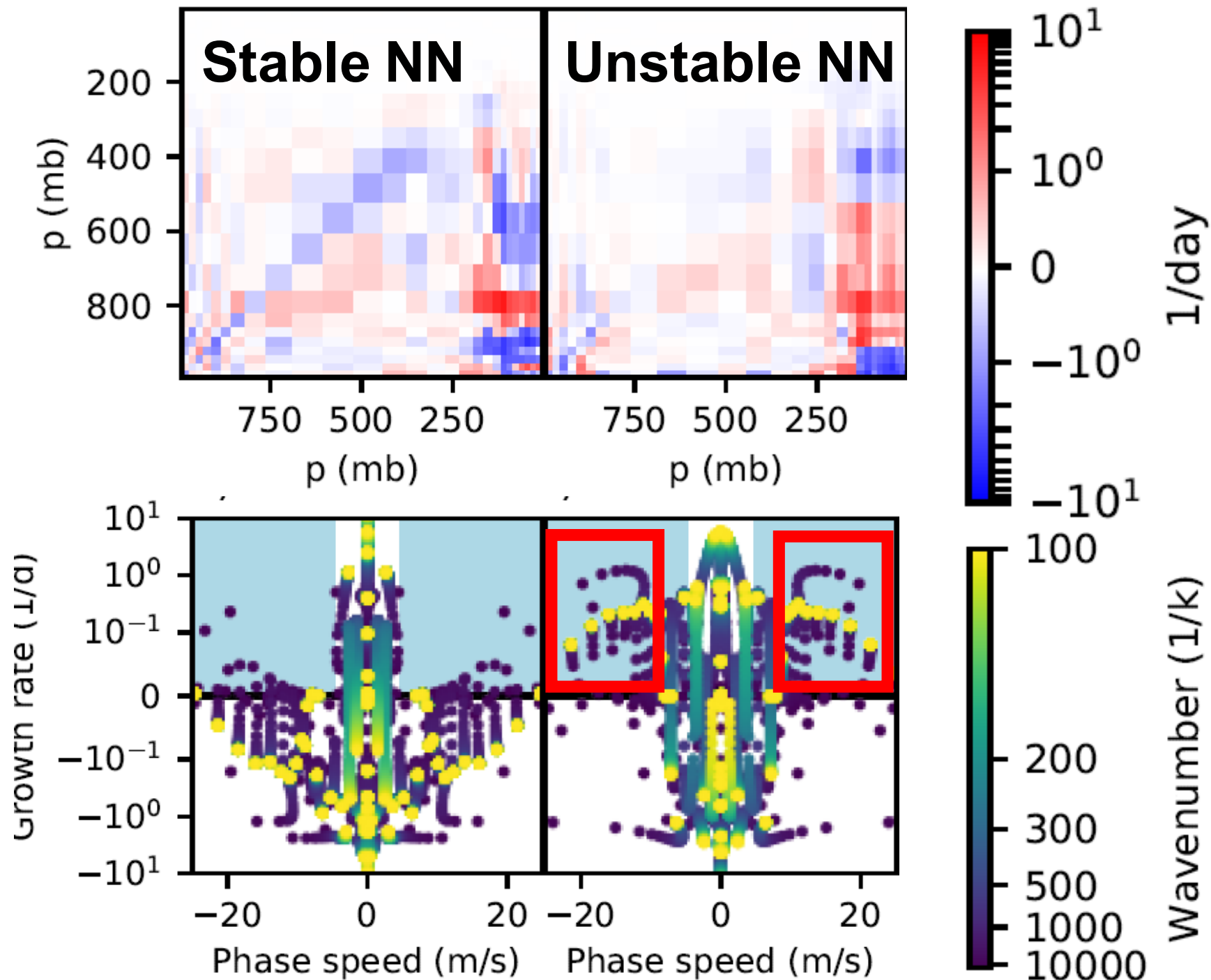
Bonus Slides

Summary

Linear
Response
Function



Stability
Diagram
(Offline)



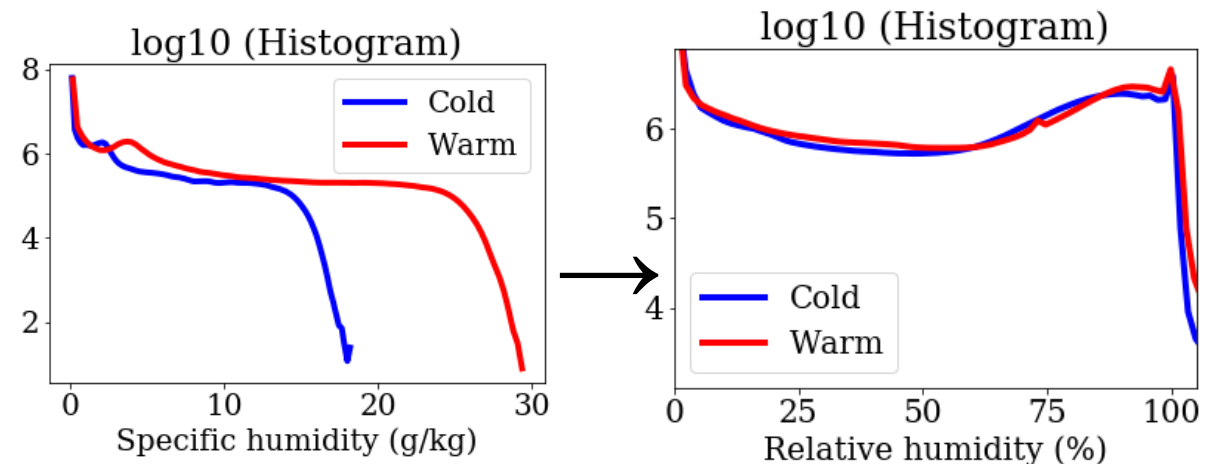
Training/Validation on
cold aquaplanet
simulation



Test on
warm aquaplanet simulation

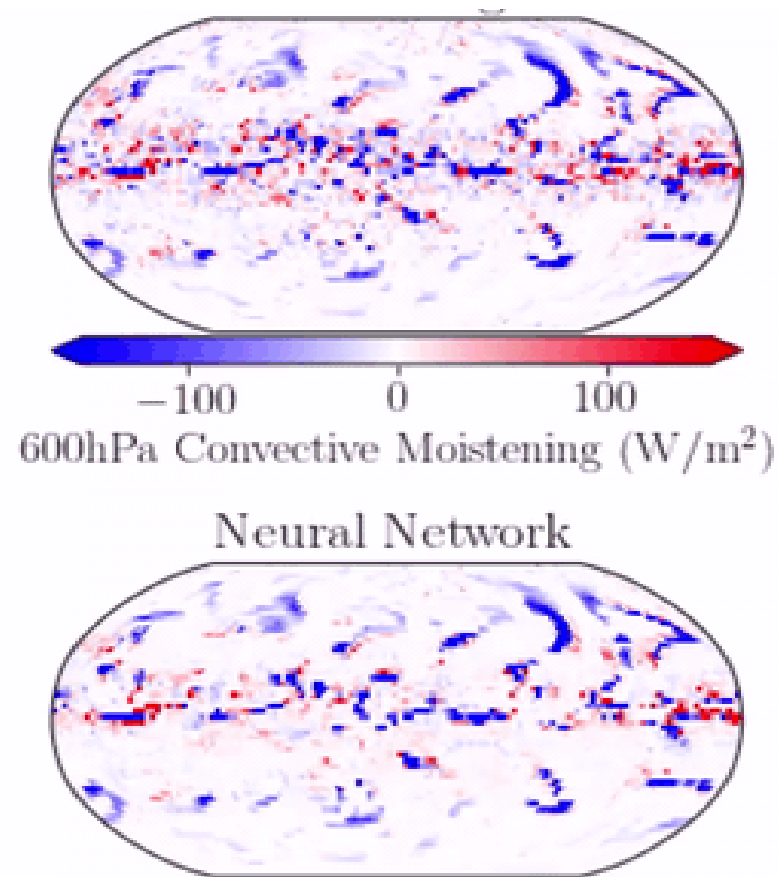


Climate-Invariant nets: Rescale inputs/outputs so that
(extrapolation)→(interpolation)



Climate-Invariant neural networks:

