

1 **An Ensemble of Neural Networks for Moist Physics Processes, its**
2 **Generalizability and Stable Integration**

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27 **Key points**

28 1. An ensemble of deep convolutional residual neural networks is used to reduce the uncertainty
29 in moist physics emulations.

30 2. The ensemble of the neural networks trained on data from a present-day climate simulation
31 generalizes well to a +4K warm climate offline.

32 3. A multi-year stable online integration is achieved in a real-geography GCM with reasonable
33 results.

34

35 **Abstract**

36 With the recent advances in data science, machine learning has been increasingly applied to
37 convection and cloud parameterizations in global climate models (GCMs). This study extends the
38 work of Han et al. (2020) and uses an ensemble of 32-layer deep convolutional residual neural
39 networks, referred to as ResCu-en, to emulate convection and cloud processes simulated by a
40 superparameterized GCM, SPCAM. ResCu-en predicts GCM grid-scale temperature and moisture
41 tendencies, and cloud liquid and ice water contents from moist physics processes. The surface
42 rainfall is derived from the column-integrated moisture tendency. The prediction uncertainty
43 inherent in deep learning algorithms in emulating the moist physics is reduced by ensemble
44 averaging. Results in one-year independent offline validation show that ResCu-en has high
45 prediction accuracy for all output variables, both in the current climate and in a warmer climate
46 with +4K sea surface temperature. The analysis of different neural net configurations shows that
47 the success to generalize in a warmer climate is attributed to convective memory and the 1-
48 dimensional convolution layers incorporated into ResCu-en. We further implement a member of

49 ResCu-en into CAM5 with real world geography and run the neural-network-enabled CAM5
50 (NCAM) for 5 years without encountering any numerical integration instability. The simulation
51 generally captures the global distribution of the mean precipitation, with a better simulation of
52 precipitation intensity and diurnal cycle. However, there are large biases in temperature and
53 moisture in high latitudes. These results highlight the importance of convective memory and
54 demonstrate the potential for machine learning to enhance climate modeling.

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57 **Plain Language Summary**

58
59 The representation of storms and clouds through empirical algorithms known as
60 parameterizations in global climate models (GCMs) is one of the main sources of biases in the
61 simulation of rainfall and atmospheric circulation. Here an ensemble of 8 deep neural networks
62 are used to replace the conventional parameterization of atmospheric moist physics processes.
63 They are trained on data sampled from one-year present-day climate simulation by a
64 "superparameterized" climate model, which uses a two-dimensional cloud-scale model to
65 explicitly simulate convection and clouds inside each GCM grid box. On ensemble averaging, the
66 neural nets produce highly accurate predictions of precipitation characteristics including global
67 distribution and intensity. Furthermore, the machine-learned emulator trained on data in the current
68 climate also represents convection and precipitation extremely well in a warmer climate. A
69 member of the ensemble of the neural nets is implemented into a GCM. The model is then
70 integrated for 5 years, producing reasonable results.

71

72 **1. Introduction**

73 Convection and cloud parameterization schemes used in global climate models (GCMs) are a
74 major source of many biases in the simulation of climate and its variability. These include biases
75 in the Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) (Zhang et al., 2019), intraseasonal variability such
76 as Madden Julian Oscillation (MJO) (Zhang & Mu, 2005; Cao & Zhang, 2017) and diurnal cycle
77 of precipitation (Xie et al., 2019, Cui et al., 2021). They are also the main causes of uncertainties
78 in GCM-simulated response of cloud radiative forcing and precipitation to global warming
79 (Stevens & Bony, 2013). Current convection parameterization schemes (e.g., Arakawa & Schubert,
80 1974; Tiedtke, 1989; Zhang & McFarlane, 1995 and many more) were developed based on limited
81 observations and simplified or heuristic models. Although some incremental progress has been
82 made in climate simulations by improving the parameterization schemes (e.g., Zhang & Mu, 2005;
83 Neale et al., 2008; Bechtold et al., 2014; Wang et al., 2016; Song & Zhang, 2018; Xie et al., 2019),
84 conventional convection and cloud parameterization has reached a deadlock (Randall et al., 2003;
85 Gentine et al., 2018), and other alternatives have been actively explored.

86 One of the alternatives is to embed a cloud resolving model (CRM) into each GCM grid box
87 to replace the conventional convection parameterization scheme, the so called
88 superparameterization approach. Khairoutdinov et al. (2005) developed the superparameterized
89 National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) Community Atmosphere Model (SPCAM).
90 SPCAM performs better in the simulation of convection at different scales such as the eastward
91 propagating mesoscale convective systems, the diurnal cycle of convection, and MJO (Pritchard
92 & Somerville, 2009; Jiang et al., 2015).

93 Data-driven machine learning (ML) has been actively explored for parameterizing subgrid-
94 scale convection and cloud processes in the last few years (Gentine et al., 2018; Rasp et al., 2018;

95 Brenowitz & Bretherton, 2018, 2019; Han et al., 2020; Yuval & O'Gorman, 2020; Brenowitz et al.,
96 2020; Beucler, Pritchard, Rasp, et al., 2021; Yuval et al., 2021; Irrgang et al., 2021; Beucler,
97 Pritchard, Yuval, et al., 2021; Wang et al. 2022). Gentine et al. (2018) used deep learning to emulate
98 convection and radiation processes simulated by SPCAM. Rasp et al. (2018) coupled a neural
99 network (NN) to a 3-D aqua-planet GCM. Brenowitz and Bretherton (2019) trained a neural
100 network parameterization scheme using coarse-grained global CRM simulation results and
101 realized a multi-day online simulation in a coarse-resolution GCM. Yuval and O'Gorman (2020)
102 developed a random forest-based ML parameterization with simulation results from a high-
103 resolution 3-D model run on an idealized beta plane. They reproduced the climate of the high-
104 resolution model in a coarse-resolution model with this parameterization. Later, Yuval et al. (2021)
105 used neural networks and obtained similar results with less computational memory. The above
106 studies all used the aqua-planet configuration of the GCMs.

107 Recently, studies have emerged on ML parameterization schemes under real geography. Han
108 et al. (2020), hereafter H20, accurately emulated convective heating, drying, cloud water and ice
109 concentration in a realistically configured SPCAM by applying a 1-D residual convolution neural
110 network (ResNet) with powerful nonlinear fitting ability, and tested it offline and in a single
111 column model. Mooers et al. (2021) optimized a fully connected neural network with a
112 sophisticated auto-learning technique to emulate convection under real land-ocean distribution and
113 used the neural-network emulated fields to force an offline land surface model with some success.

114 The performance of ML-based parameterizations has been improved in the last few years.
115 However, not much attention has been paid to their uncertainties. Brenowitz & Bretherton (2019)
116 first noted that the training bias fluctuates significantly from one training epoch to another, and
117 thus determining when to stop the training can lead to considerable uncertainties. Furthermore,

118 individual predictions from a deep learning model can contain sizeable uncertainties even though
119 the model performs well on average (Pearce et al., 2018; Gawlikowski et al., 2021). The prediction
120 uncertainty from NN-based parameterizations can come from two major sources: aleatoric and
121 epistemic uncertainties. Aleatoric uncertainty is the intrinsic uncertainty within the target data. For
122 the superparameterization simulations, this uncertainty is mainly from losing many degrees of
123 freedom when the CRM-domain fields are coarse-grained to the GCM grid. On the other hand,
124 Epistemic uncertainty is due to limited data and knowledge of the ML models. To speed up the
125 training process of an NN-based parameterization, we only use "limited" training data, which is
126 often an arbitrarily selected subset in space and/or time of a sampling pool from a high-resolution
127 model simulation. Since cloud and convection processes are highly complex and nonlinear, an NN
128 emulator is not "perfect" with 100% fitting accuracy. In practice, the epistemic uncertainty comes
129 from the process of training, which involves randomly initializing the weights and biases in the
130 NNs first, and then training them with data in mini-batches, which randomly distribute the data
131 into numerous subsets and shuffle the subset sequence after every training iteration. The algorithms
132 to optimize the weights and biases during the training are stochastic or are related to stochastic
133 processes, such as Stochastic Gradient Descent, Root Mean Squared Propagation, and Adaptive
134 Moment Estimation (Adam) (Kingma & Ba, 2014). As a result, all the randomness involved in the
135 training process contributes to the prediction uncertainty, which cannot be ignored in developing
136 NN-based parameterizations.

137 A challenging issue for an NN-based parameterization trained on one climate is to generalize
138 it to another, unseen climate as it requires the neural net to fit out-of-distribution data. Several
139 studies have tested the ability of their NN-based parameterizations to generalize to different
140 climates (Rasp et al., 2018; O'Gorman and Dwyer, 2018; Beucler, Pritchard, Yuval, et al., 2021;

141 Clark et. al., 2022). They found that the NN-based parameterizations trained with data from the
142 current climate degraded seriously in accuracy when directly used in warmer climates. To achieve
143 a better generalization, Rasp et al. (2018) and Clark et al. (2022) included the warm climate
144 simulation output in the training data. Beucler, Pritchard, Yuval, et al. (2021) rescaled the NN's
145 input and output variables to keep the probability distribution unchanged across climates.

146 Besides generalization to different climates, making a stable model integration using NN-
147 based parameterizations is another great challenge (Irrgang et al., 2021). Several recent studies
148 have explored the prognostic performance of ML parameterization schemes in 3D real-geography
149 GCMs. Wang et al. (2022) emulated the moist physics and radiation processes in SPCAM with a
150 group of deep neural networks. They succeeded in a 5-year online integration, but with significant
151 climate biases in high latitudes. Bretherton et al. (2022) used machine learning of nudging
152 tendencies as functions of the atmospheric state to correct the physical parameterization tendencies
153 and ran a NOAA global forecasting model for 40 days. Clark et al. (2022) tested this ML-learned
154 tendency correction approach and ran the model for more than 5 years as well as for different
155 climates.

156 In this study, we use an ensemble of 8 refined deep NNs based on the ResNet in H20 to reduce
157 the uncertainties in NN predictions, similar to Krasnopolksy et al (2013). We then test its
158 generalizability to a +4K SST warmer climate and explore different attributes of the NN in this
159 regard. Finally, we attempt to carry out a multi-year online integration to assess whether a stable
160 long-term integration is achievable with reasonable results. The organization of the paper is as
161 follows. Section 2 presents the details of the data generation and NN design. Section 3 shows the
162 results of offline validations. Section 4 tests the generalization of the NN to a warmer climate and
163 the roles of the NN architecture and input variables in its generalization ability. Section 5 performs

164 the prognostic online simulation in a 3D real-geography GCM. A summary and discussion are
165 given in section 6.

166 **2. An ensemble of Neural Networks**

167 **2.1 Selection of Training Data**

168 Same as in H20, we use a year-long simulation from the NCAR SPCAM (Khairoutdinov et
169 al., 2005). It includes a coupled land model CLM 4.0 and is run with prescribed monthly mean
170 climatological sea surface temperature (SST) and sea ice for lower boundary conditions (Hurrell
171 et al., 2008). The model is run for three and a half years with a timestep of 20 min, and we use
172 subsets of year two simulation output for training the NN. To speed up the training, we select 800
173 points out of the total of 13824 (96x144) grid points in the 2.5 deg x 1.9 deg horizontal resolution
174 model. Instead of selecting 800 fixed points as in H20, for data from each day of the year we select
175 800 points with each grid point randomly chosen from three latitude zones in proportion to their
176 relative surface area. The three latitude zones are the tropics (30°S to 30°N), midlatitudes (60°S to
177 30°S and 30°N to 60°N), and high latitudes (90°S to 60°S and 60°S to 90°N). Therefore, we have
178 56,700 (800 points x 3 timesteps/hr x 24 hrs) training samples each day and nearly 21 million
179 samples in total. The new method of data selection ensures that all regions on the globe are
180 represented in the training dataset. This training data selection procedure is repeated for training
181 each NN.

182 **2.2 Input and Output**

183 The input variables for the NN are mostly the same as those in H20. These include the GCM
184 grid-scale state variables and tendencies that are used to force the CRM in SPCAM. They are

185 temperature profile (T), specific humidity (q_v), large-scale temperature and moisture tendencies
 186 $\left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial t}\right)_{ls}$ and $\left(\frac{\partial q_v}{\partial t}\right)_{ls}$ from the dynamic core of SPCAM's host CAM5 and planetary boundary layer
 187 (PBL) diffusion, surface sensible and latent heat fluxes ($SSHF/c_p$ and $SLHF/L_v$) and surface
 188 pressure (P_s). We also consider convective memory as in H20, but with some modification. In H20,
 189 we considered 4 GCM timesteps. In the sensitivity test in H20, it was found that including 2
 190 timesteps will suffice to account for the effect of the history of convection. Thus, here for
 191 convective memory we only consider the following variables in the previous 2 timesteps: the GCM
 192 grid-scale T , q_v , $\left(\frac{\partial T}{\partial t}\right)_{ls}$ and $\left(\frac{\partial q_v}{\partial t}\right)_{ls}$, temperature and moisture tendencies from moist physics $\frac{\partial T}{\partial t}$
 193 and $\frac{\partial q_v}{\partial t}$, and cloud water q_c and cloud ice q_i predicted by the CRM. The output variables are also
 194 the same as those in H20: GCM grid averaged diabatic temperature and moisture tendencies $\frac{\partial T}{\partial t}$
 195 and $\frac{\partial q_v}{\partial t}$, cloud water and cloud ice contents q_c and q_i . Precipitation is diagnosed from the
 196 vertically integrated moisture tendency in the output.

