Greenhouse Warming Reduces Global Energy Conversion into Oceanic Lee Waves

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Abstract

Oceanic lee waves play an important role in dissipating wind-driven ocean circulations and powering turbulent diapycnal mixing. Here we investigate impacts of the greenhouse warming on global energy conversion into lee waves using a linear theory of lee wave generation and output from a high-resolution $(0.1^{\circ} \text{ for the ocean})$ coupled global climate model. The global energy conversion rate into lee waves under the historical (1930s) climate condition is estimated to be 193.0 ± 3.0 GW. Under the high carbon emission scenario, this conversion rate is projected to decrease by about 20% by the end of 21st century, due to weakened bottom large-scale mean flows, mesoscale eddies and stratification. The decrease of the conversion rate is widespread and particularly pronounced in the Gulf Stream and Drake Passage. Our results suggest significant response of oceanic lee waves to the greenhouse warming, with implications for future changes of global ocean circulations and climate.

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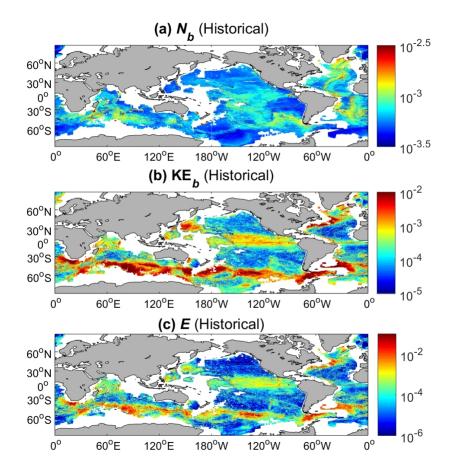
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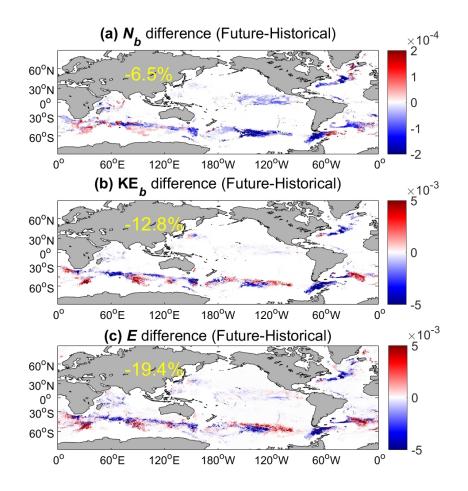
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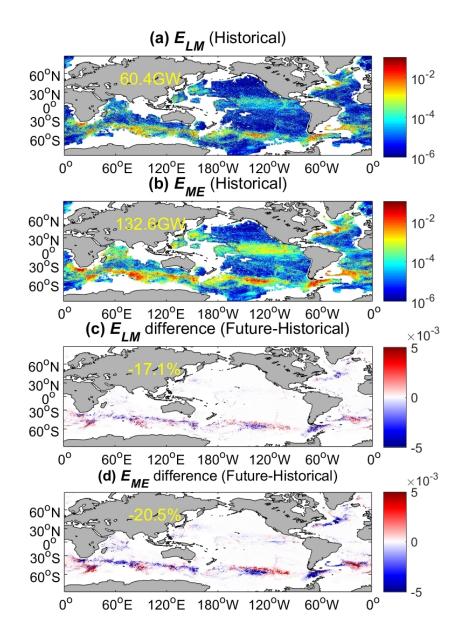
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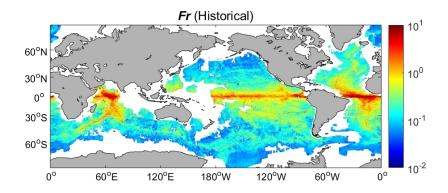
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15	Key Points:		
16 17	• The response of energy conversion into lee waves to greenhouse warming is investigated with a high-resolution coupled global climate model.		
18 19	• Lee wave conversion rate is projected to decrease by ~20% by the end of 21 st century under the high carbon emission scenario.		
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40	This decrease is attributed to the weakened bottom large-scale flows, mesoscale eddies and stratification.		

41 Abstract

42 Oceanic lee waves play an important role in dissipating wind-driven ocean circulations and

43 powering turbulent diapycnal mixing. Here we investigate impacts of the greenhouse warming

44 on global energy conversion into lee waves using a linear theory of lee wave generation and

output from a high-resolution $(0.1^{\circ}$ for the ocean) coupled global climate model. The global

46 energy conversion rate into lee waves under the historical (1930s) climate condition is estimated

to be 193.0 ± 3.0 GW. Under the high carbon emission scenario, this conversion rate is projected to decrease by about 20% by the end of 21^{st} century, due to weakened bottom large-scale mean

flows, mesoscale eddies and stratification. The decrease of the conversion rate is widespread and

50 particularly pronounced in the Gulf Stream and Drake Passage. Our results suggest significant

⁵¹ response of oceanic lee waves to the greenhouse warming, with implications for future changes

52 of global ocean circulations and climate.

53

54 Plain Language Summary

55 Oceanic lee waves, a kind of stationary internal gravity waves, are generated when bottom flows

impinge on small-scale uneven topography. They provide an energy pathway from wind-driven

57 large-scale circulations to microscale turbulent mixing. Theories predict that the energy

conversion into lee waves depends on the stratification and flow speed near the sea floor, both of

59 which are likely to weaken under the greenhouse warming. In this study, we use a high-

⁶⁰ resolution coupled global climate model to estimate the response of global energy conversion

61 into lee waves to the greenhouse warming. Our results show that, under the high carbon emission 62 scenario, the global energy conversion into lee waves at the end of the 21st century will decrease

by 20% compared to its level in the 1930s. This decrease in the energy conversion has important

64 implications for future changes of global ocean circulations and climate.