- Learn more general mappings
- Facilitate transfer learning

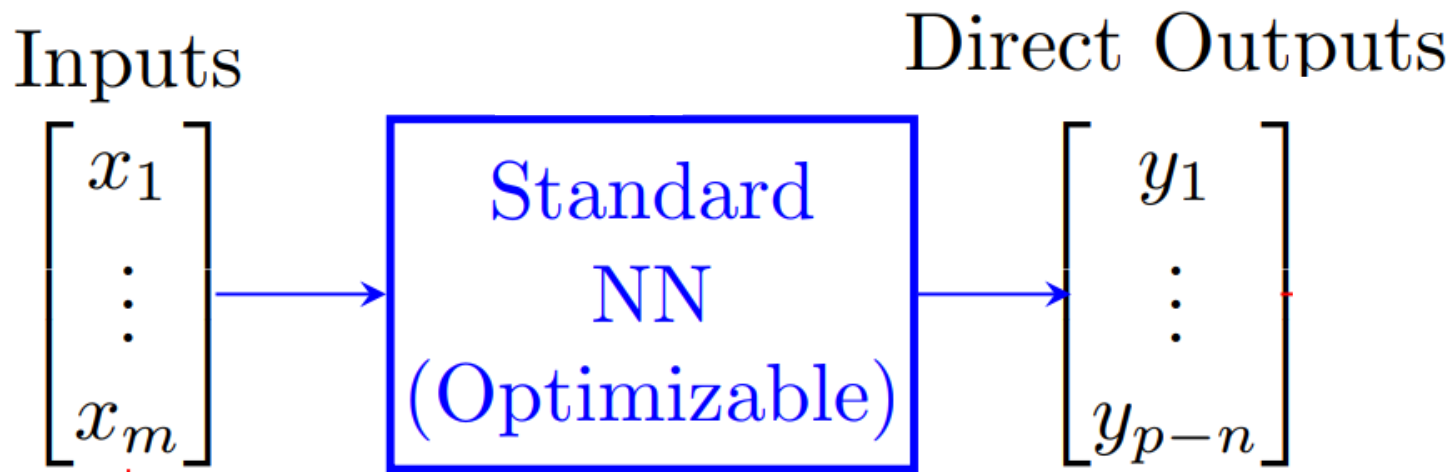


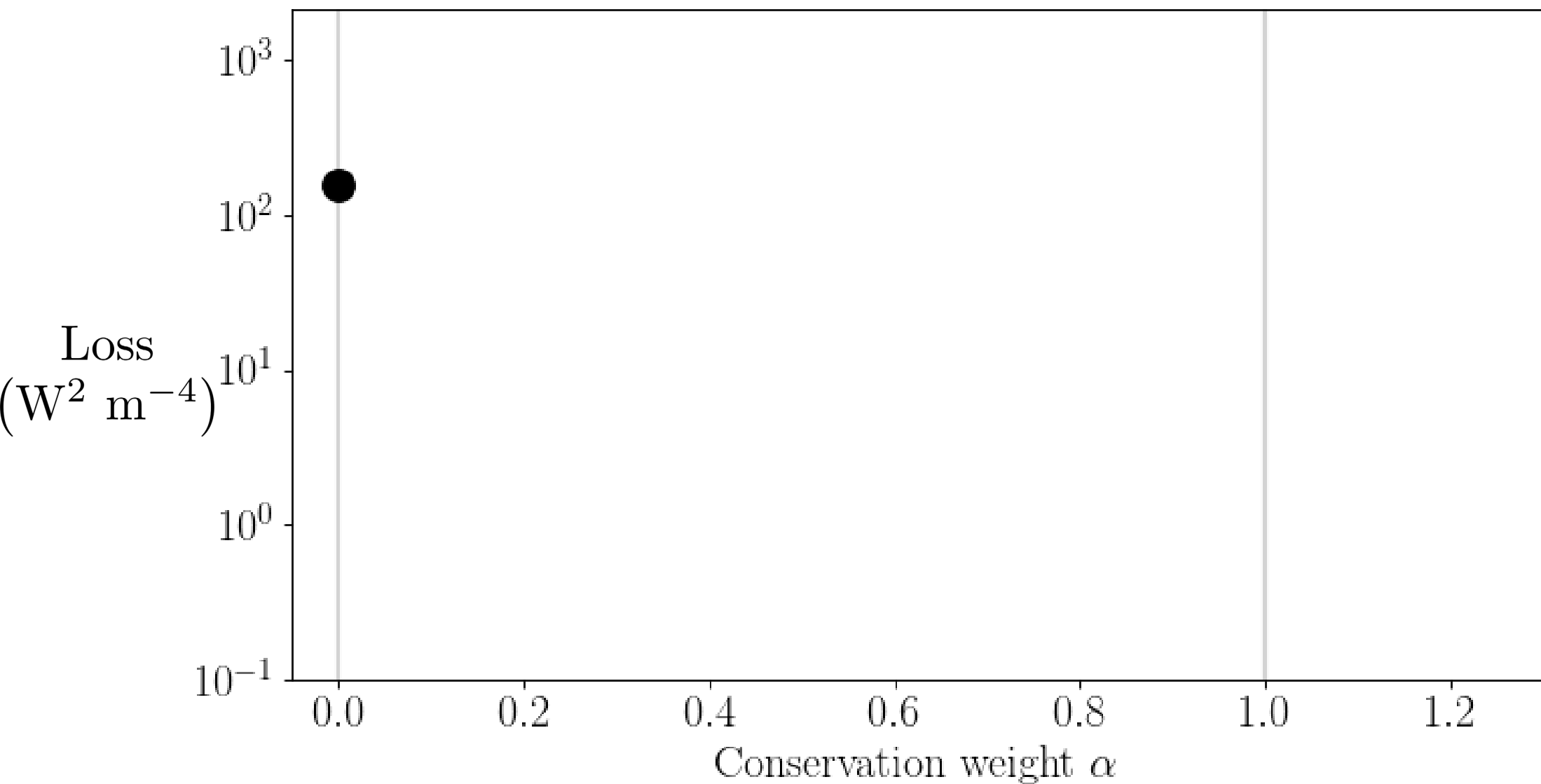
Soft Constraints (Loss) vs Hard Constraints (Architecture)

Loss: Introduce a penalty for violating conservation (\sim Lagrange multiplier):

$$\text{Loss} = \alpha (\text{Squared Residual from conservation laws}) + (1 - \alpha) (\text{Mean squared error})$$

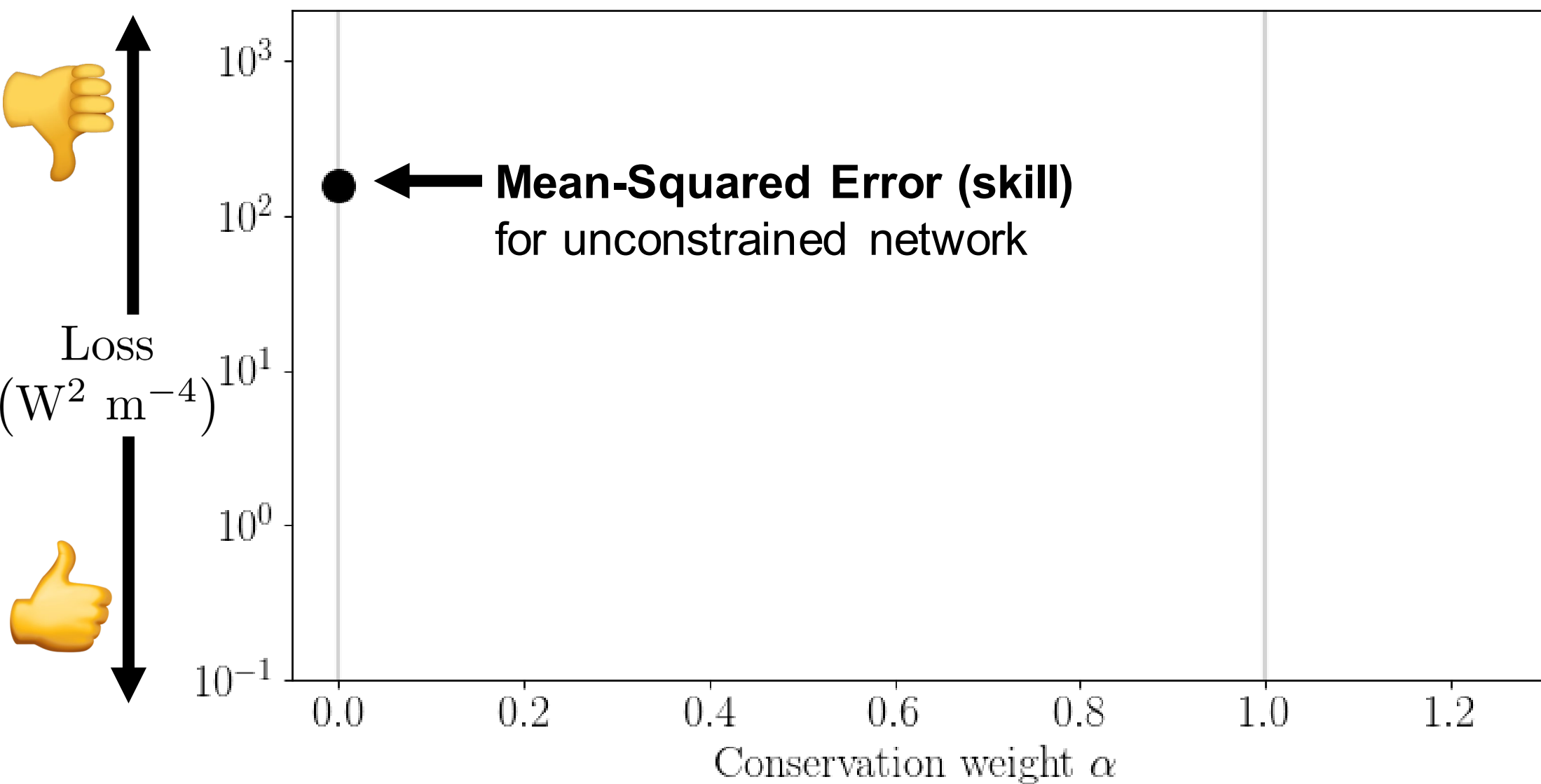
Architecture: Constraints layers to enforce conservation laws to machine precision