197 In total, the input layer consists of 20 vectors with a length of 33 and the output layer consists
 198 of four vectors with a length of 30. All input and output variables are normalized with
 199 normalization factors the same as those in H20 to ensure that they are of order of magnitude $O(1)$
 200 before they are input into the deep neural network for training and testing.

201 **2.3 Loss function accounting for moist static energy conservation**

202 In moist physics, the atmospheric moist static energy (h) is conserved in the absence of ice
 203 phase processes. As in H20, we customize the loss function to include h conservation by adding
 204 the mean square error between column-integrated h change from the neural net and that from

205 SPCAM in the form of $\left\| \frac{1}{g} \int_{pt}^{pb} \frac{\partial h_{SP}}{\partial t} dp - \frac{1}{g} \int_{pt}^{pb} \frac{\partial h_{NN}}{\partial t} dp \right\|_2$ as a penalty term in our loss function

206 to make the integrated h tendencies from deep learning model approach those from SPCAM. Thus,

207 the loss function is written as

208
$$loss = \|\hat{y} - y\|_2 + \lambda \left\| \frac{1}{g} \int_{pt}^{pb} \frac{\partial h_{SP}}{\partial t} dp - \frac{1}{g} \int_{pt}^{pb} \frac{\partial h_{NN}}{\partial t} dp \right\|_2, \quad (1)$$

209 where y is the target fields from SPCAM, \hat{y} is the output of our neural network model, and λ is a

210 Lagrangian multiplier to simultaneously enforce accuracy and h conservation.

211 **2.4 Deep ResNet**

212 In H20, a moist physics parameterization was developed using a 1-D residual convolutional

213 neural network (ResNet), referred to as ResCu for short. We continue to use the same NN construct

214 here, but with the following modifications: 1) extend the number of layers from 22 to 32; 2) add a

215 batch normalization layer after each convolutional layer except the last one; and 3) remove the

216 activation function in the last layer. The first modification is to further improve the accuracy of the

217 neural network. The last two modifications are based on the sensitivity tests of H20. Batch-

218 normalization helps improve the accuracy and robustness when added after each layer, since it

219 normalizes the output of the layer with a running average and a running standard deviation (Ioffe

220 & Szegedy, 2015). With multiple activation functions in previous layers for nonlinear

221 representation, the last layer activation does not add much further improvement in the accuracy of

222 the output in a deep neural network.

223 After increasing the depth of the NN from 22 to 32 layers, the RMSE of the fitting (the first

224 term on the rhs of eq. (1)) is significantly smaller, which makes the h conservation penalty (the

225 second term on the rhs of eq. (1)) a dominant term in the loss function. Thus, the original value of
226 the multiplier $\lambda = 5 \times 10^{-7}$ is too large, which affects the convergence of the NN training. We set
227 λ to a new value of 1×10^{-7} for the optimal balance between h conservation and prediction
228 accuracy. This makes the penalty term from h conservation account for about 6% of the total loss.
229 With some preliminary trial tests, we find that 32 layers are optimal for prediction accuracy as well
230 as h conservations, reducing the total loss by 1.7% compared to the 22-layer NN (Fig. S1a in
231 Supplementary Information). Further increasing the depth of the NN (in our case, to 42 layers)
232 does not lead to further decrease of the total loss function.

233 This deep ResNet applies 1-D convolutional layers with 128 feature vectors (1-D feature maps)
234 and 128 corresponding filter banks with a kernel size of 3. It contains 15 Resunits, including 32
235 convolutional layers in total, with approximately 1.5 million trainable parameters and 40,000
236 untrainable parameters (running averages and standard deviations in the batch normalization
237 layers). The activation algorithms inside each Resunit are Rectified Linear Activations (ReLUs),
238 with no activation in the output layer.

239 As mentioned earlier, to reduce the prediction uncertainty from the NN, we use an ensemble
240 of 8 NNs, referred to as NN-1 to NN-8 and the ensemble referred to as ResCu-en (Fig. S1b). Using
241 the 32-layer ResNet, we independently trained each of the 8 NNs with different random seeds for
242 initialization and selected training subset (see Sec. 2.1 above). All 8 neural networks are identical
243 in input and output variables and NN architecture, and trained over 100 epochs, using the Adam
244 optimizer that has an initial learning rate of 3×10^{-4} .

245 **3. Offline Validation for Current Climate**

246 To evaluate the performance of ResCu-en, we compare the ensemble mean predictions from it
247 with SPCAM simulations using the independent third-year testing data. As described in Section
248 2.1, this target simulation is forced with the climatological mean SST, which we refer to as the
249 baseline simulation hereinafter. We test the performance in multiple aspects: moist static energy
250 conservation, annual mean of the predicted variables, and precipitation frequency distribution.
251 Since the training data are from an SPCAM simulation under the present-day climate conditions,
252 an important question is whether the trained NN can be used in a warmer climate. To test the
253 capability of ResCu-en generalization to a warm climate, we perform an SPCAM simulation with
254 +4K SST (Bretherton et al., 2014), that is, we add 4K uniformly on top of the monthly mean global
255 SST distribution as the boundary condition. Then we use the simulated fields from the +4K
256 simulation as input into ResCu-en, which is trained with the present-day climate simulation data,
257 to diagnose the moist physics tendencies and precipitation.

258 First, we check the accuracy of moist static energy conservation in ResCu-en. For moist
259 physics, the column integrated heating and drying or h tendencies $\frac{L_v}{g} \int_{pt}^{pb} \frac{\partial q}{\partial t} dp + \frac{c_p}{g} \int_{pt}^{pb} \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} dp$
260 should be equal to the net freezing heating and melting cooling associated with ice phase change
261 of hydrometeors in the column. Fig. 1 shows the histogram of column integrated h tendencies from
262 SPCAM, ResCu-en and their differences. The SPCAM simulation shows a mean $\mu = 0.99 W/m^2$
263 and a standard deviation $\sigma = 10.66 W/m^2$ (Fig. 1a). The histogram of the column-integrated h
264 change predicted by ResCu-en is remarkably close to that of SPCAM with a mean of $1.21 W/m^2$
265 and a standard deviation of $9.62 W/m^2$ (Fig. 1b). The difference plot (Fig. 1c) shows the histogram
266 of the differences between column integrated NN-predicted h tendencies and the corresponding

267 SPCAM simulated values at each GCM grid column and time step for all data used in the test.
268 There is only a small systematic positive bias of 0.22 W/m^2 and a difference spread (standard
269 deviation) of 4.71 W/m^2 . Note that the temperature and moisture tendencies from the moist
270 physics processes in the NN are predicted independently and their column-integrated values are
271 on the order of 1000 to 4000 W/m^2 (cf. Fig. 2 in H20). Thus, this demonstrates that ResCu-en is
272 remarkably accurate in h conservation even though the requirement of h conservation only
273 contributes 5% to the total loss function (Fig. S1a). Note that past neural-network-based emulators
274 struggled to maintain strict column-integrated h conservation, with larger standard deviation (Rasp
275 et al., 2018) or imbalances (Brenowitz and Bretherton, 2018). On the other hand, a random-forest-
276 based emulator developed by Yuval and O’Gorman (2020) has a much better h conservation, with
277 only a small bias of 0.0001 W/m^2 . This is because random forest by design conserves energy
278 whereas neural networks do not obey energy conservation *a priori*.

279 The predicted annual mean precipitation by ResCu-en is in excellent agreement with the
280 SPCAM simulation, with no significant localized biases but a slight underestimation on global
281 average (Fig. 2). The differences between individual NN and SPCAM (Fig. S2) simulation are
282 relatively larger, highlighting the advantage of using an ensemble of NNs. In H20, ResCu can
283 reproduce the target precipitation with high accuracy already, except with some noticeable
284 overestimation over the Tibetan Plateau and underestimation in the ITCZ and SPCZ. These biases
285 are either almost completely gone or less evident in the individual NNs in Fig. S2, indicating a
286 clear improvement owing to the use of a deeper NN (32 layers here vs. 22 layers in H20).

287 The diabatic heating and drying rates in SPCAM from the CRM simulated convection and

condensation processes are also reproduced to a high degree of accuracy by ResCu-en. In the pressure-latitude cross section of the annual and zonal mean, the SPCAM simulation (Fig. 3a, b) shows the typical climatological features: a deep tropospheric heating and corresponding condensational drying in the tropics from deep convection, heating and moistening in the lower troposphere in the subtropics from shallow convection and stratiform processes, and heating and drying in the mid- and low troposphere by midlatitude cyclones. These features are well captured by ResCu-en (Fig 3c, d), with biases no larger than 5% of the SPCAM simulated values (Fig. 3e, f). Even for the strong cooling and drying near the surface, which are the CRM responses to the PBL forcing, ResCu-en reproduces them accurately. The individual NNs that constitute ResCu-en, on the other hand, have relatively larger biases (Fig. S3). We also computed the RMSE of heating rate relative to the SPCAM values at each GCM grid point using data from every time step and averaged the RMSE over (20°S, 20°N) following the method of Beucler, Pritchard, Yuval, et al. (2021). Fig. S4 shows the vertical profiles of RMSE and model layer thickness-weighted MSE for each member of ResCu-en. The RMSE is 2 to 4 K/day in the lower and middle troposphere. A more direct comparison with Beucler, Pritchard, Yuval, et al. (2021) is the thickness-weighted MSE, which has a maximum of about 800 W²/m⁴. This compares to about 2000 W²/m⁴ for the climate-invariant NN in Beucler, Pritchard, Yuval, et al. (2021), indicating that even members of ResCu-en are quite accurate. Similar accuracies are found for ResCu-en predicted cloud water and cloud ice distributions, with differences between the ResCu-en prediction and SPCAM simulation less than 0.2 mg/kg everywhere (Fig. S5). These again demonstrate the superiority of using an ensemble of NNs with deeper NNs.

309 In addition to the annual mean fields, we also examine the frequency of precipitation, one of
310 the essential precipitation characteristics conventional parameterization schemes often fail to
311 represent (Wang et al., 2016, Xie et al., 2019). Fig. 4 shows the frequency distribution of daily
312 averaged precipitation for SPCAM simulation and ResCu-en prediction. To show the land-sea
313 contrast, the model grid points are divided into ocean (land fraction less than 0.1) and land (land
314 fraction greater than 0.95). We also present the latitudinal differences by showing the results in the
315 tropics (20°S to 20°N), northern hemisphere mid-latitudes (20°N to 50°N), and northern
316 hemisphere high latitudes (50°N to 90°N). For comparison, we also plot the precipitation
317 frequency for a simulation under the global warming scenario to be discussed in the next section
318 and from TRMM observations for reference. In all regions, the precipitation intensity pdf from
319 SPCAM is very well captured by ResCu-en. Compared to the TRMM observations, SPCAM
320 underestimates the frequency of occurrence of heavy precipitation. Consequently, ResCu-en has
321 the same deficiency.

322 To summarize, an ensemble of neural networks, ResCu-en, obeys moist static energy
323 conservation very well, with little systematic bias. It accurately reproduces the annual mean
324 heating and drying from moist physics processes in SPCAM. For precipitation, ResCu-en
325 reproduces the mean and the frequency of occurrence distribution with high accuracy.

326 **4. Offline Test of Generalization to a Warmer Climate**

327 **4.1 Performance of Generalization to +4K SST simulation**

328 ResCu-en is trained with a SPCAM simulation under current SST conditions. Can it be
329 extrapolated to represent moist processes in warmer climates? Rasp et al. (2018) tested their DNN

parameterization against aquaplanet SPCAM simulations under a warm climate with uniformly increased 4K SST. They showed that the DNN resulted in large errors when it was not trained with the warm climate simulations, including overestimating heavy rainfall rate and large diabatic heating biases in the tropical lower troposphere, possibly due to out-of-distribution data in the warmer climate. Recently, Beucler, Pritchard, Yuval, et al. (2021) developed a climate-invariant rescaling approach to help machine learning better generalize to climates different from that used in the training. They showed that when moisture is rescaled with relative humidity and temperature is rescaled with plume buoyancy the NN trained using simulation data from one climate can generalize well to another climate in offline tests. Here we also evaluate ResCu-en in a warm climate simulation by SPCAM with +4K SST added uniformly to the prescribed present-day climatological SST. The SPCAM is run for 2 years with a timestep of 20 min and the second year is used for the ResCu-en offline validation.