65

66 **1 Introduction**

Oceanic lee waves are generated via the interactions of bottom geostrophic flows with small-scale topography characterized by wavelengths typically ranging from 0.1 to 10.0 km (Bell, 1975a, b). These waves can extract energy from the geostrophic flows and radiate upward into the ocean interior. When lee waves break due to the wave-wave interactions or shear instability, the energy extracted from the geostrophic flows is dissipated and a fraction of it is

converted into ocean turbulent diapycnal mixing (e.g., Nikurashin et al., 2013).

The global energy conversion rate from geostrophic flows into lee waves is estimated to 73 range from 0.2 to 0.75 TW, depending on the datasets and methods for estimation (Nikurashin & 74 Ferrari, 2011; Scott et al., 2011; Wright et al., 2014). Despite the large difference of overall 75 magnitude of the energy conversion rate, its geographical distribution is consistent across these 76 studies, with the Southern Ocean (SO) playing a dominant role. In view that the global wind 77 work into the surface geostrophic currents is estimated to be around 1 TW (Wunsch, 1999), the 78 79 generation of lee waves could be an important energy sink for wind-driven ocean circulations and a source for deep-ocean turbulent diapycnal mixing (Munk & Wunsch, 1998; Wunsch & 80

Ferrari, 2004). Several studies based on observations (Brearley et al., 2013; Clément et al., 2016; Cusack et al., 2017; Evans et al., 2020; Hu et al., 2020; Meyer et al., 2016) and numerical models (Trossman et al., 2013; Trossman et al., 2016; Melet et al., 2014; Nikurashin et al., 2013; Yang
et al., 2021; Yang et al., 2022; Yang et al., 2023b) have highlighted the important role of lee
waves in regulating the ocean energetics, powering turbulent diapycnal mixing, which in turn
impacts the global climate system. Understanding the response of lee wave generation to the

greenhouse warming is thus important for accurately predicting future climate changes.

88 Melet et al. (2015) investigated the changes of global energy conversion rate into lee

waves under different warming scenarios using the linear theory (Bell, 1975a, b) and a coarse resolution coupled global climate model (CGCM). They reported that the global energy

conversion rate into lee waves is projected to decrease by about 20% by the end of the 22^{nd}

92 century under a high carbon emission scenario mainly due to the weakening of the model-

resolved large-scale mean flows near the sea floor. However, the oceanic resolution of their

94 CGCM, i.e., 1°, is insufficient to resolve the ocean mesoscale eddies that make dominant

95 contribution to the total kinetic energy of the geostrophic flows (Ferrari & Wunsch, 2009). The 96 parameterization they used to estimate the unresolved mesoscale eddy velocity relies on some

arbitrary parameter choices in the mesoscale energy closure (Eden & Greatbatch, 2008; Marshall

& Adcroft, 2010), which causes uncertainties in their estimated global energy conversion rate

99 into lee waves and its future change.

In this study, we evaluate the response of the global energy conversion into lee waves to the greenhouse warming using an eddy-resolving $(0.1^{\circ}$ for the ocean) Community Earth System Model (hereinafter CESM-HR for short; Chang et al., 2020). The paper is organized as follows. Section 2 describes the linear theory of lee wave generation and the configurations of the CESM-HR. In Section 3, we compare the energy conversion rates into lee waves in the historical period (1930-1934) and in the end of the 21^{st} century under the high carbon emission scenario, and analyze the factors responsible for the changes of the energy conversion rate. Effects of the

107 Froud number are discussed in Section 4 followed by a summary in Section 5.

108 2 Methodology

109 2.1. Linear theory of lee wave generation

In the case of sub-critical topography where slope of ocean topography is smaller than slope of radiating lee waves, the energy conversion rate from geostrophic flows into lee waves Ecan be derived from the linear theory (Bell, 1975a, b):

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$$E = \frac{\rho_0}{4\pi^2} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} P(k,l) \frac{(\mathbf{U}_b \cdot \mathbf{k})}{|\mathbf{k}|} \sqrt{N_b^2 - (\mathbf{U}_b \cdot \mathbf{k})^2} \cdot \sqrt{(\mathbf{U}_b \cdot \mathbf{k})^2 - f^2} dk dl, \qquad (1)$$

114 where ρ_0 is the reference density, $\mathbf{k} = (k, l)$ is the horizontal wavenumber, P(k, l) is the two-

115 dimensional topographic spectrum, N_b and \mathbf{U}_b are the bottom stratification (buoyancy

116 frequency) and bottom velocity, and f is the Coriolis frequency.

Eq. (1) is applicable only to the sub-critical topography. To account for the saturation of $E_{\rm subscription}$ for the subscription of $E_{\rm subscription}$ is a subscription of $E_{\rm subscription}$ in Eq. (1) is

118 *E* over the super-critical topography (Nikurashin & Ferrari, 2010), the value of *E* in Eq. (1) is 119 multiplied by a factor of $(Fr_c/Fr)^2$ for $Fr > Fr_c$, where $Fr = N_b h/U_b$ is the Froude number with *h*

multiplied by a factor of $(Fr_c/Fr)^2$ for $Fr > Fr_c$, where $Fr = N_b h/U_b$ is the Froude number with the root-mean-squared height of the small-scale topography and Fr_c is the critical Froude

the root-mean-squared height of the small-scale topography and Fr_c is the critical Froude number. In this study, Fr_c is set as 0.5 following Aguilar and Sutherland (2006), but other values

122 of Fr_c (0.4 and 0.75) are also adopted to test the influences of Fr_c on the future change of E.