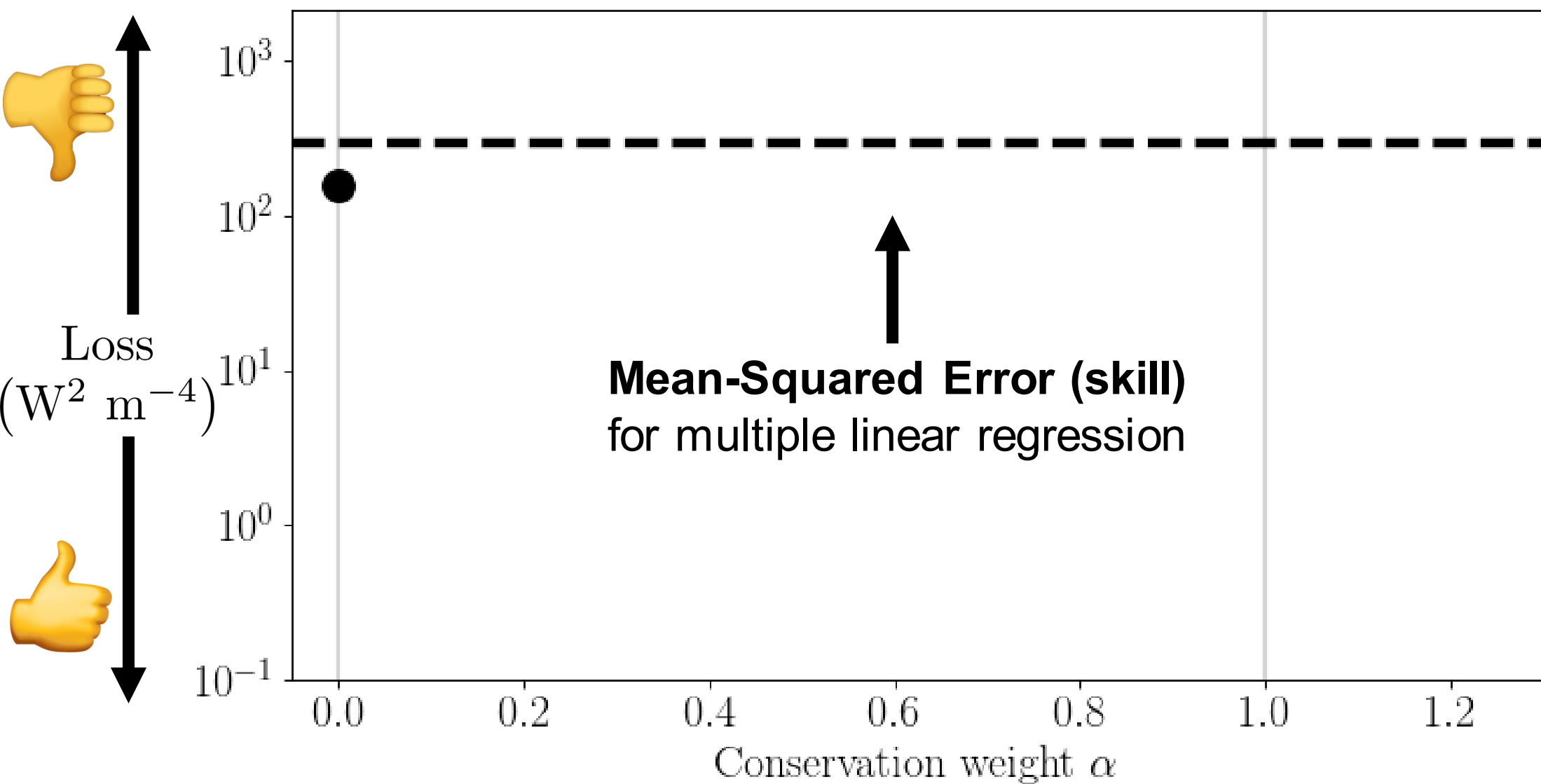
Loss: Trade-off between **physical constraints** and **performance**

$$\text{Loss} = \alpha (\text{Squared Residual from conservation laws}) + (1 - \alpha) (\text{Mean squared error})$$



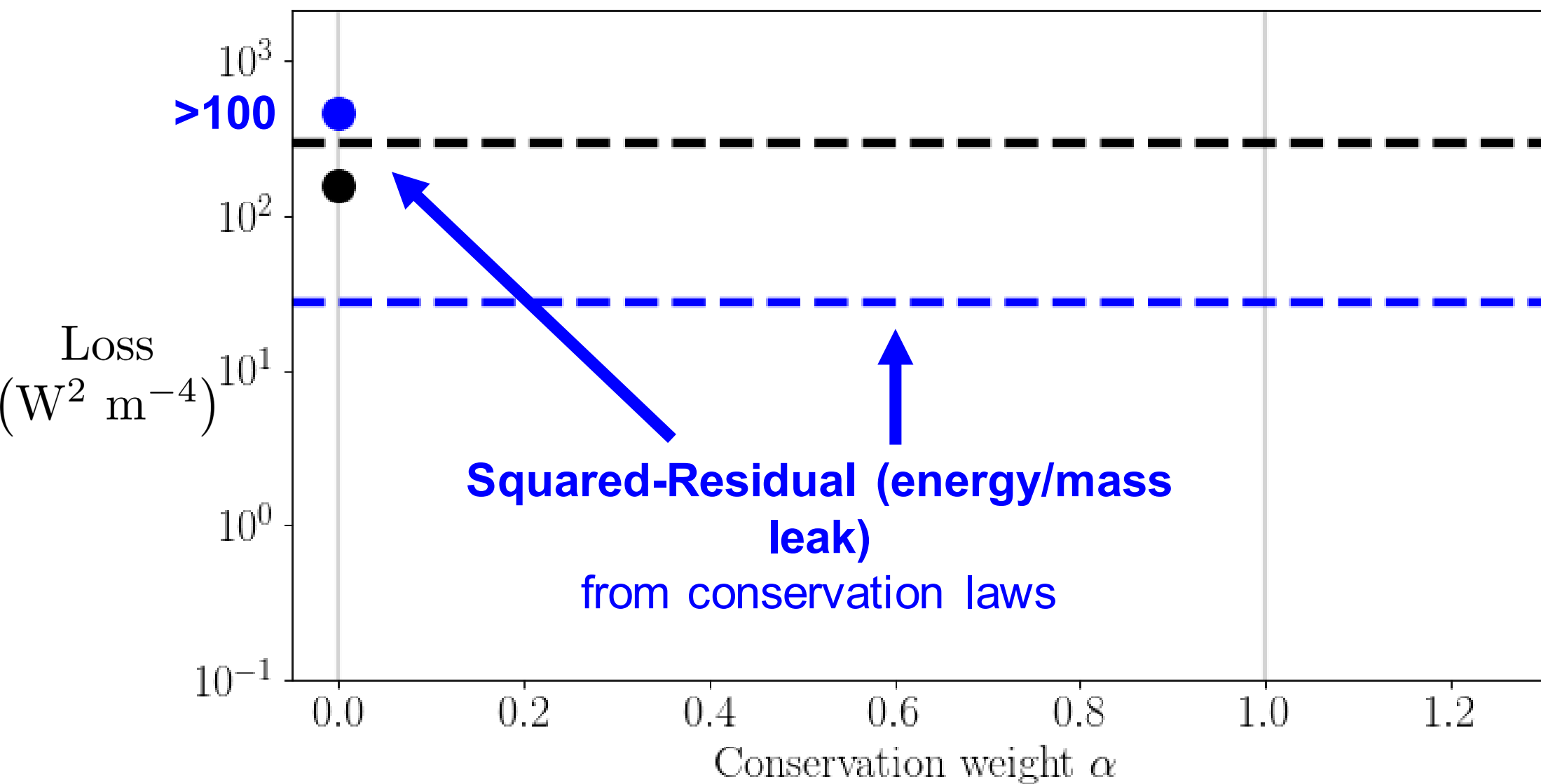
Loss: Trade-off between **physical constraints** and **performance**

$$\text{Loss} = \alpha (\text{Squared Residual from conservation laws}) + (1 - \alpha) (\text{Mean squared error})$$



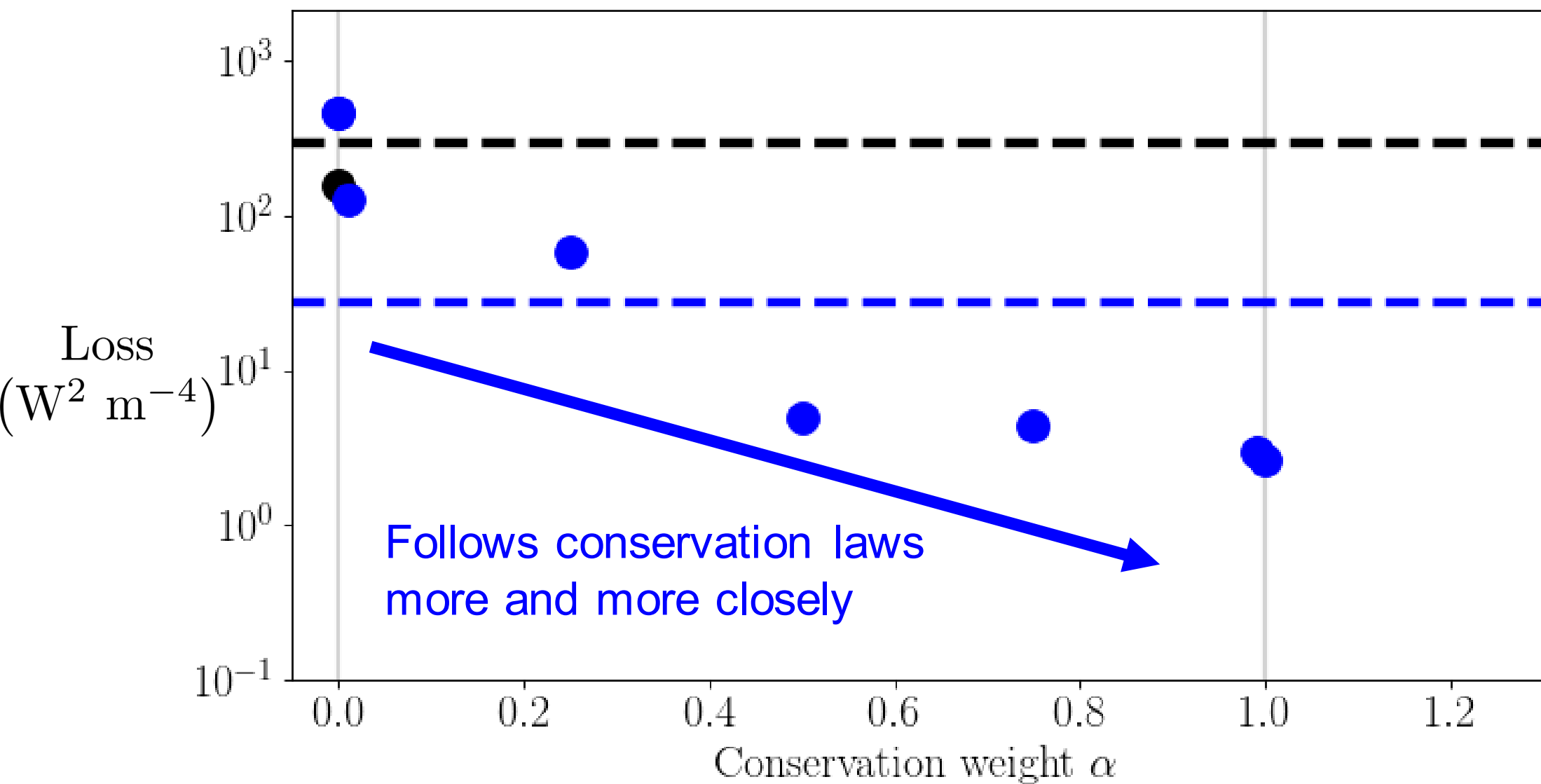
Loss: Trade-off between **physical constraints** and **performance**

$$\text{Loss} = \alpha (\text{Squared Residual from conservation laws}) + (1 - \alpha) (\text{Mean squared error})$$