In the warm climate with +4K SST, the global average rainfall simulated by SPCAM is increased by about 11% (Fig. 5a). Even though ResCu-en is trained using simulation data for the current climate, it can still accurately reproduce the global annual mean precipitation distribution under +4K SST conditions (Fig. 5b), with a slight overestimation in ITCZ, SPCZ and the western tropical Indian Ocean, and a slight underestimation over midlatitude oceans (Fig. 5c). For precipitation intensity frequency, the SPCAM simulates a significant shift of precipitation occurrence frequency toward higher precipitation rates in the warm climate over the oceans (Fig. 4), but no obvious shifts over land in the tropics and midlatitudes for daily average precipitation. ResCu-en accurately reproduces the same shift as the SPCAM in all regions examined. Since

351 precipitation is derived from the vertical integral of moisture tendencies from moist physics, we
352 show in Fig. 6 the pressure-latitude cross section of temperature and moisture tendencies from
353 SPCAM, ResCu-en and their difference to further demonstrate the ability of ResCu-en to
354 generalize to a warmer climate. Clearly, ResCu-en reproduces the SPCAM temperature and
355 moisture tendencies with high accuracy, with biases generally less than 5% of the maximum
356 heating and moistening in SPCAM. The differences from individual ensemble member are
357 somewhat larger than the ensemble mean (Fig. S6). They are also only slightly larger than those
358 for the baseline simulation (compare Figs. S3 with S6). The RMSE and thickness-weighted MSE
359 are also larger (Fig. S4). The MSE for the warmer climate can also be compared with that in
360 Buecler, Pritchard, Yuval, et al. (2021). For all members of ResCu-en, the maximum MSE is about
361 $1300 \text{ W}^2/\text{m}^4$, which is smaller compared with 2000 to $4000 \text{ W}^2/\text{m}^4$ in Buecler, Pritchard, Yuval, et
362 al. (2021).

363 The performance of ResCu-en is further evaluated in terms of the geographical distribution of
364 the coefficient of determination R^2 for precipitation for both current and +4K climates (Fig. 7),
365 which measures how accurately ResCu-en emulates the time series of the target precipitation at
366 each grid point. Most regions have high accuracy with R^2 greater than 0.9 (Fig. 7a). Some areas
367 in tropical and subtropical oceans and land regions have low R^2 values, especially in subtropical
368 eastern Pacific and Atlantic, and to some extent in the central equatorial Pacific and the Sahara
369 Desert. All these low R^2 regions have low precipitation rates. The R^2 distribution for the +4K SST
370 simulation is similar to that in the baseline simulation, except in the Sahara Desert where the R^2
371 values are much lower.

372 To have a more intuitive feel on how well ResCu-en performs in both current and warm
373 climates, we compare the precipitation time series from ResCu-en with those from SPCAM at two
374 representative model grid points. We select one grid point in the ITCZ region (5°N, 180°E) where
375 R^2 is about 0.8 and another in the subtropical southeastern Pacific (20°S, 90°W) where R^2 is below
376 0.5. For a one-month-long precipitation time series (Fig. 8), ResCu-en can reproduce the timing
377 and magnitude of the heavy rainfall at the ITCZ grid point extremely well for both the baseline
378 and +4K SST simulations (Fig. 8a, b). For the southeastern Pacific grid point with low rainfall
379 rates, ResCu-en generally underestimates the peak rainfall rates, but it can still capture the timing
380 accurately for both the baseline and +4K SST simulations despite the low R^2 values (Fig. 8c, d).

381 All these results from the +4K SST simulation demonstrate that ResCu-en is capable of
382 generalizing to a warmer climate with remarkable accuracy. In the next subsection, we will
383 investigate what properties of our ResCu-en are responsible for this.

384 **4.2 Why is ResCu-en able to generalize to a different climate?**

385 The ability of a neural network to generalize to a different climate is an important attribute as
386 it can then be used in global warming simulations. In this subsection, we investigate what attributes
387 of ResCu-en make it generalizable to a warmer climate by testing different input variables and NN
388 constructs. In doing so, we note that each member of the NN ensemble, when applied individually
389 to the +4K SST SPCAM simulation offline is also able to reproduce the SPCAM results well (Fig.
390 S6). Thus, the use of an ensemble of NNs is not among the factors responsible for ResCu-en's
391 ability to generalize to a warmer climate. As such, we will use a single member of ResCu-en for
392 this purpose.

393 **4.2.1 Convective Memory**

394 The first factor we examine is convective memory since it is unique to ResCu. All NN's
395 developed by other researchers use current atmospheric state variables as input to their NNs. To
396 this end, we developed an NN, ResCu-t0-ls, using only the current step temperature, humidity
397 states and advective forcings as inputs. We also trained two deep fully connected neural networks:
398 DNN-mem, which uses all the input variables as in ResCu, and DNN-t0-ls, which uses only the
399 current step states and forcings. DNN-mem has 10 layers of 512 nodes, the same as DNN-t0-ls.
400 Table 1 lists the NN training experiments used in both this and next subsections. We train all three
401 neural networks (ResCu-t0-ls, DNN-mem, and DNN-t0-ls) on one subset of the data described in
402 Section 2 and evaluate them on one-year independent datasets from both the current and +4K warm
403 climates, as described in Section 3. We measure the accuracy of the NN predictions using R^2 of
404 the zonally averaged diabatic heating, which is a frequently used metric in previous studies
405 (Gentine et al., 2018; Mooers et al 2021; Wang et al., 2022). These experiments allow us to evaluate
406 the roles of convective memory and architecture on ResCu's generalization capability.

407 Fig. 9 shows R^2 for moist diabatic heating from ResCu-en, ResCu-t0-ls, DNN-mem and
408 DNN-t0-ls for baseline and +4K SST climate, respectively. ResCu-en demonstrates remarkable
409 generalization capability, with almost no drop in accuracy from the current climate to the +4K SST
410 warm climate (Fig. 9a, b), consistent with Figs. 3 and 6. Without convective memory (ResCu-t0-
411 ls), the NN is less accurate in the entire troposphere over the tropics and subtropics compared to
412 ResCu-en for the current climate (Fig. 9a vs. Fig. 9c). There is noticeable deterioration in R^2 (Fig.
413 9c, d) from the baseline to +4K SST climate in the tropical lower and mid-troposphere. When fully

414 connected NNs are used, DNN-mem performs well in both climates (Fig. 9c, d), while DNN-t0-ls
415 experiences a significant accuracy drop in the tropical mid and lower troposphere in the warm
416 climate (Fig. 9g, h), even more so than ResCu-t0-ls. Note that DNN-t0-ls is a fully connected NN
417 with current time step variables as input. It is similar to the NN used in Beucler, Pritchard, Yuval,
418 et al. (2021) without physical rescaling. Consistent with their findings, the generalizability to a
419 different climate is poor (Figs. 9g vs. 9h). The use of convective memory as input alleviates this
420 deficiency markedly, and the use of residual convolution neural net further improves the accuracy
421 and generalizability in the absence of convective memory as input (compare Fig.s 9c,d and g,h).

422 **4.2.2 NN architectures**

423 In this subsection, we further explore the impact of different neural network architectures
424 within the framework of ResCu-en on the generalization capability of the NN-based
425 parameterization. We present 4 different NNs with different combinations of the 3 architectures
426 (1D convolution, residual shortcuts, and batch-normalization): ResCu, the first member of ResCu-
427 en, with all three architectures, ResCNN with 1D convolution and residual shortcut, but no batch-
428 normalization, CNN with 1D convolution, but neither residual shortcuts nor batch normalization,
429 and ResDNN, a residual fully-connected neural network with no batch normalization, in which all
430 1D convolution layers in ResCNN are replaced with fully connected layers (Table 1). All four NNs
431 use the same input and output variables as in ResCu-en, and we evaluate their generalization
432 capability in the same way as in subsection 4.2.1.

433 Fig. 10 shows R^2 of moist diabatic heating for the NN architectures described above for both
434 current climate and the +4K SST warm climate. ResCu, ResCNN, and CNN are all able to

435 generalize well to the warm climate. The 1D convolutional layer is the shared architecture in all
436 three, suggesting that the 1D convolution layer plays a major role in the generalization capability
437 of the NN. This is further demonstrated by comparing ResCNN and ResDNN (Fig. 10 e,f vs g,h).
438 These results are consistent with the work of Molina et al. (2021) who found that convolutional
439 neural networks have a better generalization capability. Without the convolutional layers, ResDNN
440 has noticeable degradation in R^2 from the current climate to +4K SST climate in tropical mid-
441 troposphere. Batch normalization (compared ResCu and ResCNN) does not affect much the
442 generalization capability of ResCu. While residual shortcuts help improve the prediction accuracy
443 of ResCu for both current and warm climates, their impact on the generalizability of ResCu is not
444 significant.

445 It is noted that while the degradation of R^2 for DNN-t0-1s is substantial going from the current
446 climate to a warmer climate (e.g. Fig.9 g, h), it is not as drastic as reported in Beucler, Pritchard,
447 Yuval, et al. (2021). Out of curiosity, we conducted three additional tests on DNNs using the most
448 basic input variables: temperature (T), specific humidity (q_v), and surface sensible and latent heat
449 fluxes. We have DNN-10 with 10 layers of 512 nodes, which is as deep as a DNN can go and much
450 wider than a typical DNN is, DNN-7 with 7 layers of 128 nodes, which has the same NN
451 architecture as in Beucler, Pritchard, Yuval, et al. (2021) without physical rescaling, and DNN-7-
452 nc without the moist static energy conservation penalty in the loss function on the basis of DNN-
453 7 (Table 1, bottom three rows). Since the DNN with no rescaling in Beucler, Pritchard, Yuval, et
454 al. (2021) did not have energy conservation constraints, it is the closest to DNN-7-nc here. All
455 DNNs with the basic input variables perform reasonably well in the current climate (Fig. 11).

456 However, for the warmer climate, DNN-7-nc has the poorest generalization capability throughout
457 the entire tropical troposphere, to a similar extent to that reported in Beucler, Pritchard, Yuval, et
458 al. (2021) for their NN without rescaling. DNN-7 with the MSE conservation penalty recaptures
459 some accuracy in the tropical upper troposphere. The generalizability of DNN-10 is further
460 improved. Therefore, within the DNN architecture, a wider and deeper neural network and the use
461 of moist static energy conservation in the loss function contribute to the generalization capability.

462 In summary, ResCu-en is capable of generalizing to a warm climate. When evaluated in the
463 +4K SST warm climate that is not included in the training data, ResCu-en successfully predicts
464 the global precipitation distribution and heating and moistening by moist physics processes with
465 high accuracy. Higher order statistics of precipitation, such as intensity increase and occurrence
466 frequency shift toward heavier precipitation over oceans simulated by SPCAM in the +4K SST
467 simulation are also captured by ResCu-en.

468 The use of convective memory as input is the most important attribute to the generalization
469 capability of ResCu-en to a warmer climate. The 1D convolutional layers further boost its warm-
470 climate generalizability. The residual shortcuts also help improve the generalizability of ResCu-
471 en, while the benefit of batch normalization is not noticeable. For fully connected neural networks,
472 while the generalizability is poor, relatively speaking, the use of moist static energy conservation
473 has the most impact on improving the DNN's generalizability. A wider and deeper net also
474 improves it.

475 **5. Stable online integration**

476 The ultimate test of an NN-based parameterization is its performance in online GCM

477 integration. Attempts from past studies to make online integrations stable using their NN-based
478 parameterizations were not successful until recently, particularly in real land-ocean geography
479 GCMs (Wang et al. 2022, Bretherton et al. 2022, Clark et al. 2022). Wang et al. (2022) emulated
480 the moist physics and radiation processes in SPCAM with a group of deep neural networks, each
481 for a different process. They succeeded in a 5-year online integration through trial and error; some
482 were successful in stable integration and others failed. No definitive answer was offered to explain
483 this different model integration behavior though. Bretherton et al. (2022) took a different approach
484 by learning the nudging tendencies as functions of the atmospheric state and then using these
485 tendencies to correct the physical parameterization biases in a NOAA global weather forecasting
486 model. They were able to integrate the model for 40 days. Clark et al. (2022) extended this work
487 and were able to integrate the model for more than 5 years and for different climates. They applied
488 input ablation and output tapering for the top 25 model levels (levels above \sim 200 hPa) to maintain
489 stability and to prevent the model from drifting. In this section, we implement our neural network
490 into the NCAR CAM5. The main objective is to demonstrate its ability to perform long-term stable
491 integration consistently.

492 **5.1 The implementation of ResCu**

493 Due to computational cost (see details below), we only implement one member of ResCu-en
494 into CAM5 (ResCu, i.e., member NN-1 of ResCu-en) instead of the ensemble of 8 members in
495 this initial exploratory online implementation. ResCu replaces the moist diabatic heating and
496 drying and cloud liquid and ice water contents from the conventional parameterization schemes
497 for moist physical processes, including deep convection, shallow convection, and microphysics.

498 The conventional cloud parameterization schemes are still used to provide quantities that are not
499 predicted by our neural network but needed by the radiative transfer scheme in CAM5, such as
500 cloud liquid and ice number concentrations and cloud fraction. We refer to this configuration as
501 NCAM.

502 Before going into the online model integration, we should point out two technical details of
503 the implementation of ResCu into CAM5. First, recall that ResCu includes convective memory as
504 input. In the training and offline test of ResCu, moist physics heating and drying as well as cloud
505 water and ice contents at two previous time steps, as part of convective memory, were taken from
506 SPCAM. In online model integration, no such “ground truth” is available for representing
507 convective memory. A natural substitute for them would be the predicted values at the previous
508 time steps by the NN itself. This approximation will lead to some degradation in accuracy because
509 the neural net is trained on SPCAM data. To estimate the impact of this approximation, we use the
510 same trained neural network ResCu and test it offline using SPCAM data, except replacing the
511 SPCAM values with ResCu-predicted values at past time steps for convective memory. Fig. S7
512 shows that there is some degradation in NN-predicted precipitation in the Intertropical
513 Convergence Zone, by up to 1.5 mm/day locally. While this is a significant increase in prediction
514 biases, compared to the differences between typical GCM simulations and observations, which are
515 often as much as 3 to 4 mm/day in tropical oceans (Xie et al., 2012; Kooperman et al., 2016; Rasch
516 et al. 2019), this difference is still small. Therefore, in our implementation of ResCu into CAM5,
517 we use the ResCu-predicted values at past time steps for convective memory.