123 2.2. Topographic spectrum

124 The topographic spectrum model proposed by Goff and Jordan (1988) is used to 125 represent the small-scale topographic features:

126
$$P(k,l) = \frac{2\pi H^2(\mu-2)}{k_0 l_0} \left[1 + \frac{k^2}{k_0^2} \cos^2(\phi - \phi_0) + \frac{l^2}{l_0^2} \sin^2(\phi - \phi_0) \right]^{-\mu/2}, \quad (2)$$

where H^2 is the variance of the full topographic height, μ is the roll-off slope at high 127 wavenumber, ϕ_0 is the azimuthal angle and (k_0, l_0) are the characteristic wavenumbers. Goff 128 (2010) (hereinafter G2010 for short) derived the values of these topographic parameters from 129 satellite observations. In this study, we adopt the G2010's estimates that have been widely used 130 in estimating E (e.g., Baker & Mashayek, 2022; Scott et al., 2011; Yang et al., 2018). It should 131 be noted that P(k,l) of G2010 is not available everywhere (Figure. 1). We reminder readers that 132 the "global ocean" in this study actually refers to the region where P(k,l) of G2010 is available. 133 2.3. Eddy-mean flow decomposition 134

The geostrophic flows consist of the large-scale mean flows and mesoscale eddies. Correspondingly, *E* can be decomposed into contributions by large-scale mean flows (E_{LM}) and mesoscale eddies (E_{ME}) defined as (Yang et al., 2018):

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139
$$E_{LM} = -\overline{\mathbf{\tau}} \cdot \overline{\mathbf{U}}_{h}, \qquad (3)$$

140
$$E_{ME} = -\overline{\boldsymbol{\tau}' \cdot \mathbf{U}'_b}, \qquad (4)$$

141 where
$$\boldsymbol{\tau} = -\frac{\rho_0}{4\pi^2} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} P(k,l) \frac{\mathbf{k}}{|\mathbf{k}|} \sqrt{N_b^2 - (\mathbf{U}_b \cdot \mathbf{k})^2} \cdot \sqrt{(\mathbf{U}_b \cdot \mathbf{k})^2 - f^2} dk dl$$
 is the wave drag vector,

the overbar denotes the annual average (large-scale mean flows) and the prime denotes theanomaly (mesoscale eddies).

144 2.4. CESM-HR

The CESM-HR is used to simulate the long-term changes of N_b and \mathbf{U}_b under the 145 greenhouse warming. The CESM-HR has a nominal resolution of 0.1° (0.25°) for its oceanic 146 (atmospheric) component. There are 62 vertical levels in the ocean with a maximum grid size of 147 250 m at the 6000-m depth. The simulation is branched off from a 500-year-long pre-industrial 148 control simulation (PI-CTRL) at the 250th model year and integrated to 2100 with a historical run 149 spanning from 1850 to 2005, followed by a future transient climate run from 2006 to 2100 under 150 the representative concentration pathway 8.5 (RCP8.5) scenario. The monthly mean temperature, 151 salinity and three-dimensional velocity are saved during the simulation. In addition, there are 152 daily output for these variables during 1930-1934 (historical period) and 2086-2090 (future 153 period). 154

In this study, N_b is computed as the value of N at the vertical level just over the sea floor, while \mathbf{U}_b is computed as the vertically averaged \mathbf{U} within 0-500 m over the sea floor

- 157 (Yang et al., 2018). The model drift after 250 year's spin-up is negligible for \mathbf{U}_b but less so for
- 158 N_b (Figure S1 in the Supporting Information). This may bias the simulated long-term change of
- 159 E under the greenhouse warming. To minimize such bias, we subtract the linear trend of N_b
- during the model years 250-500 in PI-CTRL from N_b during 1850-2100. Then the daily \mathbf{U}_b and
- 161 the time-mean N_b during 1930-1934 (2086-2090) are substituted into Eq. (1) to estimate E in the
- 162 historical (future) period. The inter-annual variability of *E* within each five-year period is found
- to be much smaller than the difference of *E* between these two periods (Table 1), lending support
- that the five-year period is sufficiently long to get statistically robust results.

165 **3 Results**

- 3.1. Energy conversion into lee waves in the historical period simulated by the CESM-HR
- 168 The time-mean N_b during the historical period in the CESM-HR is spatially
- inhomogeneous and generally consistent with that derived from observations (Figure. 1a). Weak
- bottom stratification with $N_b \sim O(10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1})$ is found in most parts of the ocean, whereas large N_b
- 171 $\sim O(10^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1})$ is mainly concentrated along shallow mid-ocean ridges. The spatial variability of
- 172 time-mean $KE_b = (U_b \cdot U_b)/2$ is even more pronounced, varying by three orders of magnitude
- 173 (Figure. 1b). Large $KE_b \sim O(10^{-2} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}^2)$ occurs along the western boundaries of ocean basins, the
- 174 SO and the eastern tropical Pacific, whereas small $\text{KE}_b \sim O(10^{-5} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}^2)$ is mainly distributed in
- 175 the gyre interior.
- 176 Consistent with the existing literature (Nikurashin & Ferrari, 2011; Scott et al. 2011), the
- spatial distribution of time-mean E during the historical period shows large values in the SO, the
- 178 western boundaries of ocean basins and the eastern tropical Pacific (Figure. 1c). The globally
- integrated time-mean *E* during 1930-1934 is 193 ± 3.0 GW (hereinafter the errorbar represents the 95% confidence interval), close to the lower bound of the previous estimates (Nikurashin &
- 181 Ferrari, 2011).

