Dynamics of Oceans: Pt 2: Cascades Across Scales

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> Boulder School for Condensed Matter and Materials Physics July 19, 2022

- Diagnosis by Scale
 - Filtering & Reynolds-Averaging
 - Spectral/Fourier
 - Structure Functions (Drifters & Moorings!)
- Parameterizations & Augments
 - Energy, PV
- Lagrangian vs. Eulerian Structure Functions 0
- Patchy Injection through Sea Ice

For Today–Scale Maths



Last Time, we saw that Boussinesq equations were good for all ocean motions (remove sound waves), and additionally hydrostatic approx can be used for mesoscale & submesoscale, but not Langmuir scale

- No more need for dimensionless equations, as we've sorted the transitions already
- Here I compress the nonconservative terms into one.
- I'm assuming Cartesian coordinates and Einstein summation.
- The hydrostatic approximation form is a bit messier, as vertical equation is different from horizontal.

$$\partial_{t}u_{j} + u_{i}\nabla_{i}u_{j} + \epsilon_{jkl}f_{k}u_{l} = -\nabla_{j}\Phi + b\hat{z} + \dot{\mathcal{M}}_{j}$$
$$\partial_{t}S + u_{i}\nabla_{i}S = \dot{S}$$
$$\partial_{t}\Theta + u_{i}\nabla_{i}\Theta = \dot{\mathcal{T}}$$
$$\nabla_{i}u_{i} = 0$$
$$b = b(S,\Theta,z)$$

Now, we'd like to examine some derived balances from this system



(Simplifyingly, in Boussinesq concentration by mass fraction & volume fraction have the same equation, not true in compressible fluids).

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \partial_t u_j + u_i \nabla_i u_j + \epsilon_{jkl} f_k u_l &=& -\nabla_j \Phi + b \hat{z} + \dot{\mathcal{M}}_j \\ \\ \partial_t b + u_i \nabla_i b &=& \dot{\mathcal{B}} \\ \\ \nabla_i u_i &=& 0 \end{array}$$

Now, we'd like to examine some derived balances from this system, Let's motivate first with cascades

It's simpler to just use buoyancy rather than both salinity & temperature, and the buoyancy equation has the same form as T & S, and all concentration tracer equations.

$$\partial_{t}u_{j} + u_{i}\nabla_{i}u_{j} + \epsilon_{jkl}f_{k}u_{l} = -\nabla_{j}\Phi + b\hat{z} + \dot{\mathcal{M}}_{j}$$
$$\partial_{t}S + u_{i}\nabla_{i}S = \dot{S}$$
$$\partial_{t}\Theta + u_{i}\nabla_{i}\Theta = \dot{\mathcal{T}}$$
$$\nabla_{i}u_{i} = 0$$
$$b = b(S,\Theta,z)$$



3D Turbulence Cascade



Kolmogorov Inertial Range

Suitable FOT Nonhydostatic Boussinesg; Wave-averaged

 $Re^* = UL/\nu_*$



Another problem... Turbulence can't be 3D Turbulence at the >4km scale

- The ocean is wide (10,000km)
- But not deep (4km)
 - Motions mainly in upper 1km
- The layer of blue paint on a globe has roughly the right aspect ratio!
- Atmosphere is a little taller (30km), but eddies are bigger (1000km)
- Thus, A-O motions are largely 2d

obe atio! Okm),





2D Turbulence Differs



1967: Kraichnan Dual Cascades, So either inverse energy or enstrophy (vorticity²) cascades

dissipation

k

Suitable For 2D Oceans, E.g., Stommel & Munk Gyres

R. Kraichnan, 1967 JFM



Quasigeostrophic Theory (Charney 1971, Salmon 1978): energy or potential enstrophy cascade



S. D. Bachman, BFK, and B. Pearson. A scale-aware subgrid model for quasigeostrophic turbulence. Journal of Geophysical Research-Oceans, 122:1529-1554, 2017.

B. Pearson, BFK, S. D. Bachman, and F. O. Bryan, 2017: Evaluation of scale-aware subgrid mesoscale eddy models in a global eddy-rich model. Ocean Modelling, 115:42–58.



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First-Order Balances

- By first order, I mean only derivatives, not products.
- Vorticity & Divergence
- Buoyancy Gradient
- I don't show the (coupled) horizontal divergence and vertical vorticity equation, even though they are valuable (but ugly).