518 Second, similar to Brenowitz and Bretherton (2019) and Clark et al. (2022), we ablate the

519 heating and drying rates from moist physics above the CAM5 model level close to 120 hPa from
520 the NN. The reason for doing so is that near the tropopause and above moist heating and drying
521 values in GCMs (and real world too) are very small due to low moisture content. Although the NN
522 also predicts small values, the relative errors are large, as can be seen from the low R^2 values in
523 the last section. In our initial tests without ablating the heating and drying tendencies above 120
524 hPa, these errors cause the model integration to drift due to their effects on radiation although the
525 integration remains stable.

526 For computational cost, using 200 intel CPU cores, NCAM with a 32-layer deep neural net can
527 reach 3.8 simulation years per day (SYPD), which is 10 times faster than SPCAM (0.37 SYPD),
528 but 6 times slower than the default CAM5 (23.5 SYPD). This computational speed can be
529 improved in the future since the Fortran implementation of the neural network, which contains
530 excessive use of loops, has not been optimized.

531 **5.2 Online simulation results**

532 In addition to NCAM, we also run the standard CAM5 and SPCAM for the same period for
533 comparison to put NCAM simulation in context. We succeeded in conducting a 5-yr NCAM stable
534 simulation from Jan. 1998 to Dec. 2002 without encountering any integration instability, with no
535 systematic drift in global mean total energy (Fig. S8a) and precipitable water (Fig. S8b), although
536 there are some systematic biases. We also tested all other 7 members of the ResCu-en ensemble
537 for a shorter period, and none experienced any integration instability either. Fig. 12 shows the 5-
538 year average boreal summer (June-July-August) and winter (December-January-February)
539 precipitation for TRMM 3B42 observations, SPCAM, NCAM, and CAM5, respectively.

540 Comparing against TRMM observations, NCAM can capture the major features in precipitation
541 distribution including the ITCZ and the South Pacific Convergence Zone (SPCZ) in the tropics
542 and midlatitude storm tracks. Interestingly, in the western Pacific warm pool region both SPCAM
543 and CAM5 underestimate the precipitation in JJA, a well-known problem in the NCAR model,
544 while NCAM simulation is much better. However, it underestimates precipitation over tropical
545 land compared to both TRMM observations and SPCAM/CAM5 simulations in JJA and DJF.

546 Although the simulated precipitation in NCAM is realistic, the simulated temperature and
547 moisture in high latitudes have much larger biases than those in CAM5 when compared against
548 ECMWF Reanalysis - Interim (ERA-Interim) (Dee et al., 2011) (Fig. 13 and Fig. S9). These high
549 latitude biases are probably caused by inadequate representation of cloud-radiation interaction due
550 to inconsistencies between NN-based parameterization and conventional cloud microphysics and
551 macrophysics parameterizations. For instance, cloud fraction is parameterized by a conventional
552 macrophysics scheme. Cloud water and ice number concentrations as well as snow mass and
553 number concentrations are parameterized by the conventional Morrison and Gettelman (2008)
554 cloud microphysics scheme. The mismatch between cloud ice and water contents from ResCu and
555 their number concentrations from conventional microphysics scheme will affect cloud droplet and
556 ice crystal sizes, thereby affecting cloud-radiation interaction. These issues show that there is still
557 a long way to go before NN-based parameterization can replace the conventional physics
558 parameterization schemes.

559 In offline validation, we showed that ResCu-en predicts the pdf of precipitation intensity
560 extremely well (Fig. 4). In the online simulation, the ResCu-predicted precipitation pdf is not as

561 close to that from SPCAM, as shown in Fig. 14 for tropical oceans. However, SPCAM itself
562 underestimates the occurrence frequency of precipitation intensity greater than 50 mm/day
563 compared to TRMM observations. In this regard, the ResCu-predicted precipitation pdf is actually
564 closer to TRMM observations, especially for high intensity precipitation greater than \sim 70 mm/day.
565 In comparison, CAM5 shows the well-known “too much light rain and too little heavy rain”
566 problem (Wang et al., 2016).

567 The diurnal cycle of precipitation is another rainfall characteristic that is a long-standing
568 challenge in GCMs with conventional parameterizations (Dai, 2006; Zhang, 2003; Cui et al., 2021).
569 The diurnal cycle of rainfall is characterized by the local solar time (LST) of maximum
570 precipitation of the day and the amplitude within the diurnal cycle. We calculate the annually
571 averaged diurnal cycle of rainfall at every grid point globally and then find the LST of the
572 maximum rainfall rate in the day and regard the difference between the maximum and minimum
573 rainfall rate as the amplitude. Fig. 15 shows the warm season average (June-July-August for
574 northern hemisphere and December-January-February for southern hemisphere) rainfall diurnal
575 cycle between 45°S and 45°N from the 3h TRMM 3B42 observation and hourly output from
576 SPCAM, NCAM and CAM5 simulations, respectively. In CAM5, as in many other GCMs, the
577 simulated warm-season precipitation peaks 4-6 h earlier than observations over land and 2-4 h
578 earlier over oceans (Dai, 2006), as shown in Fig. 15a and 15d. SPCAM only manages to mitigate
579 this delay in some ocean areas (visually below 40%), while similar effects are not observed over
580 land (Fig. 15b). However, NCAM alleviates the early precipitation problem remarkably by
581 delaying the peak time by 2-4 h over tropical land areas and by 2 h over 50% of the ocean areas

582 (Fig. 15c). Moreover, the amplitude of the diurnal cycle over land in most models is weak
583 compared with observations (Dai, 2006, Xie et al. 2019). In CAM5, the amplitude over tropical
584 land area is less than half of that in TRMM observations (Fig. 15e, h). Both SPCAM and NCAM
585 increase the amplitude by a factor of 2 in many tropical land regions (Fig. 15f, g).

586 **6. Summary and Discussions**

587 This study extends the work of Han et al. (2020) by using an ensemble of 8 neural networks
588 (ResCu-en) to account for the random errors inherent in the NN configuration. The depth of the
589 NN is also increased from 22 layers to 32 layers to improve the accuracy of the predictions, with
590 a batch-normalization layer added after each convolution layer for more robustness. The sampling
591 strategy of the training data is also improved by selecting 800 model grid columns randomly over
592 the globe every day in the SPCAM simulation instead of taking data from 800 fixed model grid
593 columns distributed over the globe. Therefore, ResCu-en has a stronger nonlinear fitting capability
594 from more layers, with reduced uncertainties from the ensemble mean.

595 In the independent offline test, ResCu-en reproduces all four output variables and the derived
596 precipitation with smaller biases and higher R^2 than ResCu in H20. ResCu-en can also reproduce
597 accurately the SPCAM's rainfall frequency distribution. To assess the ability of ResCu-en trained
598 on data from current climate to emulate convection in a warmer climate, we evaluated ResCu-en
599 in a +4K SST simulation using SPCAM. ResCu-en has an excellent generalizability to a warmer
600 climate when tested offline, with performance in predictions in a warmer climate comparable to
601 that for the current climate. It reproduces very well the precipitation intensity increase and the
602 occurrence frequency shift toward heavier rainfall over oceans.

603 To understand what factors contribute to the strong generalization capability to warm climates,
604 we conducted a series of tests on input variables and NN architectures that are used in ResCu-en.
605 It is found that the use of convective memory as input variables is the most important factor
606 contributing to ResCu-en's generalization capability, as demonstrated in both deep convolutional
607 NNs and fully connected NNs. Under the framework of ResCu-en, among the NN architectures
608 we tested, 1D convolutional layers were found to be the most important, while residual shortcuts
609 improved accuracy in both current and warm climates. On the other hand, batch normalization did
610 not have a significant impact on generalization. Fully connected NNs performed relatively poorly
611 on generalization, but their performance can be improved by deepening and widening the NNs or
612 by adding a moist static energy conservation penalty to the loss function.

613 The success of ResCu-en highlights the importance of incorporating convective memory into
614 machine-learning-based parameterization schemes. Several previous studies have noticed the role
615 of convective memory in the prediction of convection. They range from simple theories and toy
616 model simulations (Davies et al., 2009, Colin & Sherwood, 2021) to detailed simulations with
617 CRMs (Muller & Bony, 2015; Colin et al., 2019). In an NN-based parameterization, Shamekh et
618 al. (2022) explored the impact of convective organization and memory on precipitation intensities
619 and extremes.

620 We further implemented a member of ResCu-en into CAM5 with real-world geography,
621 referred to as NCAM, and ran it successfully for 5 years without encountering any model
622 integration stability issue. The simulated 5-year mean precipitation captures the major features of
623 the global precipitation distribution, including the ITCZ in the tropics and the storm tracks in

624 midlatitudes. However, NCAM underestimates precipitation over land and have large biases in
625 temperature and moisture in high latitudes.

626 NCAM also produces a frequency distribution of precipitation intensity that is closer to TRMM
627 observations than CAM5, with significantly less bias in underestimating heavy precipitation.
628 Additionally, NCAM improves the diurnal cycle of precipitation in CAM5 by delaying the peak
629 time and increasing the diurnal amplitude. All these online simulation results show that our NN-
630 based parameterization is promising for use in future simulations for both current climate and
631 future climate projection studies. However, before this is possible, we must address the issues of
632 large biases in high latitudes, which were also noticed in previous studies. Furthermore,
633 conventional convection and cloud parameterization schemes output many more parameters that
634 NN-based parameterizations do not provide, such as cloud droplet and ice crystal numbers, as well
635 as snow and graupel mass and number concentrations. These variables are needed for aerosol-
636 cloud-radiation interactions and cloud feedbacks that are fundamentally important for climate
637 projection studies. Therefore, much more work is needed before it is feasible for NN-based
638 parameterizations to fully replace physically based parameterizations in GCMs.

639

640 OPEN RESEARCH

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642 Data Availability Statement

643 The data and neural network codes used in this study (Han et al., 2023) are available via Creative
644 CC-BY-4.0 license from the public data repository (<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.8228408>).

645

646 Software Availability Statement

647 ResCu-en is developed based on TensorFlow v2.3 (Abadi et al., 2015), available from
648 <https://github.com/tensorflow/tensorflow/releases/tag/v2.3.0>; All statistics are analyzed using

649 Numpy (Harris et al., 2020) with the repository of <https://github.com/numpy/numpy>; All Figures
650 are plotted using Matplotlib (Hunter, 2007) from <https://github.com/matplotlib/matplotlib>, and
651 Cartopy (Met Office, 2010-2015).

652

653

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871

872 **Tables and Figure Captions:**

873

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897 is for oceans. The TRMM 3B42 rainfall product (green solid line) is included for reference. The
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917 in the current climate (top row) and the +4K SST warm climates (bottom row): (a and b) ResCu-
918 en, (c and d) ResCu-t0-ls, (e and f) DNN-mem, and DNN-t0-ls (g and h). Note that ResCu-en and
919 DNN-mem are trained with full input variables including convective memory, while ResCu-t0-ls
920 and ResCu-t0-ls are only trained on input variables of T , q_v , $dT_{l.s.}$, and $dq_{v\ l.s.}$ at current timestep.

921

922 Figure 10. Same as Figure 9 but for the deep NNs trained on full input variables including
923 convective memory: (a and b) ResCu, (c and d) ResCNN, which is ResCu without batch
924 normalization, (e and f) CNN, which is ResCu without batch normalization or residual shortcuts,
925 and (i and j) ResDNN, which is ResCu without batch normalization or convolution layers.

926

927 Figure 11. Same as Figure 9 but for fully connected NNs only trained on input variables of T and
928 q_v at current timestep: (a and b) DNN-10, (c and d) DNN-7, and (e and f) DNN-7-nc without moist
929 static energy conservation.

930

931 Figure 12. Global distribution of temporal mean precipitation rate (mm/day) in June-July-August
932 (the left panels) and December-January-Feburary (the right panels) over the years of 1998 to 2002
933 for (a and b) TRMM 3B42, (c and d) NCAM, and (e and f) CAM5. The spatial mean and root
934 mean square error to the TRMM 3B42 observations are shown above each frame.

935

936 Figure 13. Latitude-pressure cross sections of annual and zonal average temperature (left) and
937 specific humidity (right) over years 1998 to 2002 for (a and b) ERA-Interim, (c and d) NCAM,
938 and (e and f) CAM5. The root mean square error to ERA-Interim reanalysis is shown above each
939 frame from (c) to (f).

940

941 Figure 14. Probability density distribution of the daily mean precipitation in the tropics ($20^\circ S$ –
942 $20^\circ N$) over oceans from the three model simulations and the TRMM 3B42 daily product. The

943 black, blue, red and green solid lines are for SPCAM, NNCAM, CAM5, and TRMM 3B42,
944 respectively.