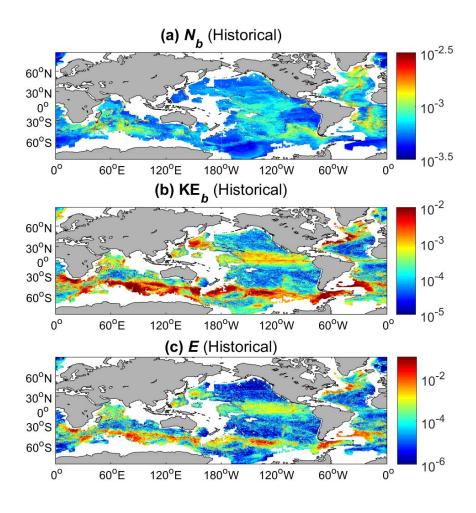


Figure 1. Time-mean (a) bottom stratification N_b (s⁻¹), (b) bottom kinetic energy KE_b (m²/s²) and (c) energy conversion rate into lee waves E (W/m²) during 1930-1934 simulated by the CESM-HR. Regions where the topographic spectrum of G2010 is unavailable are masked by white.

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188 3.2. Response of energy conversion into lee waves to the greenhouse warming

As suggested by Eq. (1), N_b and KE_b are the two important factors determining the

190 magnitude of E. To understand the change of E under the greenhouse warming, the differences

191 of time-mean N_b and KE_b between 1930-1934 and 2086-2090 are examined. Because the

192 geographical distribution of E is highly inhomogeneous (Figure. 1c), we focus on the differences

in the regions with $E > 0.52 \text{ mW/m}^2$ (indicated by color shading in Figure. 2a and b). In

194 particular, these regions only cover a quarter of the ocean area but contribute to $\sim 90\%$ of the total 195 *E*. These regions are referred to as the active-*E* ocean hereinafter.

Figure. 2a shows the difference of time-mean N_b between 1930-1934 and 2086-2090 over the active-*E* ocean. There is a decrease of N_b under the greenhouse warming in most parts

- 198 of the active-*E* ocean. Patches of enhanced N_b are mainly confined to the SO (e.g., 60°W-
- 199 120°E) and the high-latitude regions of the North Atlantic. The time-mean N_b averaged over the
- active-*E* ocean decreases by 6.5% in response to the greenhouse warming. This appears contrary
- to the findings of Melet et al. (2015) who reported an overall increase of N_b in a warming
- climate but is qualitatively consistent with the projections from the high-resolution CGCMs in
- the Coupled Model Intercomparison Project Phase 6 (CMIP6) archive (Eyring et al., 2016; Table
- 204 S1 and Figure S2 in the Supporting Information). Furthermore, it should be noted that the
- calculation made by Melet et al. (2015) covers the entire ocean and includes regions with small E
- values, which can lead to misleading conclusions about the effects of N_b change on E change.
- 207 For example, N_b along the shallow mid-ocean ridges increases significantly under the
- 208 greenhouse warming (not shown). But the increase of N_b there should contribute little to the
- change of globally integrated *E*.
- 210 The value of KE_b decreases under the greenhouse warming over most parts of the active-
- 211 *E* ocean, with patches of increased KE_b in the SO. The overall reduction of KE_b under the
- 212 greenhouse warming could partially result from the enhanced baroclinicity of the ocean caused
- by the faster warming in the upper than the deeper ocean (Peng et al., 2022). The most notable
- decrease of KE_b is located in the Gulf Stream, the Drake Passage and the Kerguelen Plateau,
- where the time-mean KE_b during 2086-2090 is less than 50% of that during 1930-1934. Such
- regional strong response of KE_b to the greenhouse warming may be related to multiple
- 217 dynamical processes. For example, it has been well recognized that the slowdown of the Atlantic
- 218 meridional overturning circulation in a warming climate will weaken the Gulf Stream (e.g.,
- 219 Beech et al., 2022; Chen et al., 2019; Yang et al., 2016).
- The globally integrated time-mean *E* during 2086-2090 decreases to 155.5 ± 4.8 GW, a ~20% reduction compared to 193.0 ± 3.0 GW during 1930-1934 (Table 1). The change of *E* under the greenhouse warming is spatially inhomogeneous and generally resembles that of KE_b
- (Figure. 2b and c). To quantify the respective contribution of the changes of N_b and KE_b to the
- 224 change of *E*, we recompute *E* during 2086-2090 by either fixing N_b or KE_b as their historical
- values, denoted as E_{N-fix} and E_{U-fix} respectively (Table 1). The globally integrated time-mean
- 226 E_{N-fix} (166.9±4.5 GW) and E_{U-fix} (176.5±3.2 GW) during 2086-2090 are close to each other
- and significantly smaller than the globally integrated time-mean E (193.0±3.0 GW) during 1930-
- 1934. Therefore, both the weakened N_b and KE_b contribute importantly to the reduction of E
- under the greenhouse warming. Nevertheless, the relative importance of N_b and KE_b changes in
- 230 determining the change of *E* is region-dependent (Figure. 2). For instance, the reduced *E* under
- the greenhouse warming in the Gulf stream and the Drake Passage is primarily explained by the
- 232 decreased KE_b , whereas the reduced *E* in the Pacific section of SO (e.g., 120°W-150°W) is
- 233 largely attributed to the reduced N_b there.