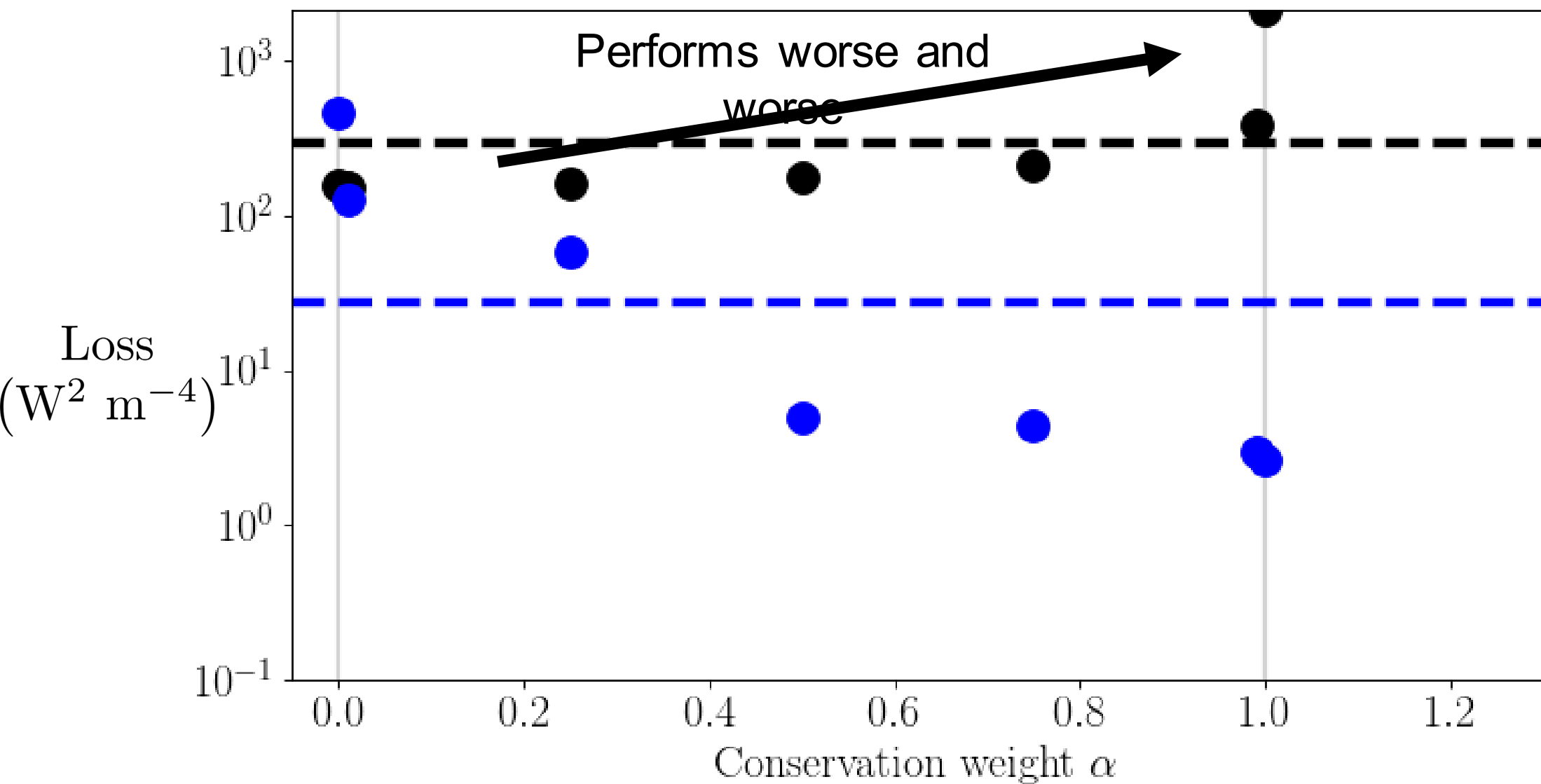
Loss: Trade-off between **physical constraints** and **performance**

$$\text{Loss} = \alpha (\text{Squared Residual from conservation laws}) + (1 - \alpha) (\text{Mean squared error})$$



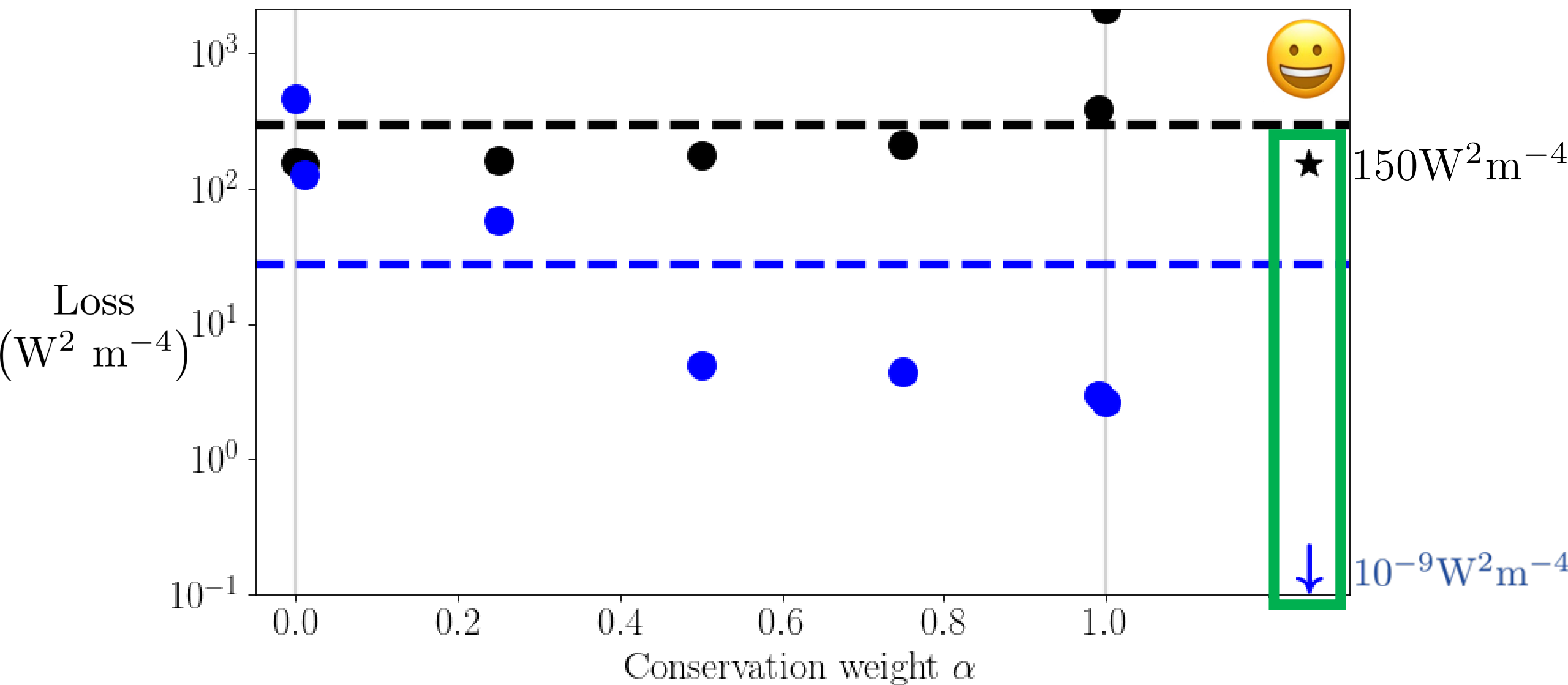
Loss: Trade-off between **physical constraints** and **performance**

$$\text{Loss} = \alpha (\text{Squared Residual from conservation laws}) + (1 - \alpha) (\text{Mean squared error})$$