945

946 Figure 15. Tropical distribution of warm season averaged diurnal peak time (a) to (d) and
947 amplitude (e) to (h) of the diurnal cycle of precipitation (mm day^{-1}) derived from observations
948 from hourly data of (a and e) TRMM 3B42, (b and f) SPCAM, (c and g) NCAM, and (d and h)
949 CAM5. In (a) to (c), areas with precipitation less than 1mm/day are masked. The warm season is
950 defined as June-July-August (JJA) for Northern Hemisphere and December–January–February
951 (DJF) for Southern Hemisphere, respectively. The thick black line marks the equator, where the
952 warm season is undefined.

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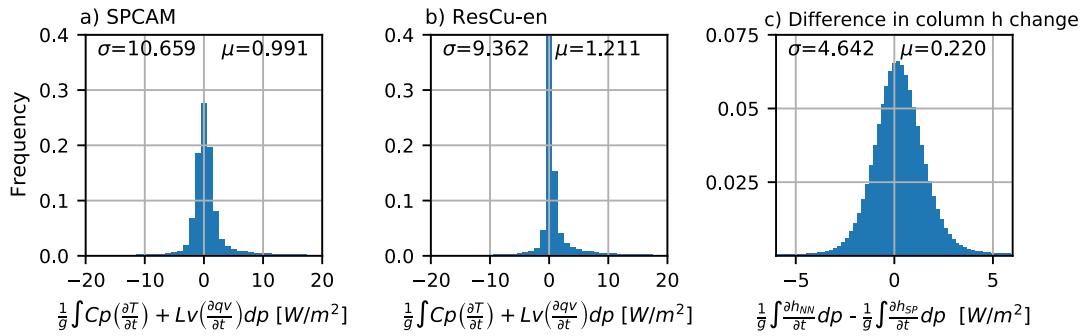
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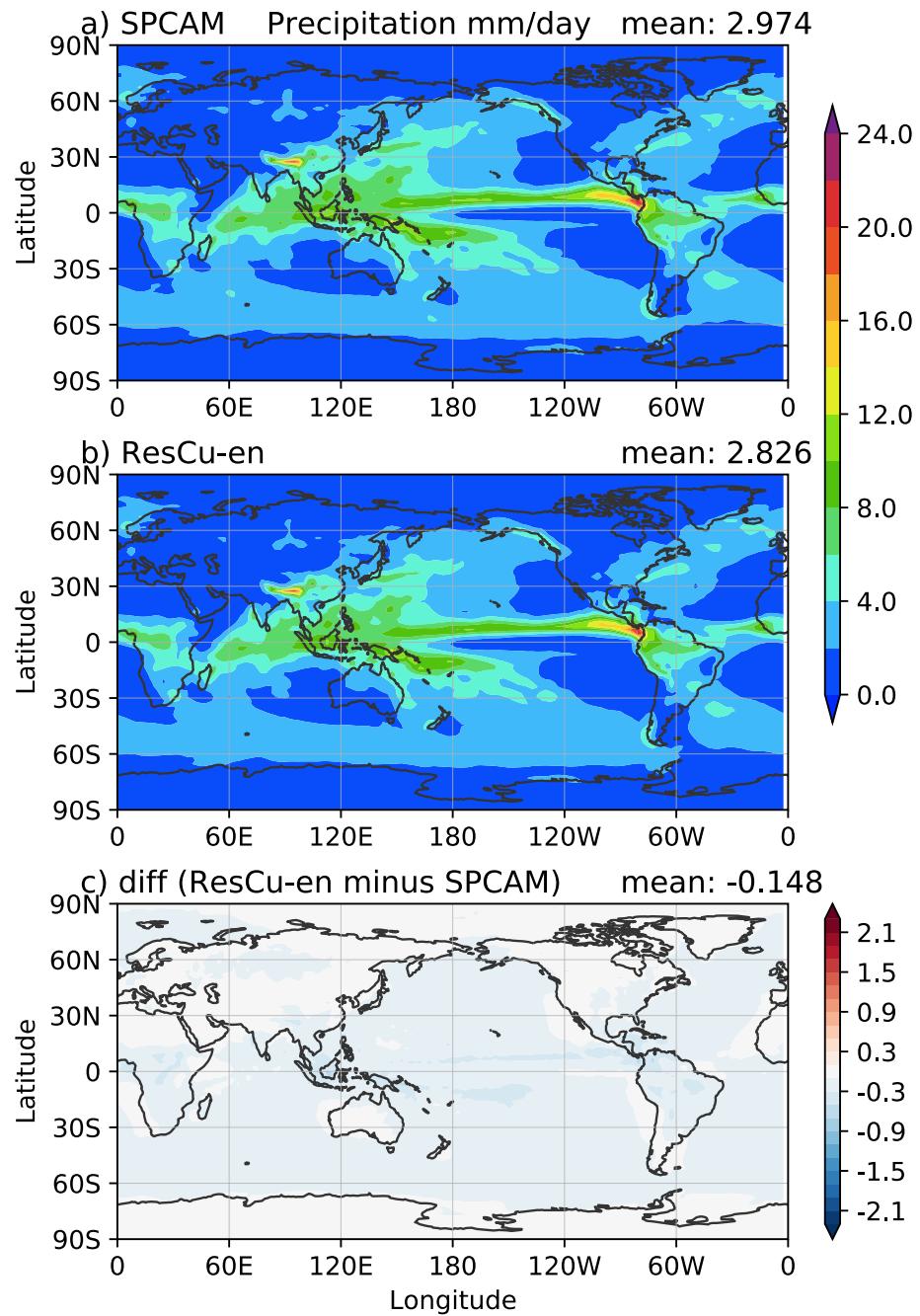
	1D Convolution Layers	Fully- connected Layers	Residual Shortcuts	Batch- Normalization	Convective Memory Inputs	MSE Penalty in Loss Function
ResCu-t0- ls	32 layers of 128 3x1 kernels	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
DNN- mem	No	10 layers of 512 nodes	No	No	Yes	Yes
DNN-t0- ls	No	10 layers of 512 nodes	No	No	No	Yes
ResCu	32 layers of 128 3x1 kernels	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
ResCNN	32 layers of 128 3x1 kernels	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
CNN	32 layers of 128 3x1 kernels	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
ResDNN	No	32 layers of 512 nodes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
DNN-10	No	10 layers of 512 nodes	No	No	No	Yes
DNN-7	No	7 layers of 128 nodes	No	No	No	Yes
DNN-7- nc	No	7 layers of 128 nodes	No	No	No	No

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965 energy change for (a) SPCAM, (b) ResCu-en, and (c) the differences between prediction from
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967 each PDF are shown at the top of each plot.
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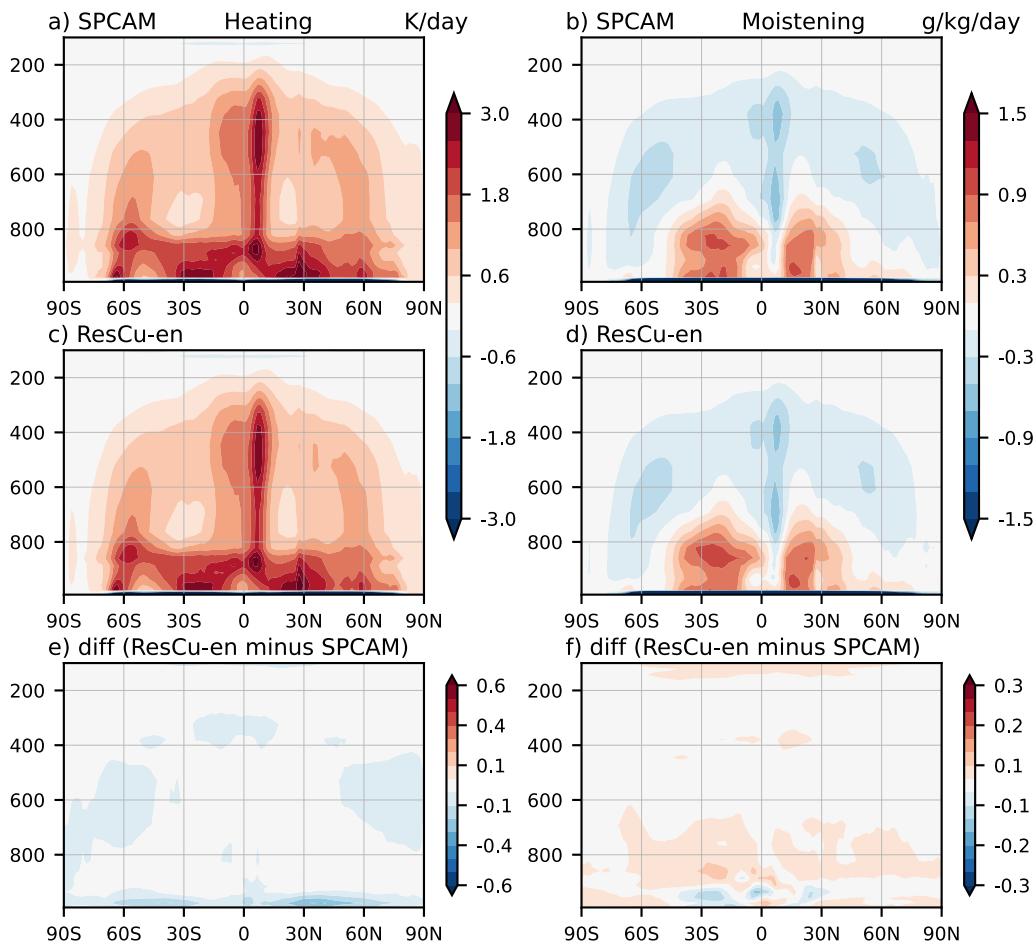
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 973 SPCAM). Note that the color intervals for the differences is 5% of that for the mean to provide a
 974 better visualization of the differences.