$\partial_t u_j + u_i \nabla_i u_j + \epsilon_{jkl} f_k u_l = -\nabla_j \Phi + b\hat{z} + \dot{\mathcal{M}}_j$ $\partial_t b + u_i \nabla_i b = \dot{\mathcal{B}}$ $\nabla_i u_i = 0$

 $\partial_t \omega_i + u_j \nabla_j \omega_i = \omega_j \nabla_j u_i + \nabla_j \left[\epsilon_{ijz} b + \epsilon_{ijk} \dot{\mathcal{M}}_k \right]$ $\nabla_i u_i = 0.$

 $\partial_t \nabla_i b + u_j \nabla_j \nabla_i b = -(\nabla_j b)(\nabla_i u_j) + \nabla_i \dot{\mathcal{B}}$

(Vorticity ω includes both planetary (f) & relative)



- Now we consider equations for products.
- Kinetic, Potential & Total Energy
- Tracer Variance
- Enstrophy
- All of these are formed by left multiplying by a factor & crunching

$\begin{array}{rcl} \partial_t u_j + u_i \nabla_i u_j + \epsilon_{jkl} f_k u_l &=& -\nabla_j \Phi + b \hat{z} + \dot{\mathcal{M}}_j \\ \\ \partial_t b + u_i \nabla_i b &=& \dot{\mathcal{B}} \\ \\ \nabla_i u_i &=& 0 \end{array}$

Kinetic

 $\partial_t \frac{u_j u_j}{2} + u_i \nabla_i \frac{u_j u_j}{2} = -\nabla_j (\Phi u_j) + u_z b + u_j \dot{\mathcal{M}}_s$



- Now we consider equations for products.
- Kinetic, Potential & Total Energy
- Tracer Variance
- Enstrophy
- All of these are formed by left multiplying by a factor & crunching (or guessing and then cleaning up the mess!)

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t u_j + u_i \nabla_i u_j + \epsilon_{jkl} f_k u_l &= -\nabla_j \Phi + b\hat{z} + \dot{\mathcal{M}}_j \\ \partial_t b + u_i \nabla_i b &= \dot{\mathcal{B}} \\ \nabla_i u_i &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

The partner to the KE equation is the PE equation, which is formed by noting that the potential energy per unit volume is just the first term, then that offsetting it by a constant doesn't change its meaning, so

$$\rho g z \to (\rho - \rho_0) g z = -\rho_0 b z \tag{22}$$

$$\partial_t (-zb) + u_i \nabla_i (-zb) = -u_z b - z\dot{\mathcal{B}}$$



- Now we consider equations for products.
- Kinetic, Potential & Total Energy
- Tracer Variance
- Enstrophy
- All of these are formed by left multiplying by a factor & crunching

 $\partial_t \frac{u_j u_j}{2} + u_i \nabla_i \frac{u_j u_j}{2} = -\nabla_j (\Phi u_j) + u_z b + u_j \dot{\mathcal{M}}_s$

Kinetic

Potential

$$\partial_t (-zb) + u_i \nabla_i (-zb) = -u_z b - z\dot{\mathcal{B}}$$

Total Mechanical Energy (Incl. Bernoulli Function)

$$\partial_t \left(\frac{u_j u_j}{2} - zb \right) + u_i \nabla_i \left(\frac{u_j u_j}{2} - zb + \Phi \right) = u_j \dot{\mathcal{M}}_j - z\dot{\mathcal{B}}$$

Where's the internal energy? It's inaccessible in Boussinesq approx.



- Now we consider equations for products.
- Kinetic, Potential & Total Energy
- Tracer Variance
- Enstrophy
- All of these are formed by left multiplying by a factor & crunching

$\begin{aligned} \partial_t u_j + u_i \nabla_i u_j + \epsilon_{jkl} f_k u_l &= -\nabla_j \Phi + b\hat{z} + \dot{\mathcal{M}}_j \\ \partial_t b + u_i \nabla_i b &= \dot{\mathcal{B}} \\ \nabla_i u_i &= 0 \end{aligned}$

 $\partial_t \frac{b^2}{2} + u_i \nabla_i \frac{b^2}{2} = b\dot{\mathcal{B}}$ $\partial_t \frac{S^2}{2} + u_i \nabla_i \frac{S^2}{2} = S\dot{S}$ $\partial_t \frac{\Theta^2}{2} + u_i \nabla_i \frac{\Theta^2}{2} = \Theta \dot{\mathcal{T}}$



- Now we consider equations for products.
- Kinetic, Potential & Total Energy
- Tracer Variance
- Sector Enstrophy = (vert vorticity)²
- All of these are formed by left multiplying by a factor & crunching

For 2D flows

(Vorticity includes both planetary (f) & relative)

$\begin{aligned} \partial_t \omega_i + u_j \nabla_j \omega_i &= \omega_j \nabla_j u_i + \nabla_j \left[\epsilon_{ijz} b + \epsilon_{ijk} \dot{\mathcal{M}}_k \right] \\ \nabla_i u_i &= 0, \end{aligned}$

 $\partial_t \frac{\omega_z^2}{2} + u_\alpha \nabla_\alpha \frac{\omega_z^2}{2} = \omega_z \nabla_j \left[\epsilon_{zjk} \dot{\mathcal{M}}_k \right]$ $+\omega_z\omega_j\nabla_ju_z-u_z\nabla_z\frac{\omega_z^2}{2}$

$$\partial_t \frac{\omega_z^2}{2} + u_\alpha \nabla_\alpha \frac{\omega_z^2}{2} = \omega_z \nabla_j \left[\epsilon_{zjk} \dot{\mathcal{M}}_k \right]$$



- Potential Vorticity
- This is formed in a different way, by combining two first-order equations: the vorticity and buoyancy gradient equations.
- Also, potential enstrophy seems easy from PV, but actually it's 4th order!