Loss: Trade-off between **physical constraints** and **performance**

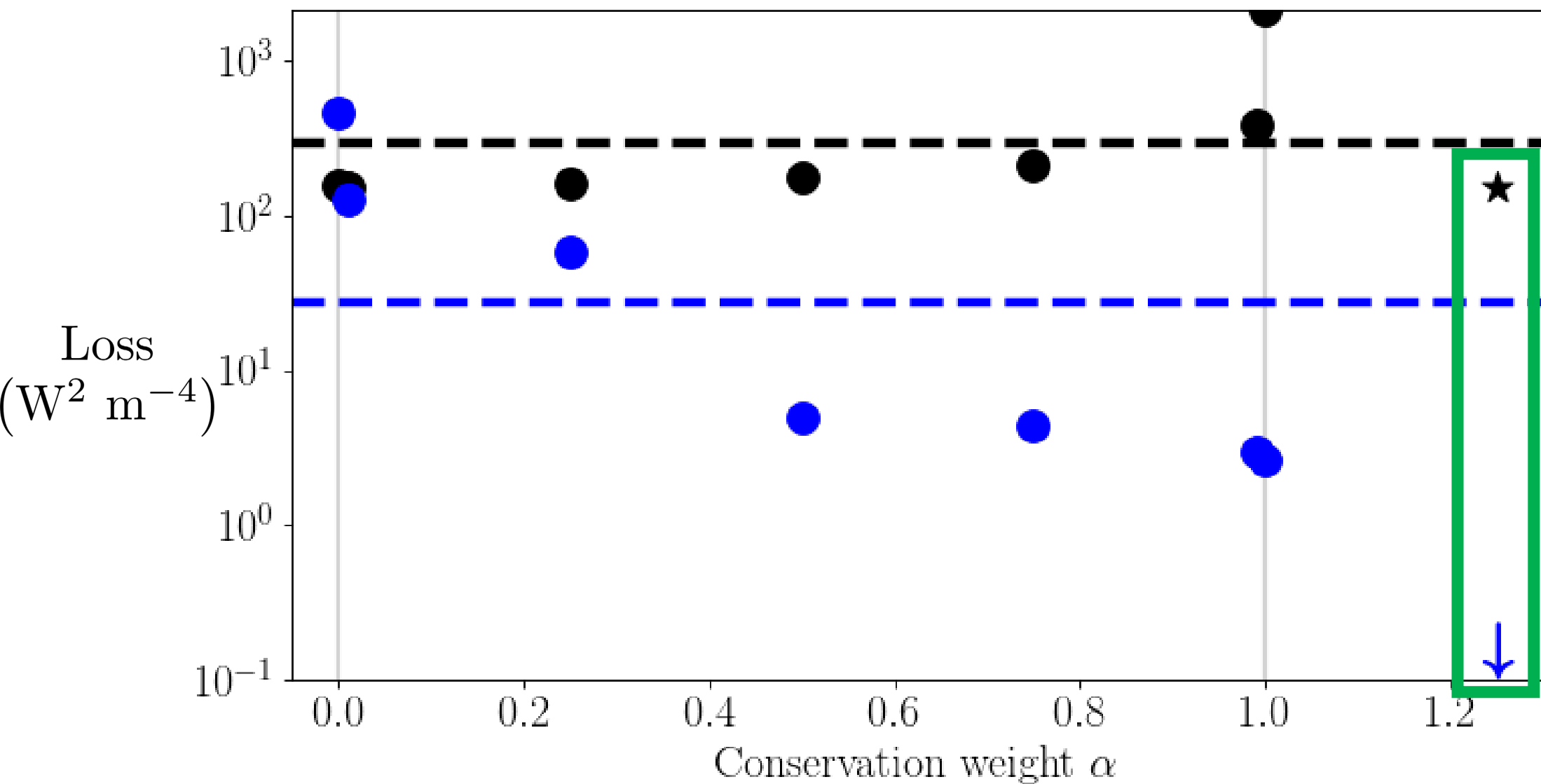
$$\text{Loss} = \alpha (\text{Squared Residual from conservation laws}) + (1 - \alpha) (\text{Mean squared error})$$



Loss: Trade-off between **physical constraints** and **performance**

Architecture: **Constraints enforced & competitive performance**

See: Beucler et al. (2019)

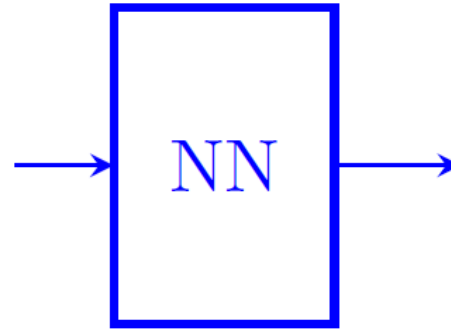


Problem 2: Even when physically constrained, NNs fail to generalize

Algorithms: Custom Data Generators/Layers

Inputs

$$\begin{bmatrix} q_{v,1} \\ q_{v,2} \\ \vdots \\ \text{SHF} \\ \text{LHF} \end{bmatrix}$$



Outputs

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{q}_{v,1} \\ \dot{q}_{v,2} \\ \vdots \\ P \\ P_i \end{bmatrix}$$

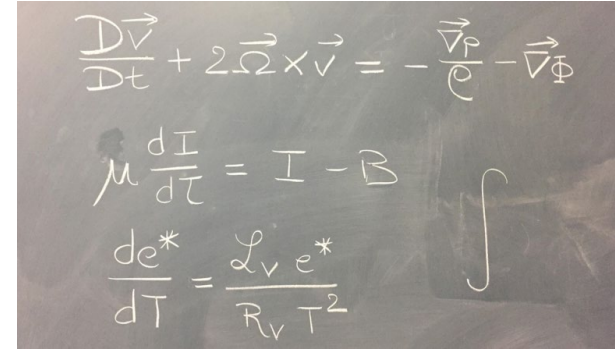
- Only one training/validation/test data despite multiple rescalings
- Test different rescalings quickly using multi-linear/logistic regressions
- Keep the rescalings that yield the best generalization

Start with clear link to climate impact/remote sensing

Link = Transfer Learning

Why Integrate Physics into ML/Stat Algorithms?

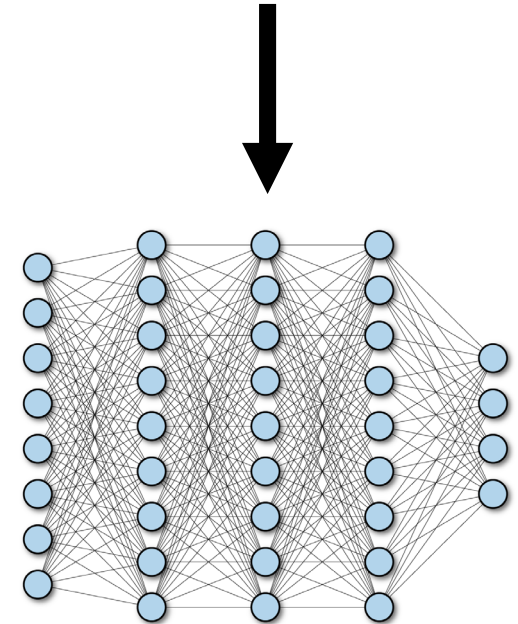
- Physical consistency
(definitions, conservation laws...)
- Ability to generalize outside of the training set
- Interpretability
- Stability
- Data limitations



Handwritten physics equations on a chalkboard:

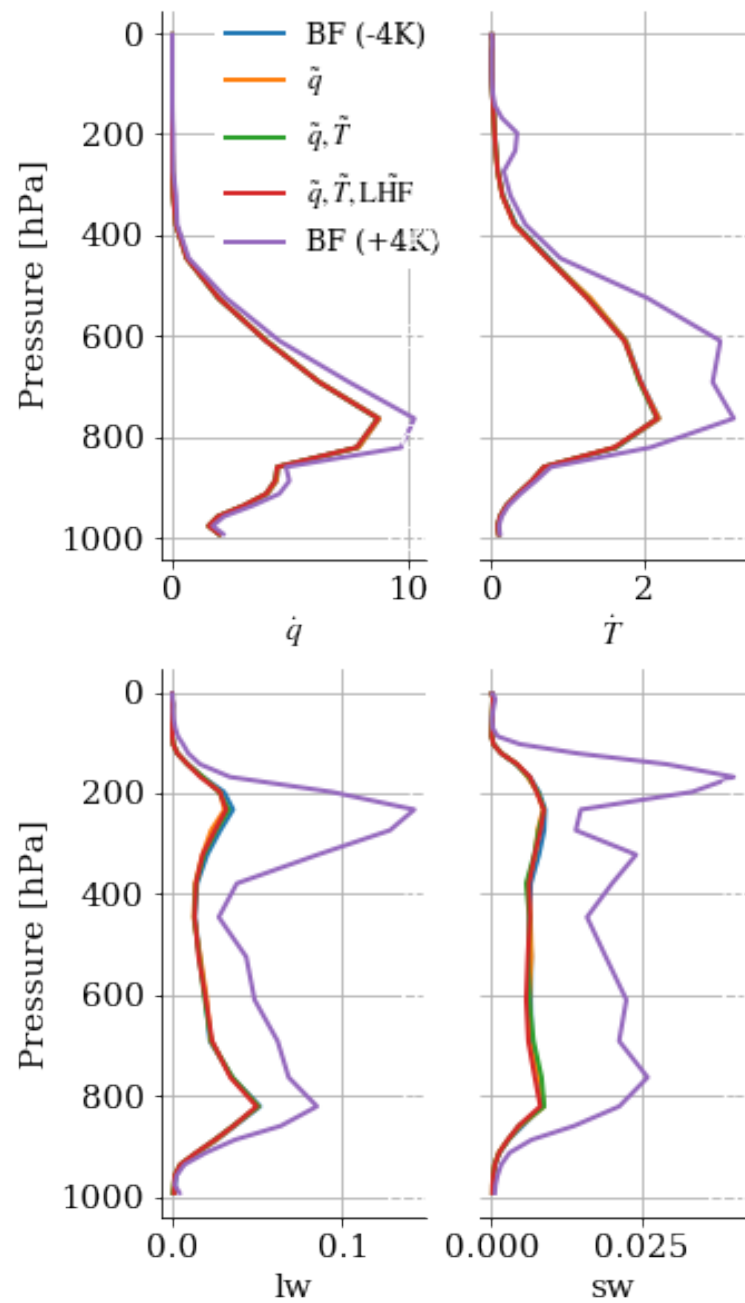
$$\frac{D\vec{v}}{Dt} + 2\vec{\Omega} \times \vec{v} = -\frac{\vec{\nabla} p}{\rho} - \vec{\nabla} \Phi$$
$$\mu \frac{dI}{dT} = I - B$$
$$\frac{de^*}{dT} = \frac{\mathcal{L}_v e^*}{R_v T^2}$$

A large integral symbol \int is also visible on the right side of the chalkboard.