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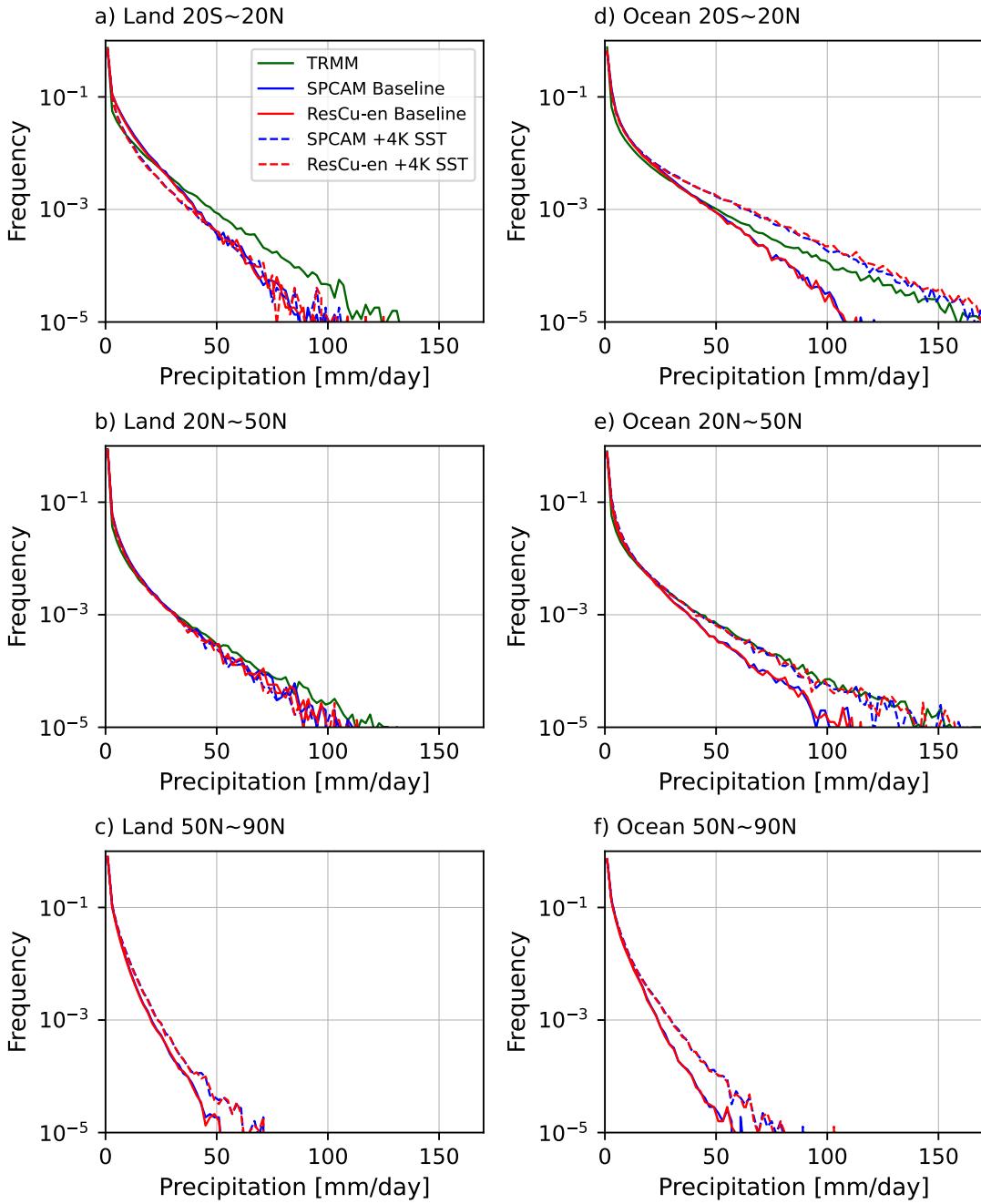
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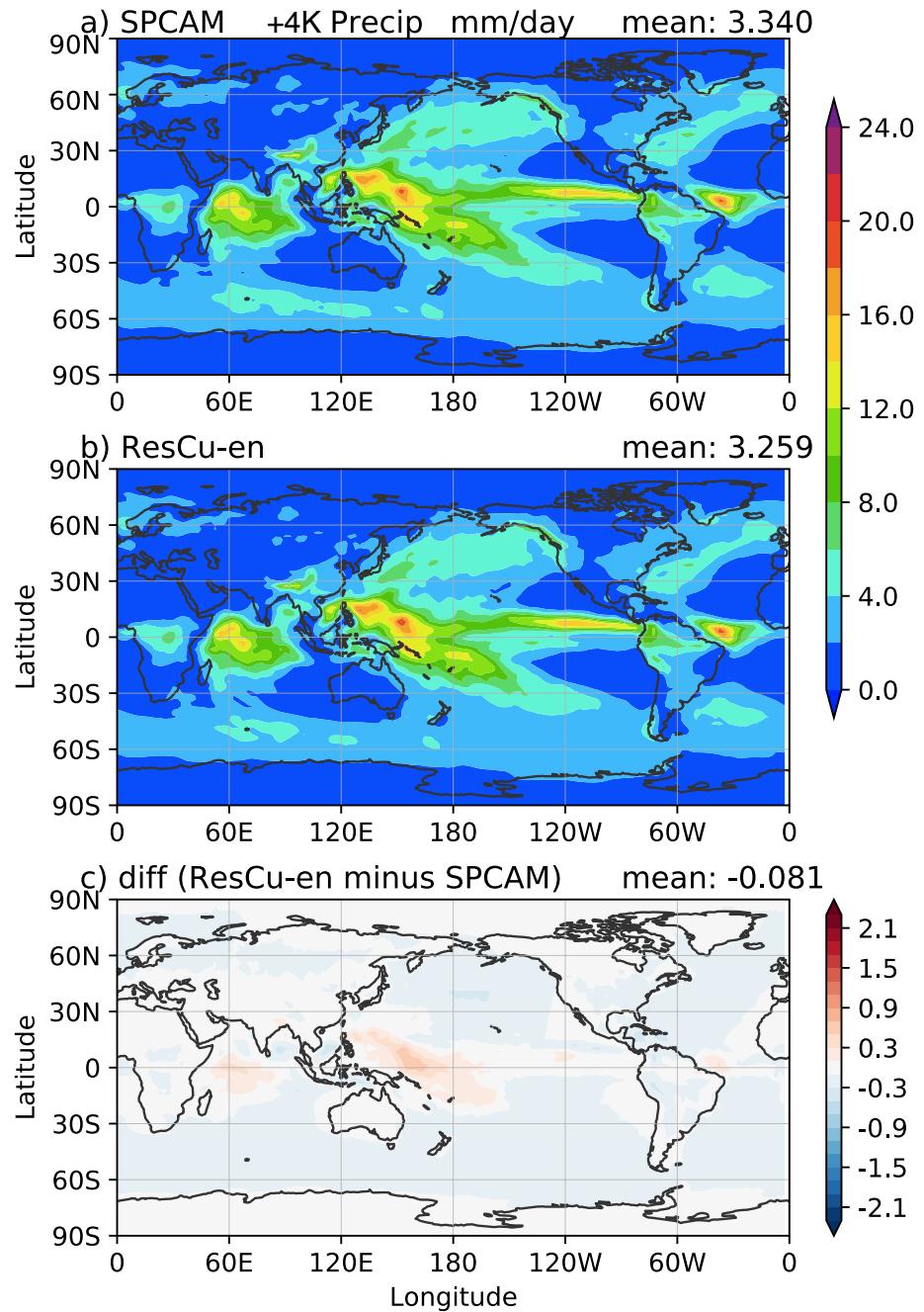
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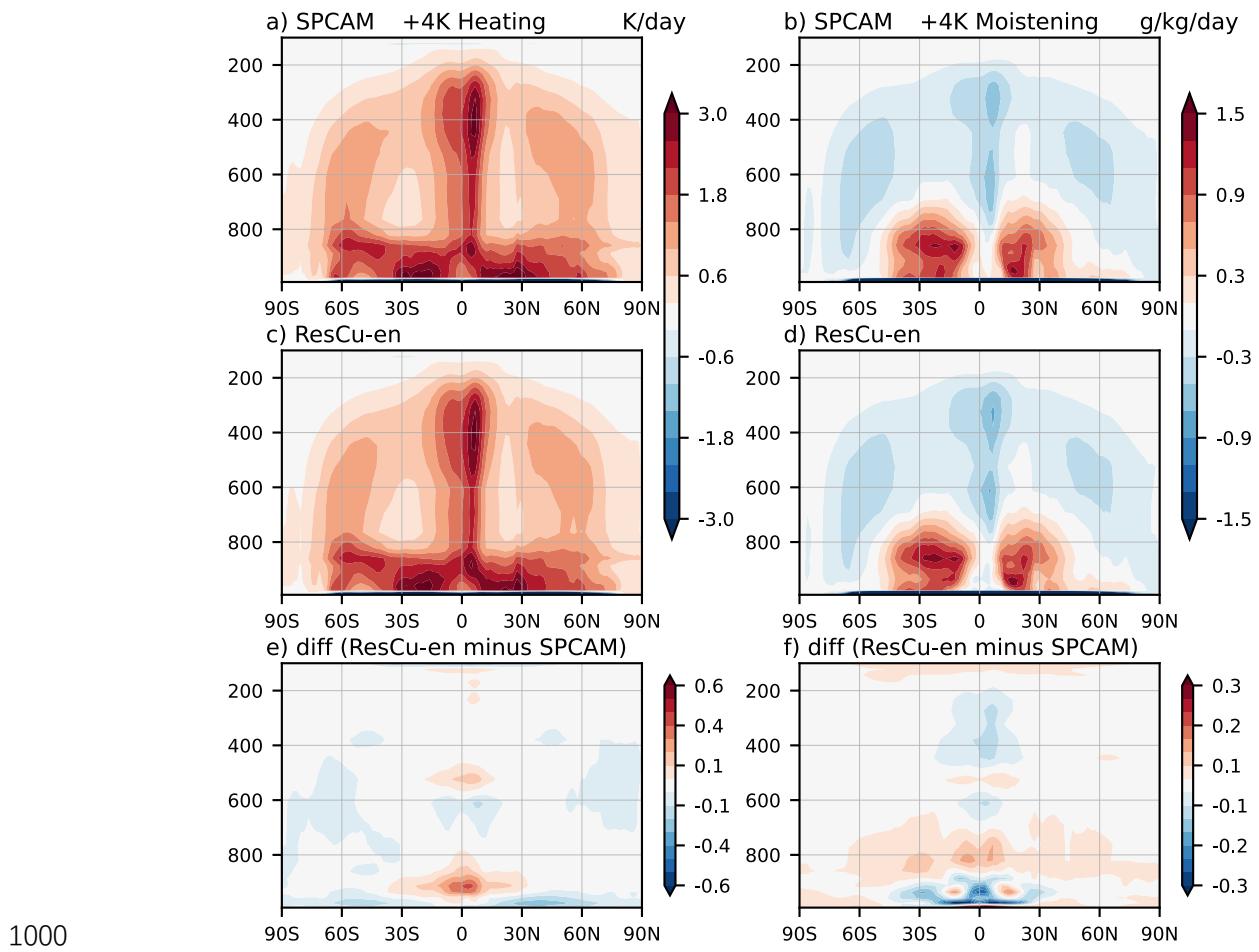
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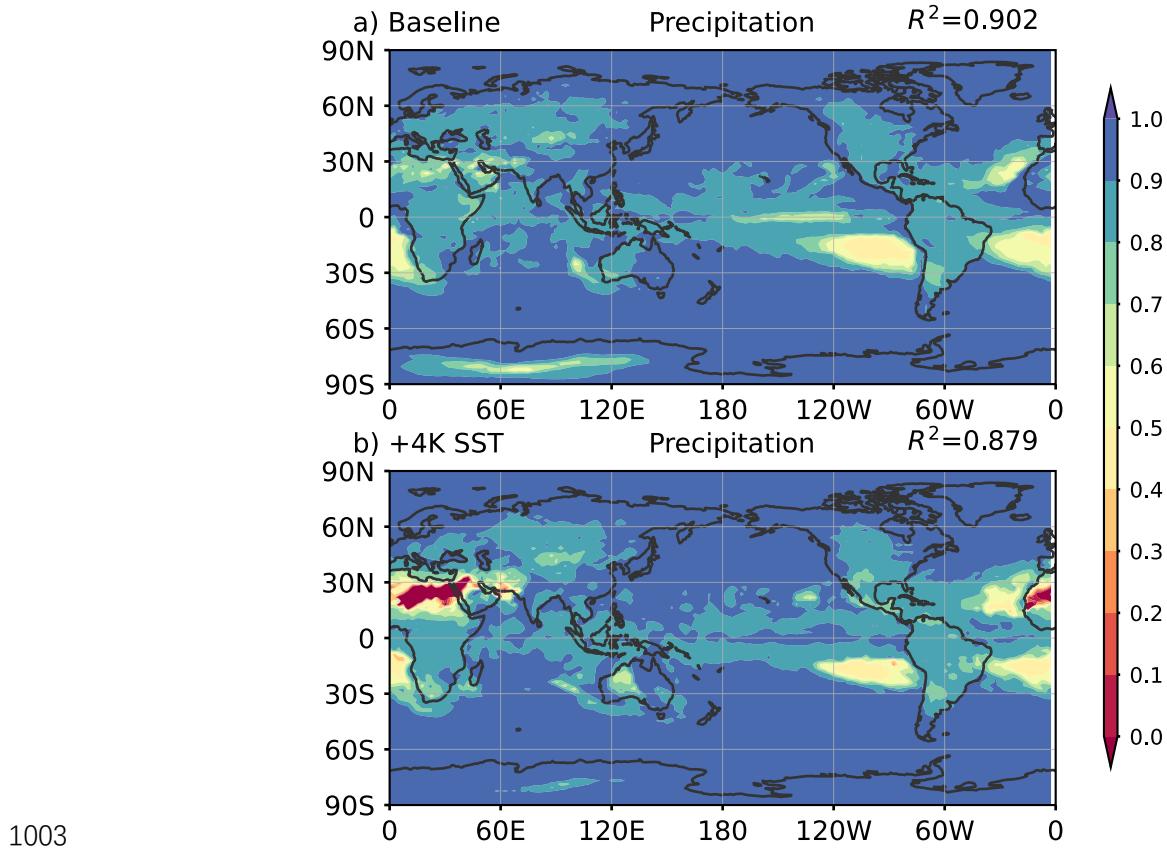
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Figure 5. Same as Figure 2 but for the warm climate with 4K increase in SST.

