

Assessing the Influence of Surface Wind Waves to the Global Climate by Incorporating WAVEWATCH III in CESM Phase I: Langmuir Mixing in KPP

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Image: NPR.org, Deep Water Horizon Spill

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McWilliams and Sullivan, 2000; Van Roekel et al., 2012

Summer Mixed Layer Depth (JAS for NH & JFM for SH)



Shallow bias in the Southern Ocean

Setup

- WAVEWATCH-III (Stokes drift; 4°x3.2°) <-> POP2 (U, T, H_{BL}; gx3v7)
- CORE2 interannual forcing (Large and Yeager, 2009)
- 4 IAF cycles; average over last 50 years for climatology
- Same forcing but different Langmuir Mixing parameterizations

Summer Mixed Layer Depth (JAS for NH & JFM for SH)



Enhanced mixing, but too much in MS2K

Summer Mixed Layer Depth (JAS for NH & JFM for SH)



OBS: de Boyer Montégut et al. 2004

Winter Mixed Layer Depth (JFM for NH & JAS for SH)



OBS: de Boyer Montégut et al. 2004

Percentage change in MLD by Langmuir Mixing

90N

60N

30N

30S

60S

90S

90N

60N

30N

30S

60S

90S

30E 60E

90F

The surface wind waves increase the mixed layer depth at high latitude by 20% ~ 60%



30E 60E 90E 120E 150E 180 150W 120W 90W 60W 30W

0

30E 60E 90E 120E 150E 180 150W 120W 90W 60W 30W

0



OBS: Key et al. 2004 (GLODAP)



OBS: Key et al. 2004 (GLODAP)

Summary and Future Work (by Jan, 2015)

- WAVEWATCH III as a component of CESM and coupled with POP
- Langmuir mixing
 - Reduces the shallow bias of mixed layer depth in the Southern Ocean (RMSE reduction: summer 20%; winter 10%).
 - Reduces low biases in zonal mean pCFC11 both in the Southern Ocean and Equatorial region (RMSE reduction: ~18%).
- Equatorial region, depend on the MLD definition.
 - LM enhances ventilation; Mean MLD might not be a good indicator there.
- More tests:
 - Fully coupling with active atmosphere and sea ice model.
 - Considerations in the Equatorial region.
 - CVMix.
- An efficient but accurate data wave model.

Model Setup

- WAVEWATCH III v3.14
 - 3rd generation wave model
 - Solves the spectral action density balance equation
 - Res: WW3a (4°x3.2°)
- CESM1.2; Ocean-Wave only
 - Compset: CIAF_WAV Res: gx3v7
 - CORE2 Interannual forcing; 4 IAF cycles (62 years); average over the last 50 years for climatology
 - CFC active starting near the end of the 3rd cycle (model year 170, corresponding to data year 1931) and through the 4th cycle
 - CFC11 comparison: annual mean of model year 233 (corresponding to data year 1994)
- Mixed layer depth definition
 - OBS: MLD in density with a variable threshold criterion (equivalent to a 0.2°C decrease)
 - CESM: Shallowest depth where the local, interpolated buoyancy gradient matches the maximum buoyancy gradient between the surface and any discrete depth within that water column

Stokes Drift

• At the surface

$$\boldsymbol{u}_{s}(0) = 2\int_{0}^{2\pi}\int_{0}^{\infty}(\cos\theta,\sin\theta,0)\frac{\omega^{3}}{g}S(\omega,\theta)d\omega d\theta$$

• Surface layer mean

$$\langle \boldsymbol{u}_s \rangle_{SL} = \frac{1}{H_{SL}} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\infty (\cos\theta, \sin\theta, 0) (1 - e^{-\frac{2\omega^2 H_{SL}}{g}}) \omega S(\omega, \theta) d\omega d\theta$$

Langmuir Mixing in KPP Aligned Wind and Waves

• Turbulent Langmuir Number

$$La_t^2 = \frac{|\boldsymbol{u}_*|}{|\boldsymbol{u}_s(0)|}$$
$$W = \frac{kU_*}{\mathcal{E}}$$

 ϕ

• Vertical velocity scale

$$\mathcal{E} = \sqrt{1 + 0.08 L a_t^{-4}}$$

• Diffusivity

$$\kappa_v = W H_{BL} G(\sigma)$$

• Shape function

$$G(\sigma) = \sigma (1 - \sigma)^2 \qquad \sigma = \frac{d}{H_{BL}}$$

• The boundary layer depth is determined from

$$Ri_b = \frac{H_{BL} \left[b_r - b(H_{BL}) \right]}{|\langle \boldsymbol{u}_r \rangle - \langle \boldsymbol{u}(H_{BL}) \rangle|^2 + U_t^2} \approx 0.3$$

• Enhancement factor (VR12a)

$$\mathcal{E} = \sqrt{1 + (3.1La_t)^{-2} + (5.4La_t)^{-4}}$$



Langmuir Mixing in KPP Misaligned Wind and Waves

• Surface layer averaged, projected Langmuir Number

$$La_{SL,proj}^{2} = \frac{|\boldsymbol{u}_{*}|cos(\alpha)}{|\langle \boldsymbol{u}_{s} \rangle_{SL}|cos(\theta - \alpha)}$$



$$\alpha \approx \tan^{-1} \left[\frac{\sin\left(\theta\right)}{\frac{u_*}{u_s(0)\kappa} \ln\left(|H_{BL}/z_1|\right) + \cos\left(\theta\right)} \right]$$

• Enhancement factor (VR12g, VR12h)

$$\mathcal{E} = |\cos\alpha| \sqrt{1 + (1.5La_{SL,proj})^{-2} + (5.4La_{SL,proj})^{-4}}$$

• The boundary layer depth (VR12h) is determined from

$$Ri_b = \frac{H_{BL} \left[b_r - b(H_{BL}) \right]}{|\langle \boldsymbol{u}_r \rangle - \langle \boldsymbol{u}(H_{BL}) \rangle|^2 + U_t^2 + |\boldsymbol{u}_s(0)|^2} \approx 0.3$$



Summer Mixed Layer Depth (JAS for NH & JFM for SH) 0.03 kg/m³ density criterion



OBS: de Boyer Montégut et al. 2004