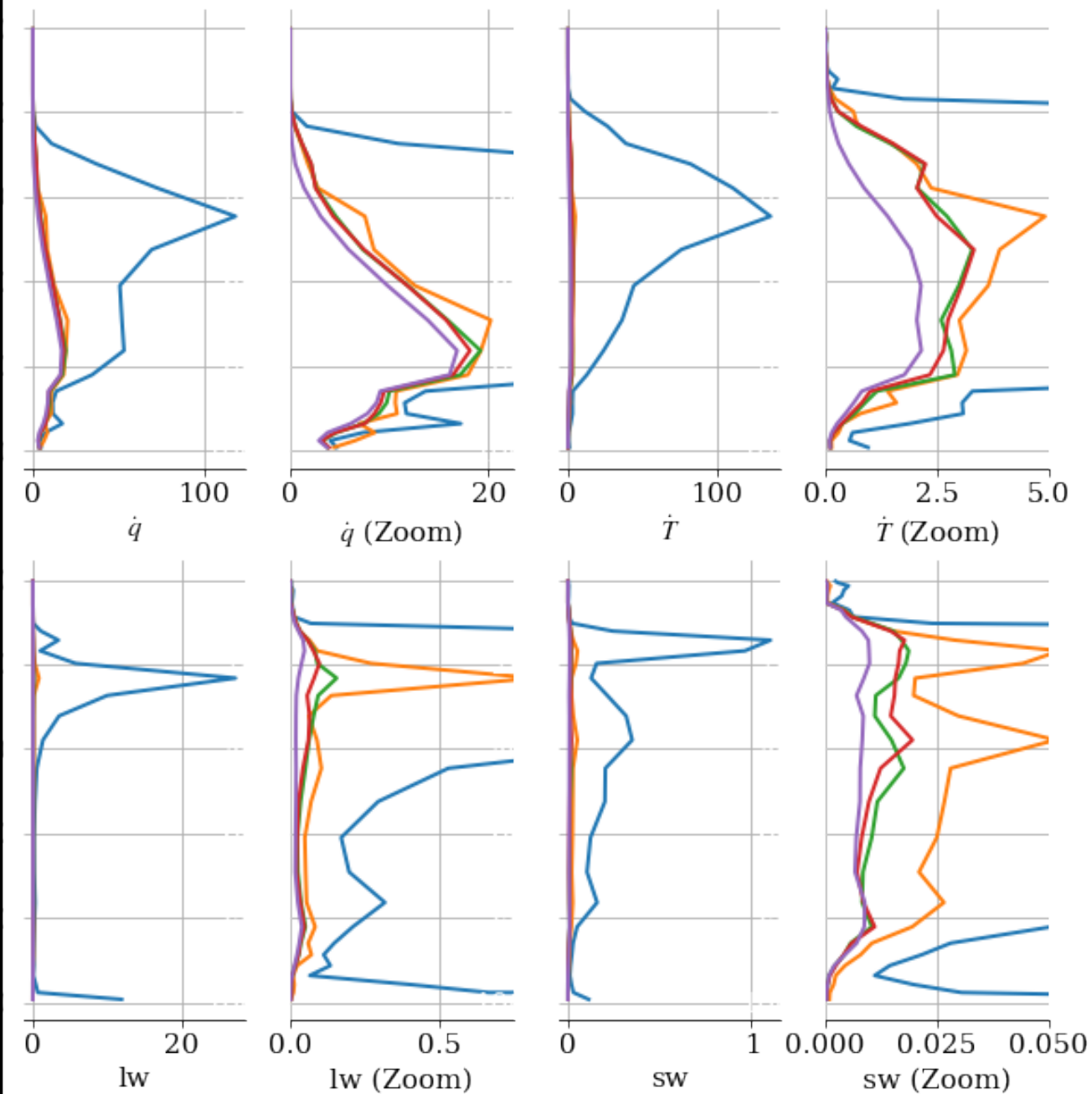


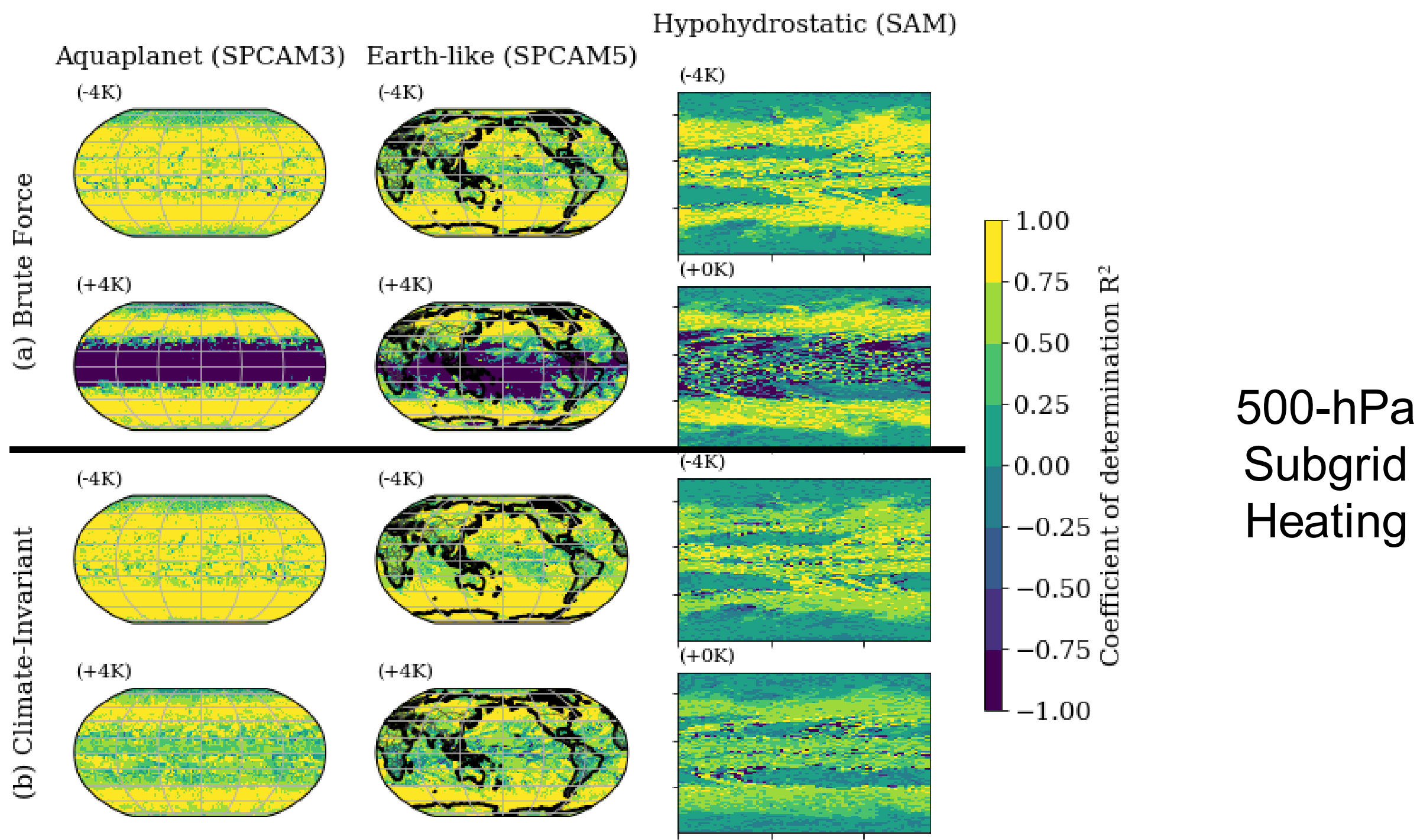
Reviews: Willard et al. (2020), Reichstein et al. (2019), Karpatne et al. (2017), Beucler et al. (2021)

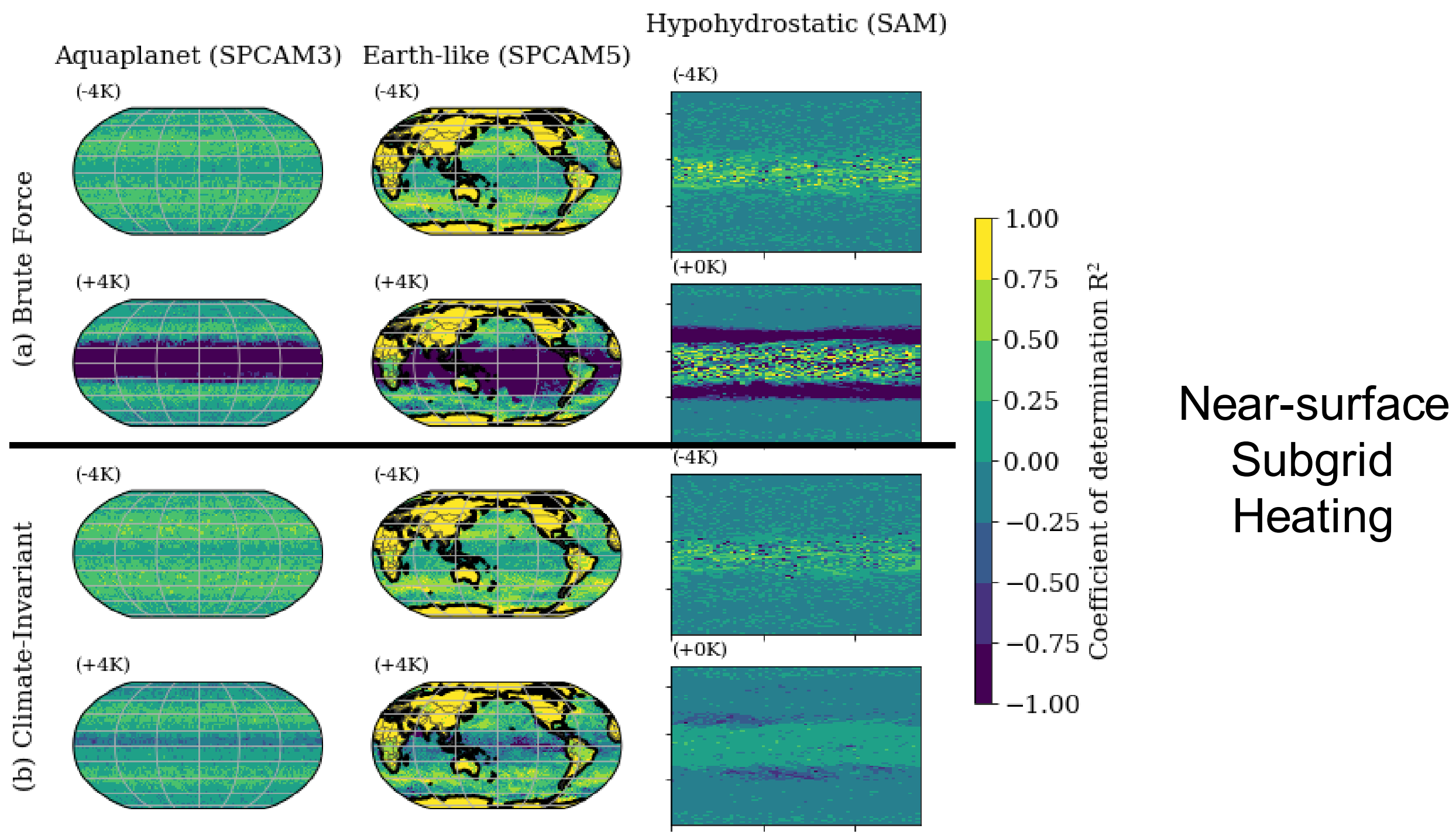
(a) MSE in Cold Tropics [$10^3 \text{ W}^2 \text{ m}^{-4}$]