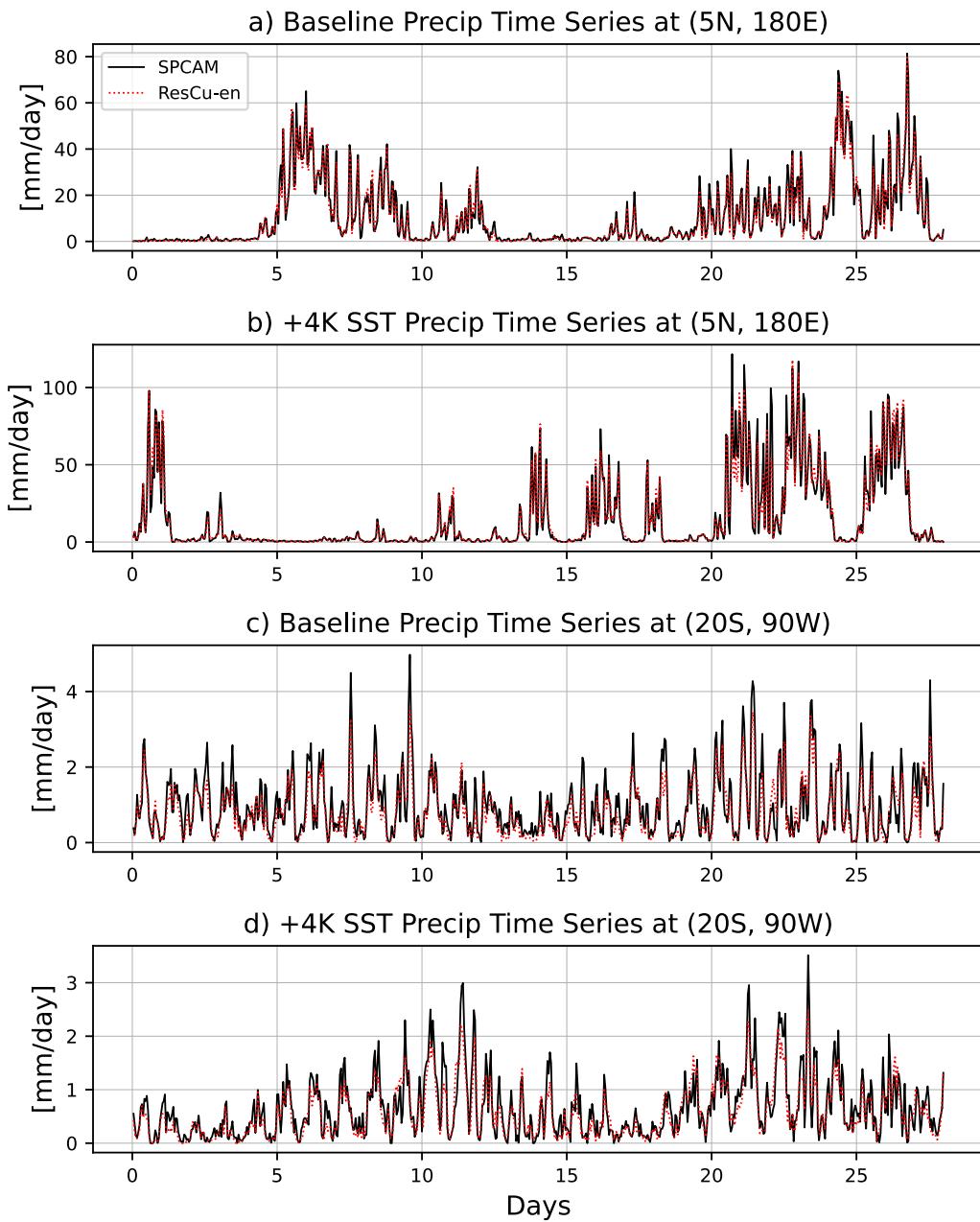


1001 Figure 6. Same as Figure 3 but for the warm climate with 4K increase in SST.

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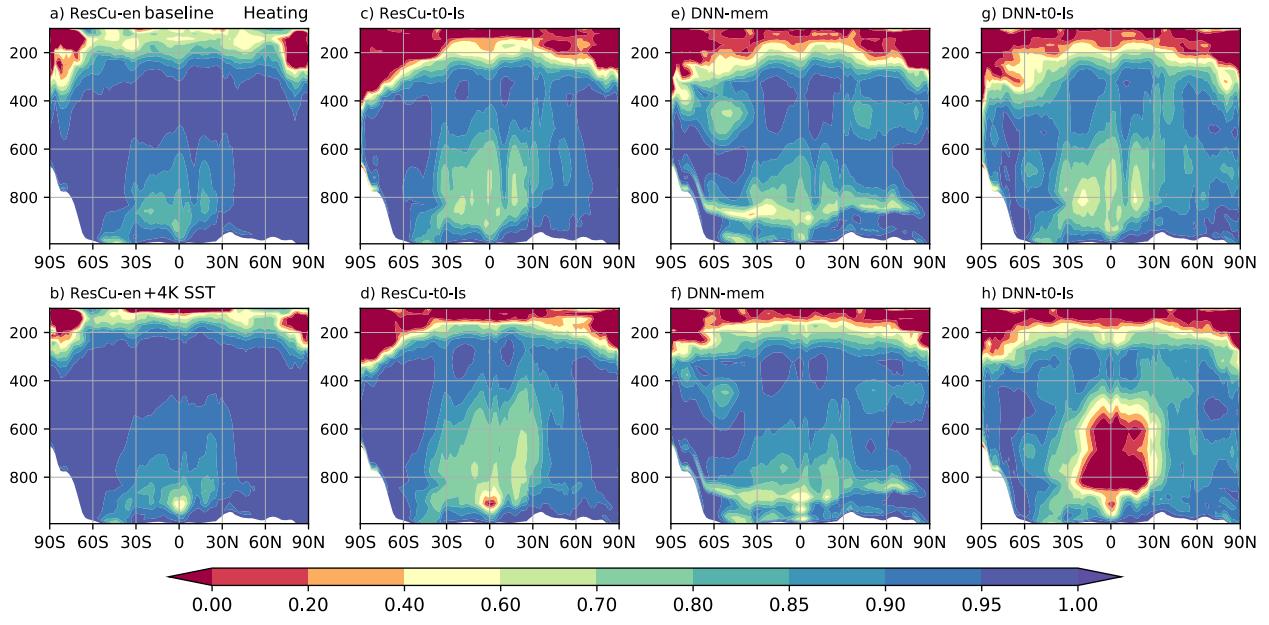


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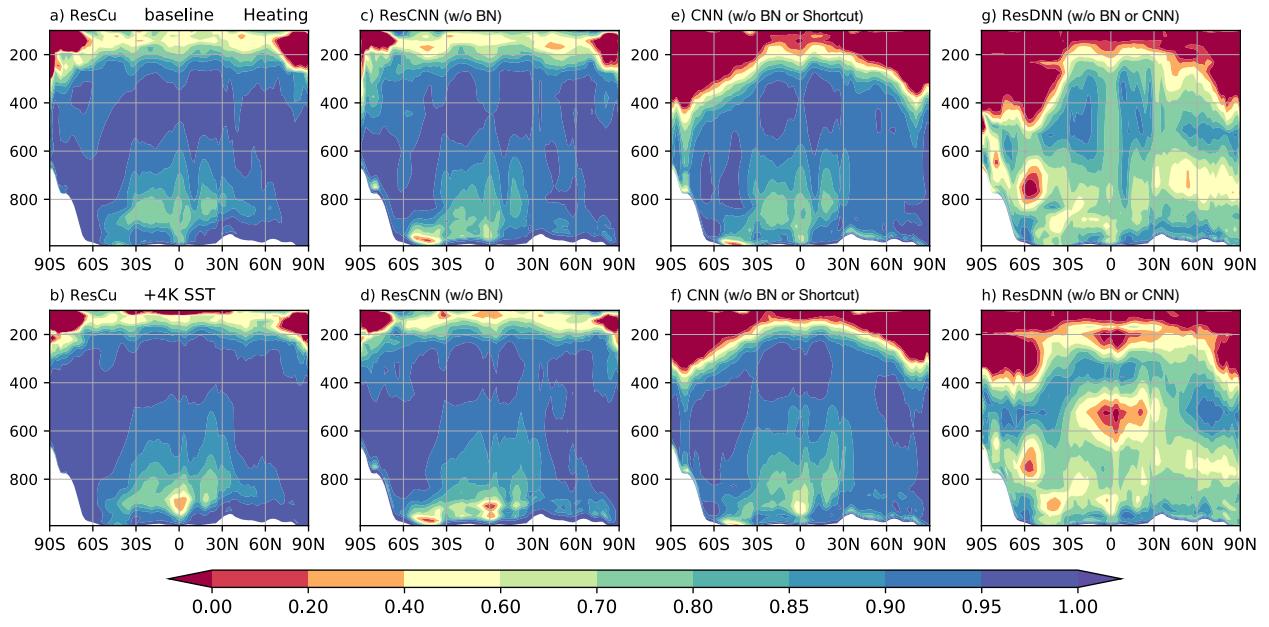
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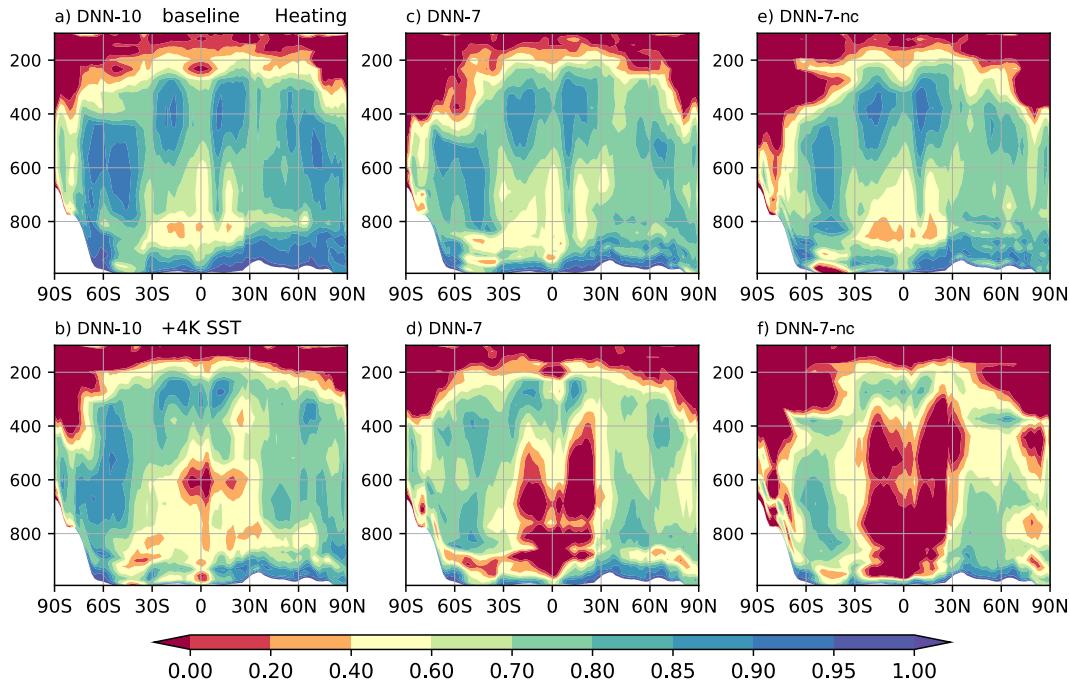
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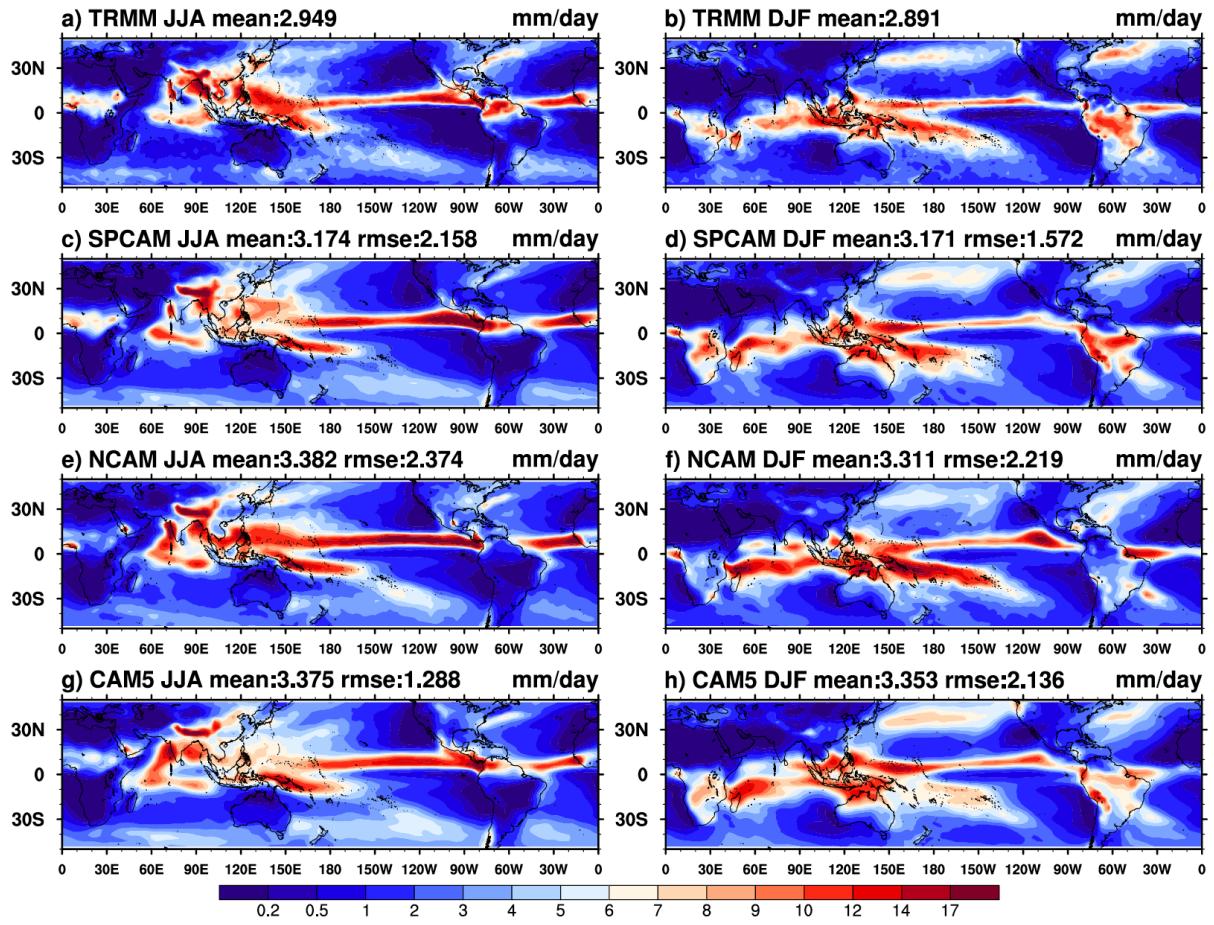
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1028 Figure 10. Same as Figure 9 but for the deep NNs trained on full input variables including
1029 convective memory: (a and b) ResCu, (c and d) ResCNN, which is ResCu without batch
1030 normalization, (e and f) CNN, which is ResCu without batch normalization or residual shortcuts,
1031 and (g and h) ResDNN, which is ResCu without batch normalization or convolution layers.
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1036 Figure 11. Same as Figure 9 but for fully connected NNs only trained on input variables of T and
 1037 q_v at current timestep: (a and b) DNN-10, (c and d) DNN-7, and (e and f) DNN-7-nc without moist
 1038 static energy conservation.