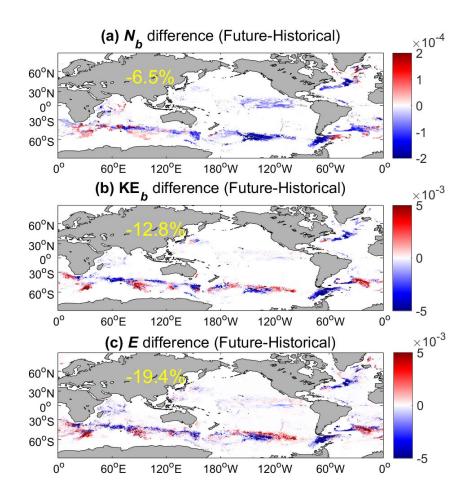


Figure 2. Change of time-mean (a) bottom stratification N_b (s⁻¹), (b) bottom kinetic energy KE_b (m²/s²) and (c) energy conversion rate into lee waves E (W/m²) during 2086-2090 relative to their counterparts during 1930-1934 simulated by the CESM-HR. (a) and (b) only show the results in the active-E ocean. Yellow numbers indicate the percentage changes of N_b and KE_b averaged over the active-E ocean in (a) and (b), but the percentage change of Eaveraged over the global ocean in (c).

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250	Table 1. The globally integrated time-mean energy conversion rate into lee waves E under
251	different conditions of N_b and U_b and using different values of Fr_c . The errorbar corresponds to
252	the 95% confidence interval.

$N_b(\mathbf{s}^{-1})$	$\mathbf{U}_{b}(\mathbf{m/s})$	Fr_c	<i>E</i> (GW)
Historical	Historical	0.5	193.0±3.0
Historical	Historical	0.4	179.4±2.8
Historical	Historical	0.75	218.3±3.4
Future	Future	0.5	155.5±4.8
Future	Future	0.4	142.4±4.2
Future	Future	0.75	169.3±5.6
Historical	Future	0.5	166.9±4.5
Future	Historical	0.5	176.5±3.2

3.3. Role of mesoscale eddies in the change of energy conversion into lee waves underthe greenhouse warming

Both the interactions of large-scale mean flows and mesoscale eddies with topography 256 generate lee waves. The time-mean E_{ME} and E_{LM} during 1930-1934 share similar spatial 257 distributions (Figure. 3a and b). However, E_{ME} is systematically larger in magnitude than E_{LM} 258 and accounts for two-thirds of the globally integrated time-mean E, consistent with the dominant 259 contribution of mesoscale eddies to the total kinetic energy of geostrophic flows (Wunsch & 260 Ferrari, 2004). Under the greenhouse warming, the values of E_{ME} and E_{LM} are reduced over 261 most parts of the global ocean (Figure. 3c and d). The globally integrated time-mean E_{ME} during 262 2086-2090 is 20.5% smaller than that during 1930-1934, close to the 17.1% reduction for E_{IM} . 263 However, as E_{ME} has larger magnitude in the historical period than E_{LM} , the change of globally 264

integrated time-mean E under the greenhouse warming is primarily attributed to that of E_{ME} .

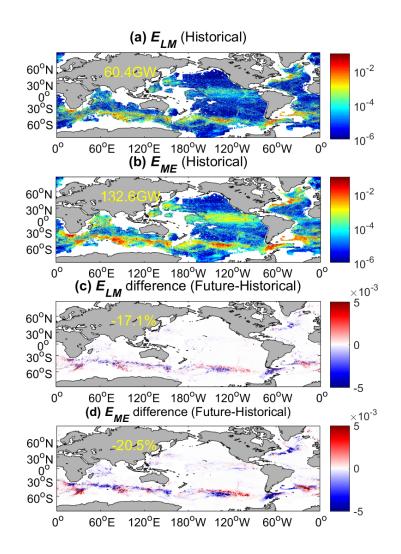


Figure 3. Time-mean energy conversion rate into lee waves contributed by (a) large-scale mean flows E_{LM} and (b) mesoscale eddies E_{ME} (W/m²) during 1930-1934 simulated by the CESM-HR. Regions where the topographic spectrum of G2010 is unavailable are masked by white. (c) and (d) Same as (a) and (b) but for the change of time-mean E_{LM} and E_{ME} during 2086-2090 relative to their counterparts during 1930-1934. Yellow numbers indicate the globally integrated time-mean E_{LM} and E_{ME} in (a, b) and their percentage changes under the greenhouse warming in (c, d).

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275 4 Discussion

One tuning parameter in the computation of Eq. (1) is Fr_c that accounts for the saturation of *E* over the super-critical topography (Nikurashin & Ferrari, 2010). Although Fr_c is set as 0.5 in this study, it is worth pointing out that other values like 0.4 and 0.75 are also adopted in the existing literature (Nikurashin et al., 2014; Scott et al., 2011). To evaluate to what extent the uncertainties in Fr_c affect the change of *E* under the greenhouse warming, we perform sensitivity tests by varying the value of Fr_c from 0.4 to 0.75. The globally integrated time-mean *E* during

- 1930-1934 increases sublinearly with the increasing Fr_c , ranging from 179.4±2.8 GW for Fr_c =
- 283 0.4 to 218.3 \pm 3.4 GW for $Fr_c = 0.75$ (Table 1). This sublinear dependence of the globally
- integrated time-mean E on Fr_c is because a large fraction of E is contributed from the SO where *Fr* is generally less than 0.4 (Figure. 4) so that the value of E does not change for Fr_c varying
- from 0.4 to 0.75. Although Fr_c has some noticeable influences on the globally integrated time-
- mean E, the reduction of the globally integrated time-mean E is robust regardless of the value of
- 288 Fr_c . The globally integrated time-mean E during 2086-2090 decreases by 20.6%, 19.4% and
- 289 22.4% compared to their counterparts during 1930-1934 for $Fr_c = 0.4, 0.5$ and 0.75, respectively.
- We conclude that the uncertainties in Fr_c does not have a substantial impact on the percentage
- 291 change of E under the greenhouse warming.
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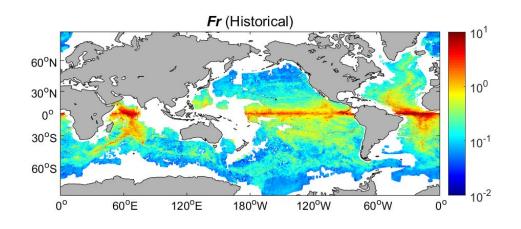


Figure 4. Time-mean Froude number *Fr* during 1930-1934 simulated by the CESM-HR.