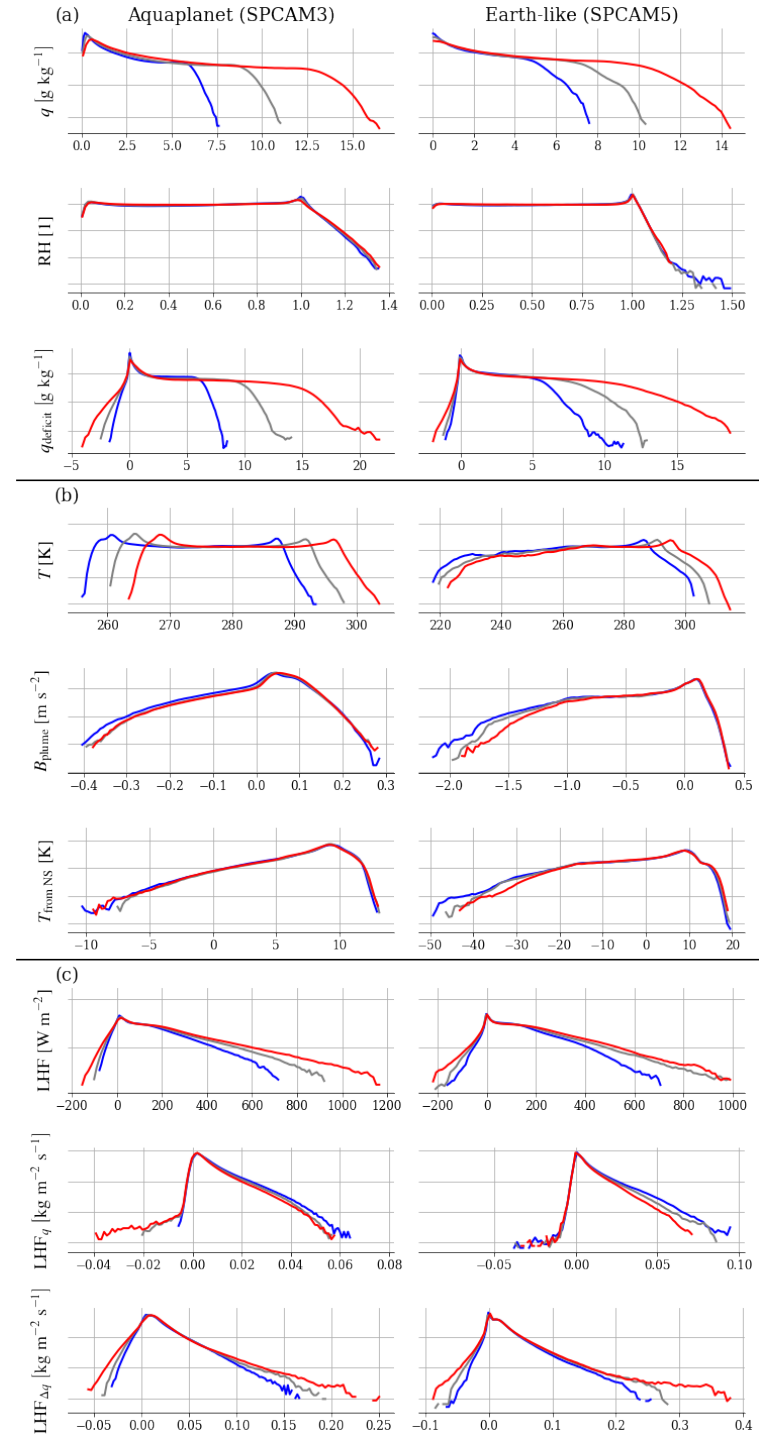
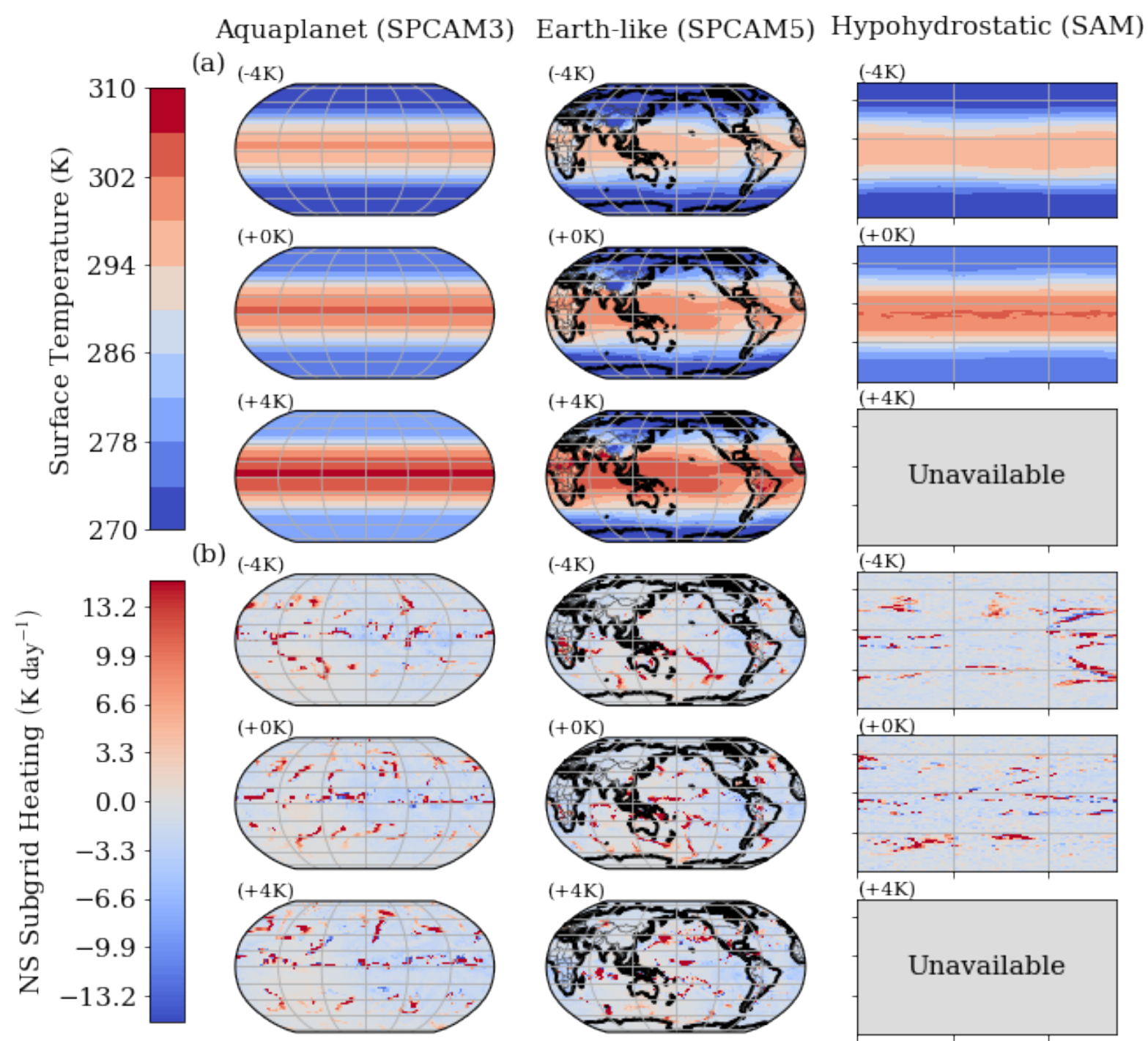


(b) **Generalization Test:** MSE in Warm Tropics [$10^3 \text{ W}^2 \text{ m}^{-4}$]