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1041 Figure 12. Global distribution of temporal mean precipitation rate (mm/day) in June-July-August
1042 (the left panels) and December-January-February (the right panels) over the years of 1998 to 2002
1043 for (a and b) TRMM 3B42, (c and d) NCAM, and (e and f) CAM5. The spatial mean and root
1044 mean square error to the TRMM 3B42 observations are shown above each frame.
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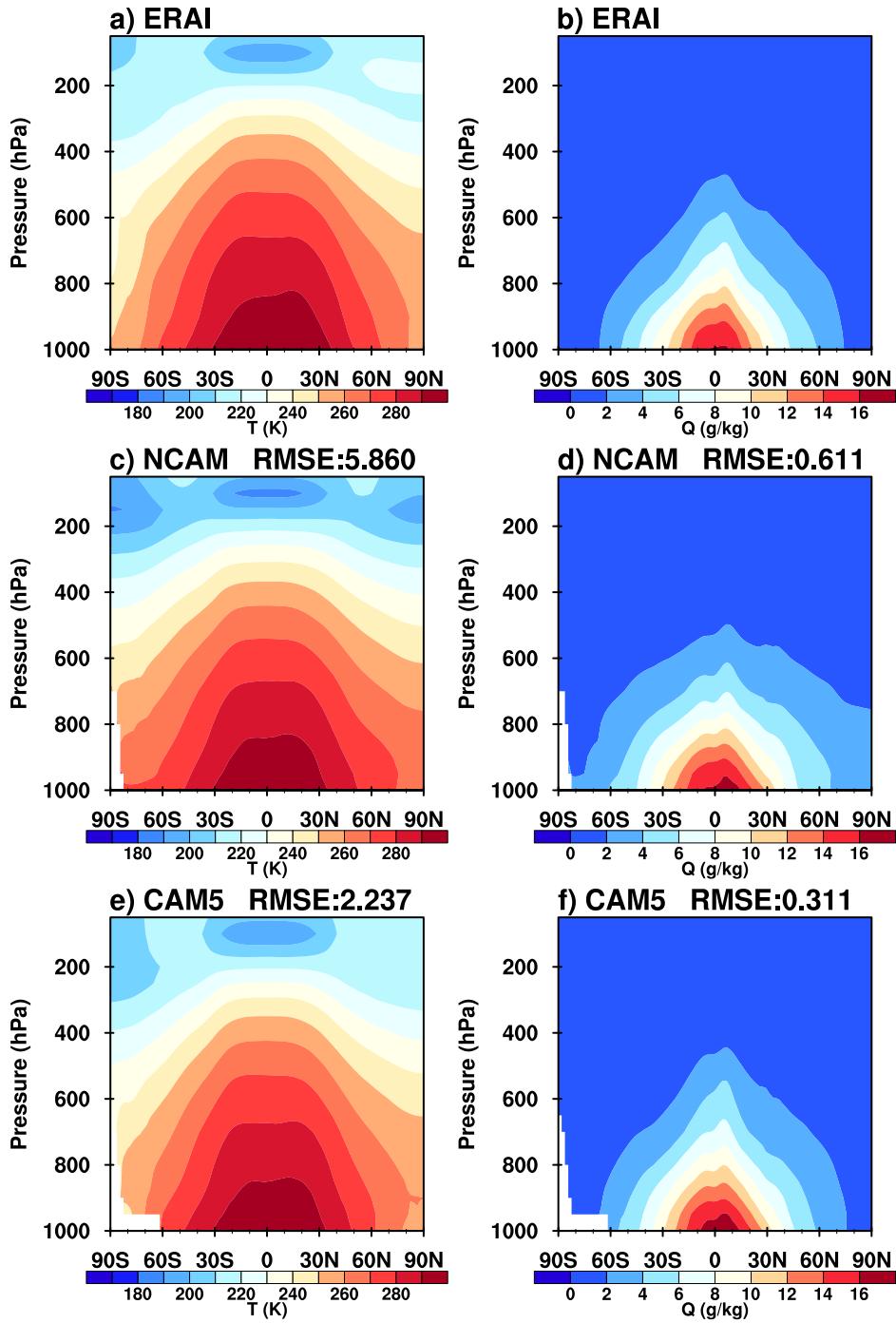
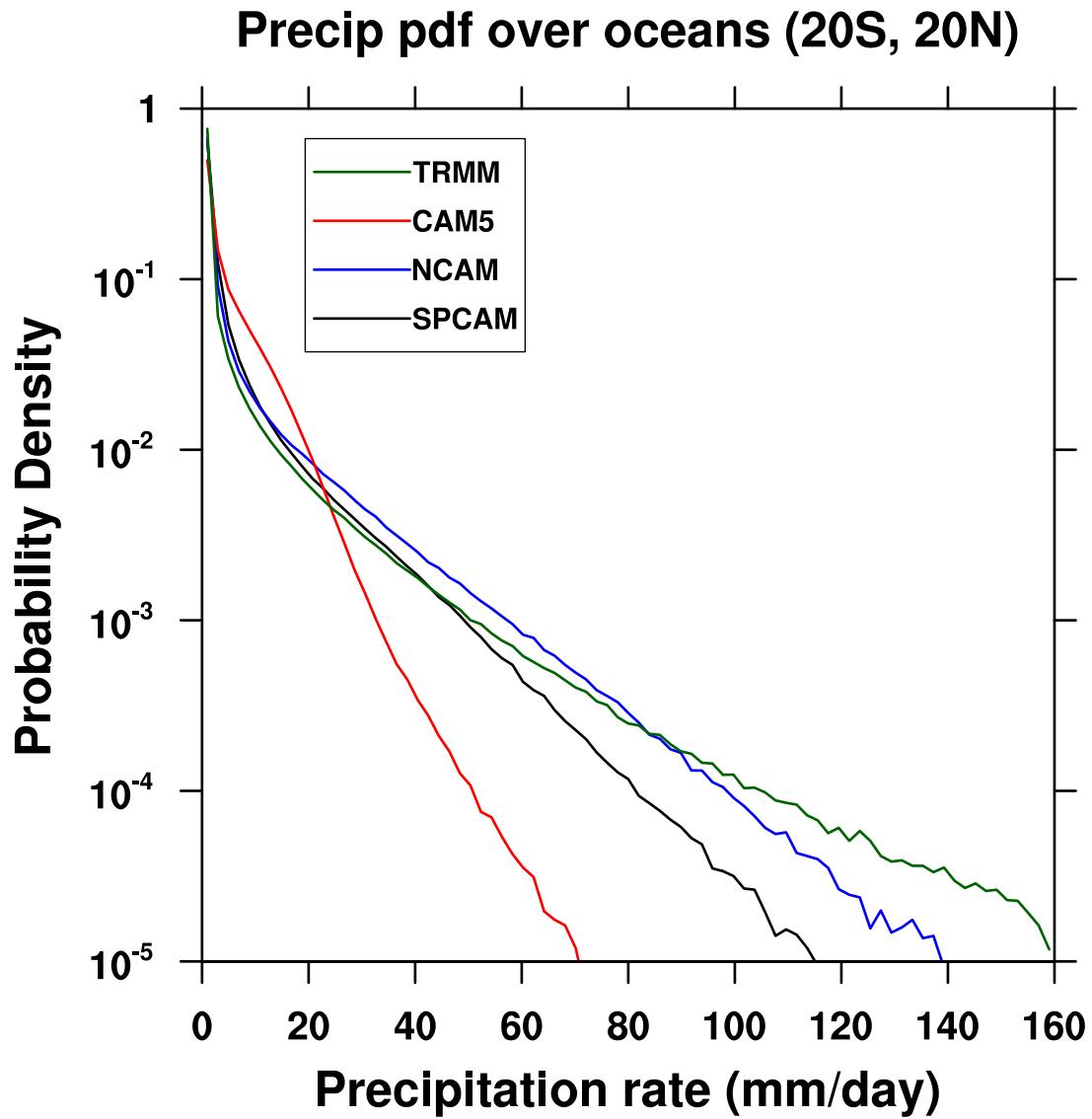


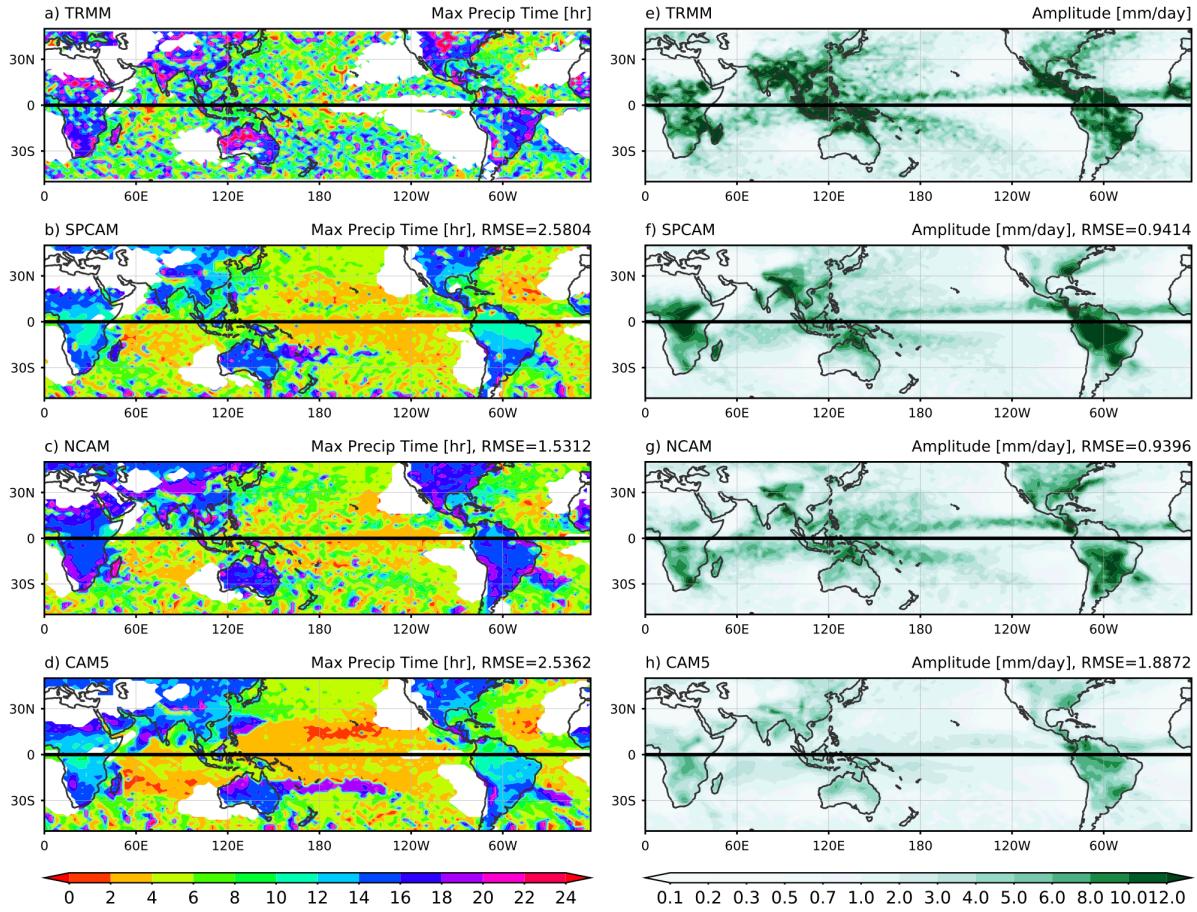
Figure 13. Latitude-pressure cross sections of annual and zonal average temperature (left) and specific humidity (right) over years 1998 to 2002 for (a and b) ERA-Interim, (c and d) NCAM, and (e and f) CAM5. The root mean square error to ERA-Interim reanalysis is shown above each frame from (c) to (f).

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Figure 14. Probability density distribution of the daily mean precipitation in the tropics ($20^{\circ}\text{S} - 20^{\circ}\text{N}$) over oceans from the three model simulations and the TRMM 3B42 daily product. The black, blue, red and green solid lines are for SPCAM, NNCAM, CAM5, and TRMM 3B42, respectively.



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1063 Figure 15. Tropical distribution of warm season averaged diurnal peak time (a) to (d) and
1064 amplitude (e) to (h) of the diurnal cycle of precipitation (mm day^{-1}) derived from observations
1065 from hourly data of (a and e) TRMM 3B42, (b and f) SPCAM, (c and g) NCAM, and (d and h)
1066 CAM5. In (a) to (c), areas with precipitation less than 1mm/day are masked. The warm season is
1067 defined as June-July-August (JJA) for Northern Hemisphere and December–January–February
1068 (DJF) for Southern Hemisphere, respectively. The thick black line marks the equator, where the
1069 warm season is undefined.
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