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296 **5 Summary**

297 In this study, we investigated the response of energy conversion into lee waves to the greenhouse warming by applying the linear theory of lee wave generation to the climate 298 299 simulation of the CESM-HR resolving mesoscale eddies. The globally integrated time-mean E during the historical period (1930-1934) is estimated to be 193.0±3.0 GW, with the lee wave 300 generation over the SO making dominant contribution. Under the high carbon emission scenario, 301 the globally integrated time-mean E during 2086-2090 decreases by $\sim 20\%$ compared to that 302 during 1930-1934. This decrease is attributed to the weakened bottom large-scale mean flows, 303 mesoscale eddies and stratification under the greenhouse warming. 304

Our findings are qualitatively consistent with those reported by Melet et al. (2015). However, the projected reduction of *E* by the CESM-HR is quantitatively more evident than that (a 20% decrease by the end of the 22^{nd} century) projected by the coarse-resolution CGCM used by Melet et al. (2015). This difference may result from two aspects. First, although Melet et al. (2015) found that the change of N_b has little effect on the change of *E* under the greenhouse warming, N_b is projected by the CESM-HR to be reduced (Figure. 2a) and contributes

importantly to the reduced E (Table 1). We note that the projected reduction of N_b by the

312 CESM-HR is consistent with the projections by the high-resolution CMIP6 CGCMs (Figure S2),

lending support to its reliability. Second, the weakened mesoscale eddy flows near the sea floor

projected by the CESM-HR make important contribution to the reduction of E under the

greenhouse warming, whereas such effects are absent in the coarse-resolution CGCM of Melet et al. (2015), suggesting the deficiencies of mesoscale eddy parameterization used by Melet et al.

al. (2015), suggesting the deficiencies of mesoscale eddy parameterization used by N (2015).

The globally integrated time-mean wind power on the surface geostrophic flows remains 318 nearly unchanged between 1930-1934 (0.69±0.01 TW) and 2086-2090 (0.75±0.01 TW). The 319 significant reduction of E under the greenhouse warming thus suggests that the lee wave 320 generation becomes less efficient in dissipating the wind-driven ocean circulations. Furthermore, 321 the reduced E implies weakened energy source of turbulent diapycnal mixing. Changes of these 322 processes have not been parameterized in the current generation of CGCMs but are likely to play 323 an important role in regulating the ocean's heat uptake and carbon sequestration under the 324 greenhouse warming. 325

Finally, this study does not take into account the impact of the greenhouse warming on the lee wave-geostrophic flow interactions during the upward radiation of lee waves. Recent

328 studies (e.g., Baker & Mashayek et al., 2021; Kunze & Lien, 2019; Sun et al., 2022; Wu

et al., 2022; Yang et al., 2023a) suggest that lee wave-geostrophic flow interactions can either

transfer energy from lee waves to geostrophic flows or the opposite. The greenhouse warming does not only affect N_b and \mathbf{U}_b but also the vertical structure of geostrophic flows in the ocean

interior (Peng et al., 2022), with the later playing a key role in the energy exchange between

geostrophic flows and lee waves (Kunze & Lien, 2019). The impact of the greenhouse warming

on the lee wave-geostrophic flow interactions is left for a future study.

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340

341 **Open Research**

The CESM-HR output can be downloaded from the website

343 https://ihesp.github.io/archive/products/ds_archive/Sunway_Runs.html by selecting the tab "500-

344 YEAR 1850 PRE-INDUSTRIAL CONTROL" and "250-YEAR 1850 TRANSIENT

345 SIMULATIONS". The CMIP6 model data can be downloaded from https://esgf-

node.llnl.gov/search/cmip6/. The CMIP6 CGCMs used in this study are listed in Table S1 in the

- 347 Supporting Information.
- 348

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	1		
$N_b(\mathbf{s}^{-1})$	\mathbf{U}_{b} (m/s)	Fr _c	E (GW)
Historical	Historical	0.5	193.0±3.0
Historical	Historical	0.4	179.4±2.8
Historical	Historical	0.75	218.3±3.4
Future	Future	0.5	155.5±4.8
Future	Future	0.4	142.4±4.2
Future	Future	0.75	169.3±5.6
Historical	Future	0.5	166.9±4.5
Future	Historical	0.5	176.5±3.2

Table 1. The globally integrated time-mean energy conversion rate into lee waves E under different conditions of N_b and \mathbf{U}_b and using different values of Fr_c . The errorbar corresponds to the 95% confidence interval.

Figure 1.