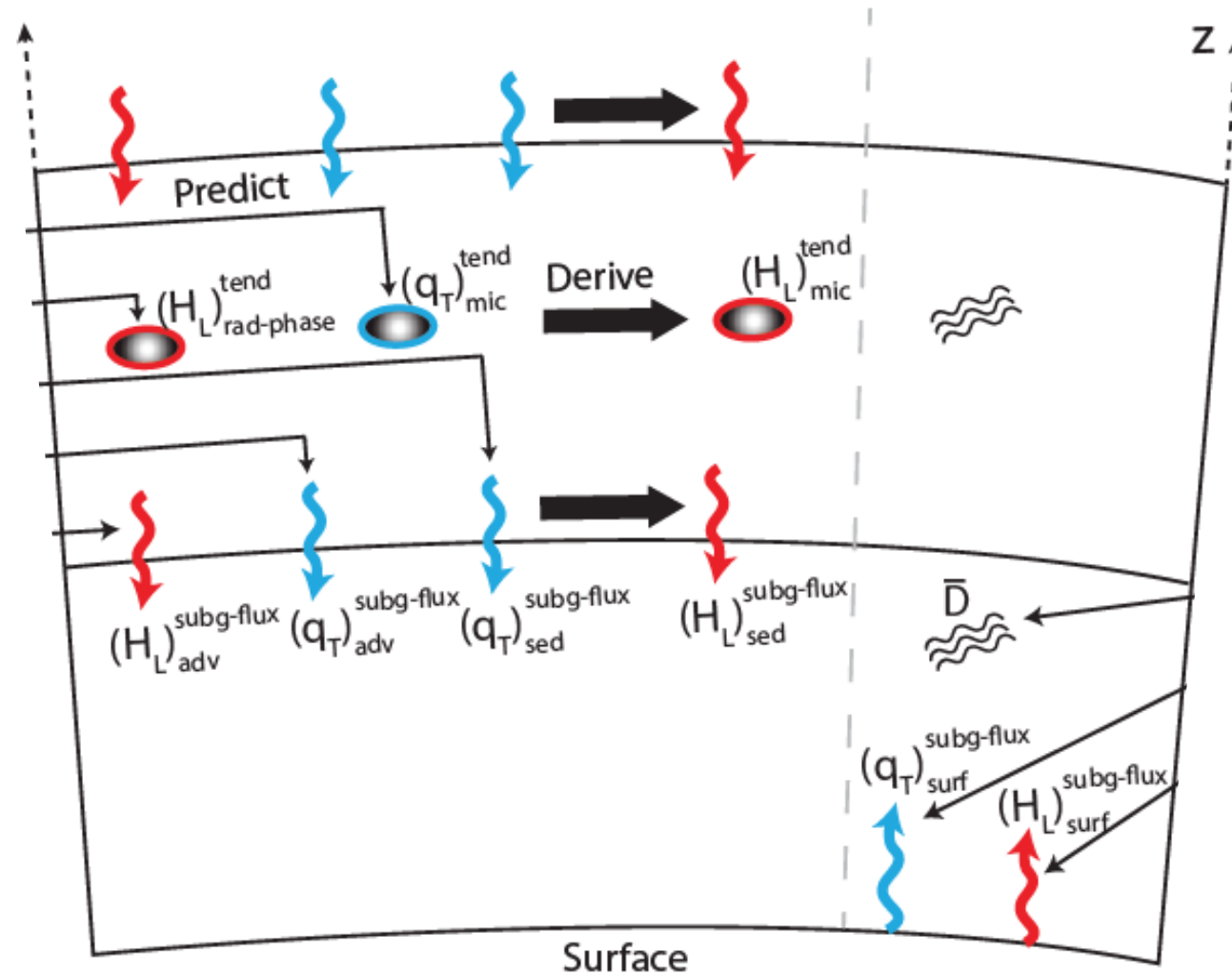






Limits of Physics-Guided ML

Modeling: Process-based ML stable & interpretable




See: Yuval et al. (2021), Brenowitz et al. (2021)

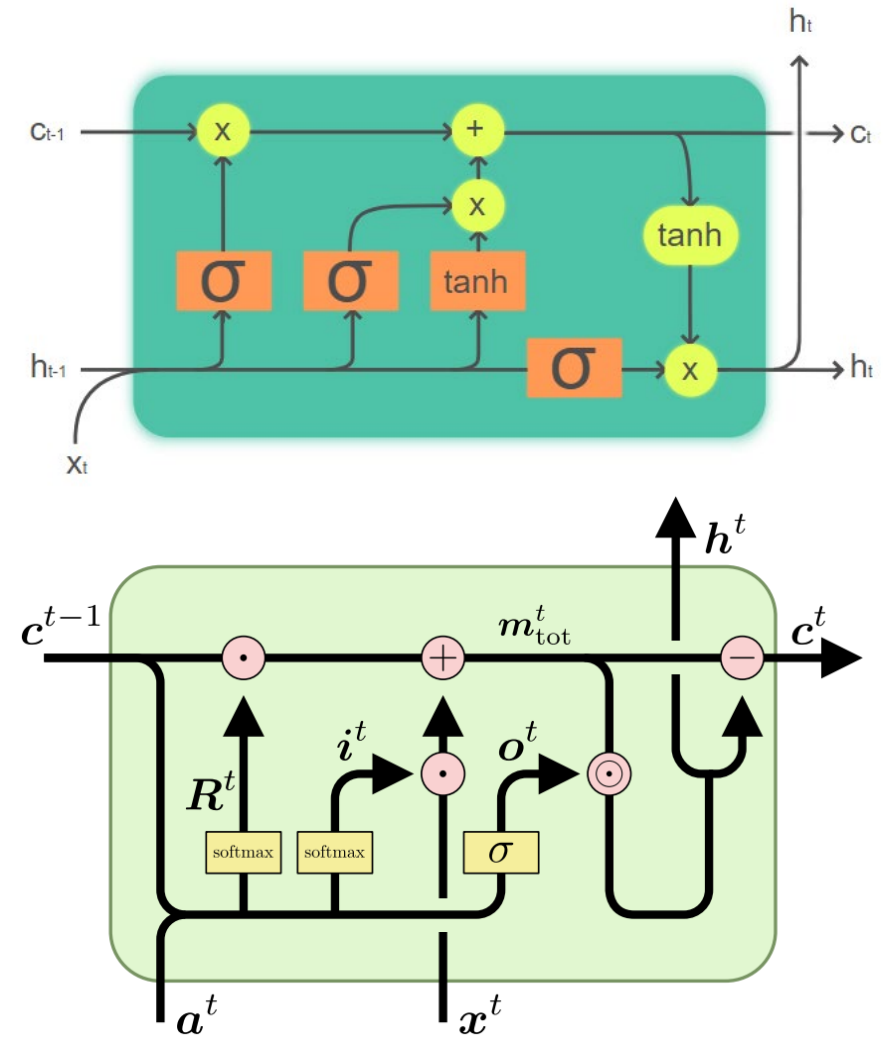
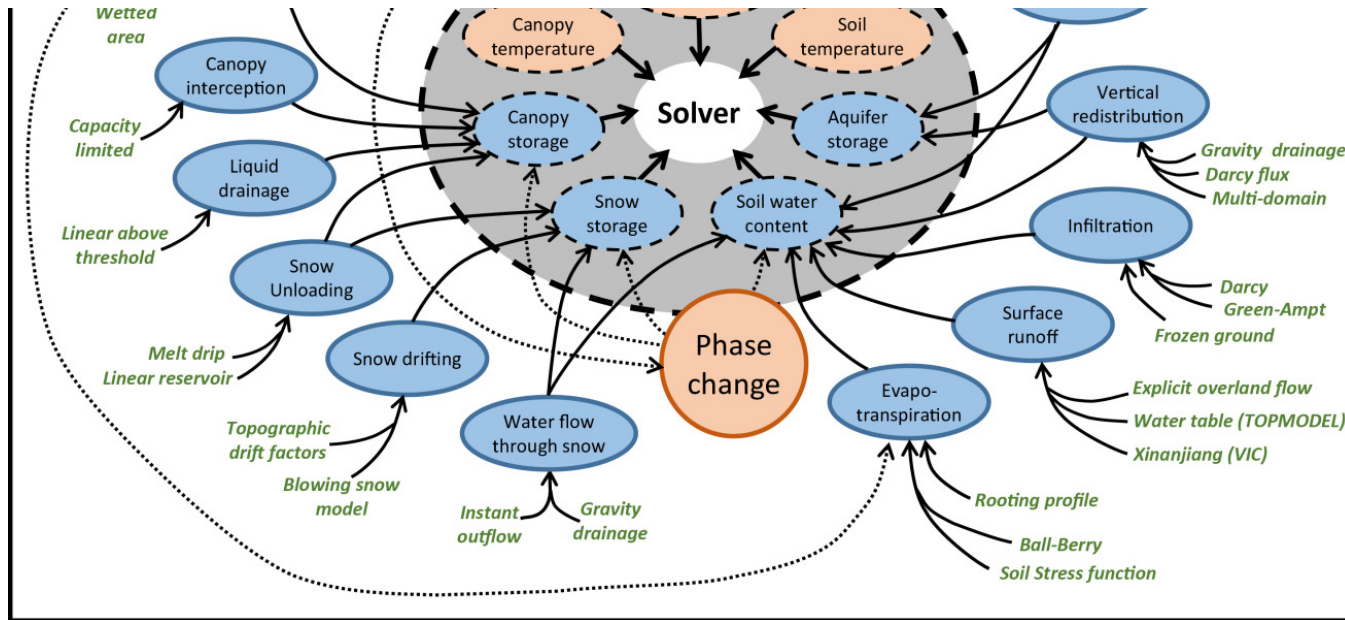
Some Limitations of Physics-Guided ML

Water Resources Research

Commentary | [Free Access](#)

What Role Does Hydrological Science Play in the Age of Machine Learning?

Grey S. Nearing , Frederik Kratzert, Alden Keefe Sampson, Craig S. Pelissier, Daniel Klotz, Jonathan M. Frame, Cristina Prieto, Hoshin V. Gupta



See: Nearing et al. (2021), Clark et al. (2015), Chevalier (2018), Hoedt et al. (2021)