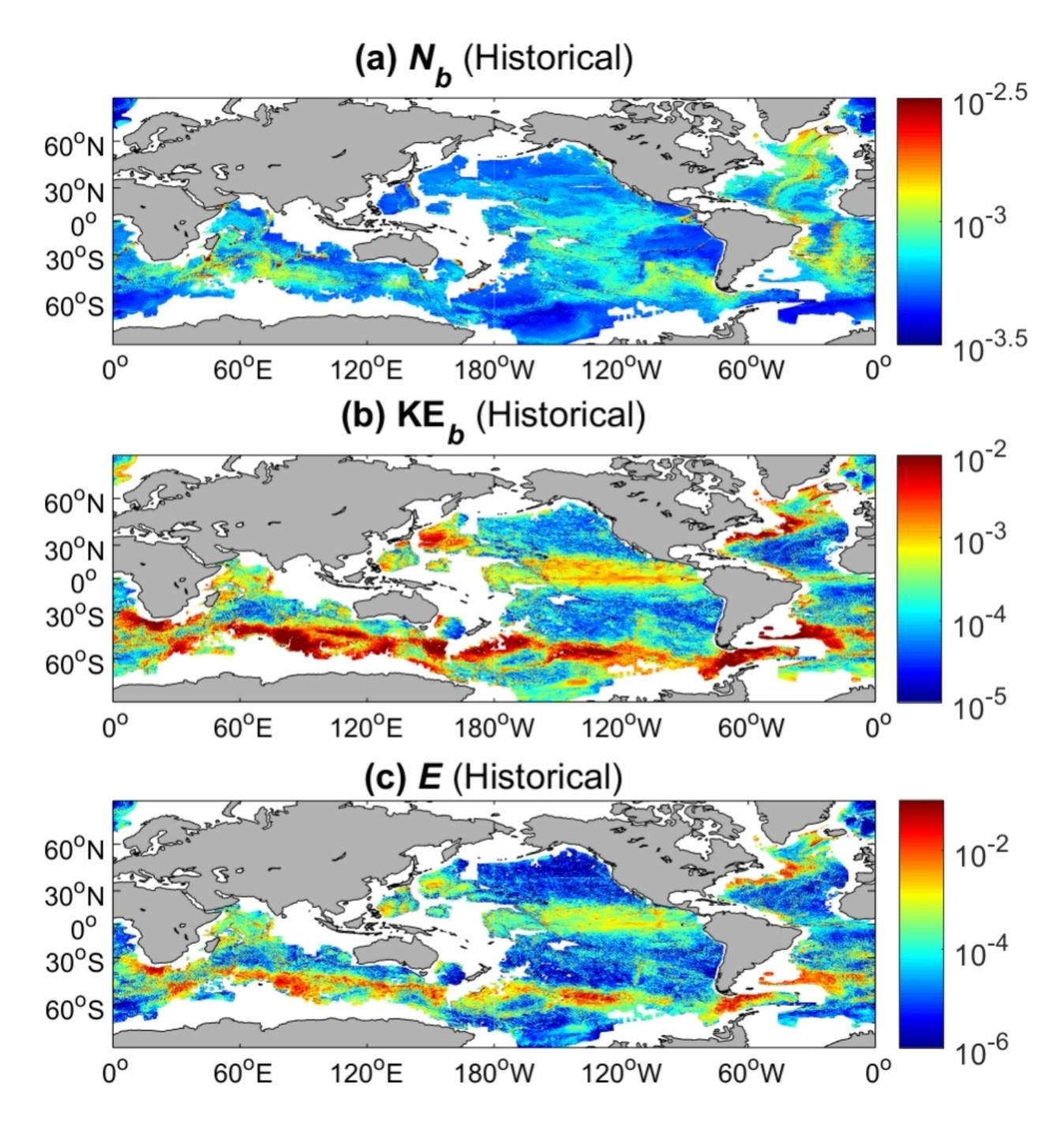


Figure 2.

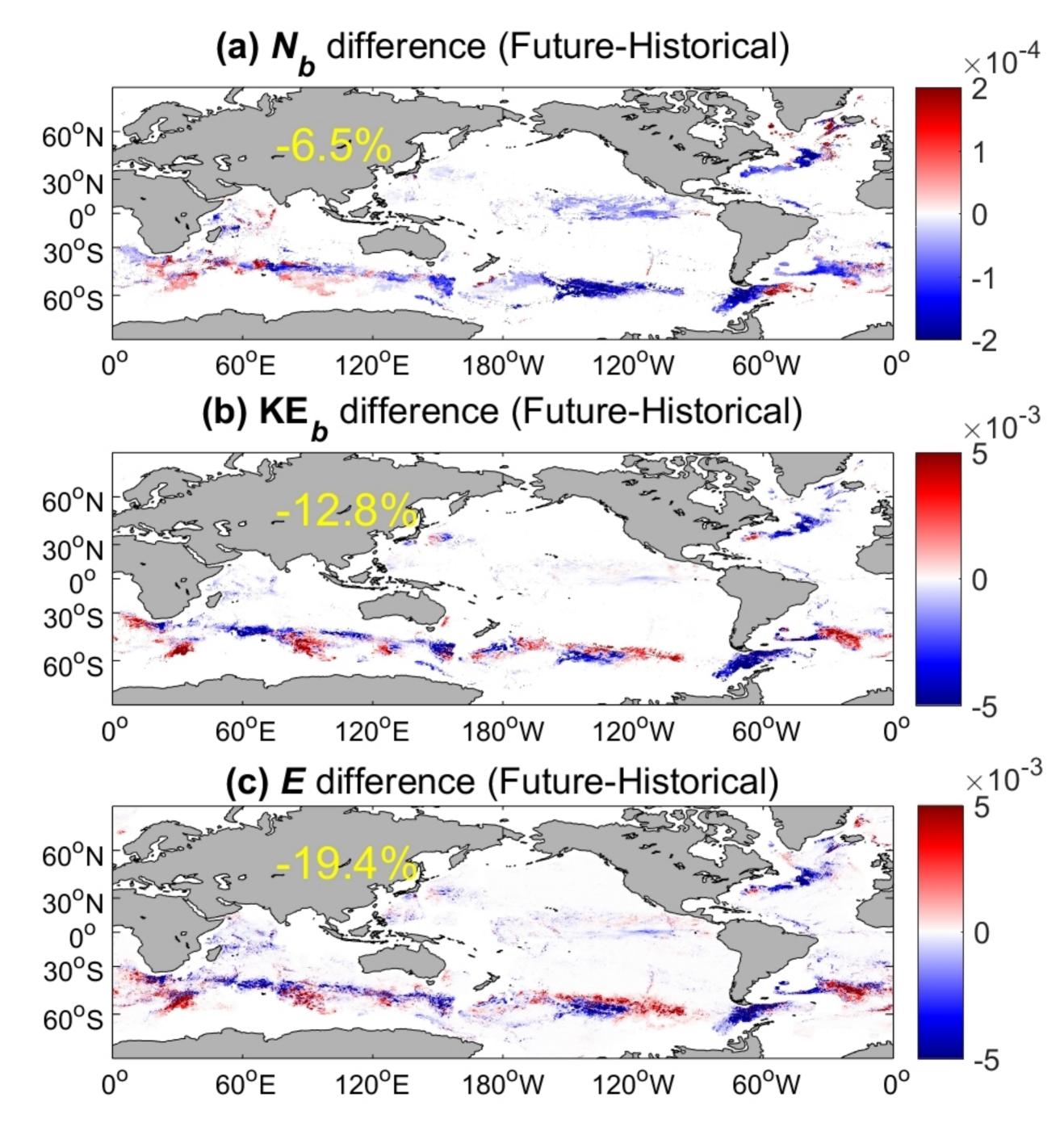


Figure 3.

(a) E_{LM} (Historical)

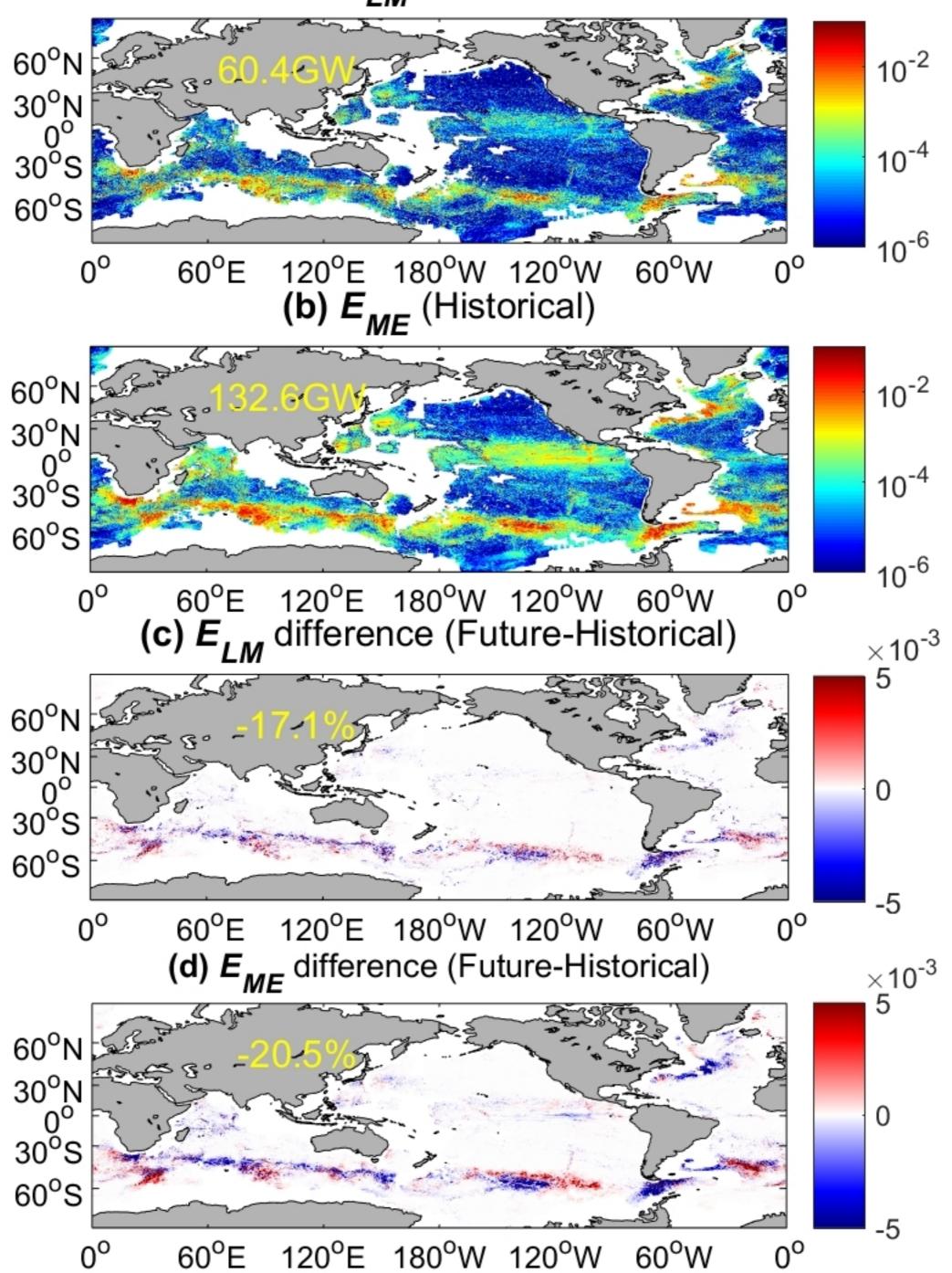


Figure 4.

Fr (Historical)