(Vorticity includes both planetary (f) & relative)

$$\partial_{t}\omega_{i} + u_{j}\nabla_{j}\omega_{i} = \omega_{j}\nabla_{j}u_{i} + \nabla_{j}\left[\epsilon_{ijz}b + \epsilon_{ijk}\dot{\mathcal{M}}_{k}\right]$$
$$\nabla_{i}u_{i} = 0,$$
$$\partial_{t}\nabla_{i}b + u_{j}\nabla_{j}\nabla_{i}b = -(\nabla_{j}b)(\nabla_{i}u_{j}) + \nabla_{i}\dot{\mathcal{B}}$$

Potential vorticity

 $\begin{array}{lll} \partial_t q + u_i \nabla_i q &= (\nabla_i b) \epsilon_{ijk} \nabla_j \dot{\mathcal{M}}_k + \omega_i \nabla_i \dot{\mathcal{B}} \\ q &\equiv \omega_i \nabla_i b \end{array}$

Potential enstrophy

$$\partial_t \frac{q^2}{2} + u_i \nabla_i \frac{q^2}{2} = q(\nabla_i b) \epsilon_{ijk} \nabla_j \dot{\mathcal{M}}_k + q \omega_i \nabla_i \dot{\mathcal{B}}$$



Introducing Scale: Reynolds-Average and Filtered Terms

Example:

Following Sadek and Aluie (2018) and Salmon (2013), we define a generalized average tracer concentration—including time-, space-, and ensemble-averaging—as

 $\overline{\tau}(\mathbf{x},t) = \int \mathrm{d}t' \int \int \int \mathrm{d}t'$

We will consider linear avgs/filters And assume they commute with differentiation, e.q.,

$$t' \iiint d^3 \mathbf{x}' \int d\mu G(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}', t - t', \mu) \tau(\mathbf{x}', t', \mu)$$
(2)

 $\overline{\nabla_i u} = \nabla_i \overline{u}$ $\overline{\partial_t u} = \partial_t \overline{u}$ $c(u+v) = c\overline{u} + c\overline{v}$

Introducing Scale: Fourier transform

Example:

Note that these are also linear operators And they commute with differentiation (becomes multiplication), And by Plancherel's theorem, they have a meaningful quadratic.

$$\widetilde{\nabla_{i} u}$$

$$\widetilde{\partial_{t} u}$$

$$\widetilde{c(u+v)}$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |\widetilde{u}|^{2} dk$$

- $= \nabla_i \tilde{u}$
- $= \partial_t \tilde{u}$
- $= c\tilde{u} + c\tilde{v}$ $= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |u|^2 dx$



Introducing Scale: Structure Function

Increment Example:

Structure Fct. Formed From increments:

$$S_{ij}^n(u;x,t;s,\tau) = \overline{\delta^n u_i(x_j,t;s_j,\tau)}$$

Unlike spectra & Many averages, You must specify:

 $S^n(u;x,t;s,\tau)$ $S^n(u;x;s,\tau)$ $S^n(u;s,\tau)$

 $\delta u_i(x_j,t;s_j,\tau) = u_i(x_j+s_j,t+\tau) - u_i(x_j,t)$

$$= [u_i(x_j+s_j,t+\tau)-u_i(x_j,t)]^n$$

Note that increments are also linear operators And they commute with differentiation (becomes multiplication)

$$f(r) = \frac{[u(x+s,t+\tau) - u(x,t)]^n}{[u(x+s,t+\tau) - u(x,t)]^n} \text{ if stationary}$$

$$f(r) = \frac{[u(x+s,t+\tau) - u(x,t)]^n}{[u(x+s,t+\tau) - u(x,t)]^n} \text{ if homogeneous}$$



Introducing Scale: Structure Function (velocity examples)





J. Pearson, BFK, B. Pearson, H. Chang, B. K. Haus, J. Horstmann, H. S. Huntley, A. D. Kirwan, Jr., B. Lund, and A. Poje. Biases in structure functions from observations of submesoscale flows. JGR-Oceans, 125:e2019JC015769, 2020.

Impress with these two weird tricks...

 $-\nabla_i u_i u_j + \nabla_i \underline{u_i} u_j + \underline{\dot{\mathcal{M}}_i} \equiv \underline{\dot{\mathcal{M}}_i}^+$ $-\nabla_{i}u_{i}b + \nabla_{i}u_{i}\underline{b} + \underline{\dot{B}} \equiv \underline{\dot{B}}^{+}$

2) Note that Reynolds, Filter, Fourier, Increment are isomorphic, represent any of them with an underline.

- $\partial_t u_j + \underline{u_i} \nabla_i u_j + \epsilon_{jkl} f_k \underline{u_l} = -\nabla_j \underline{\Phi} + \underline{b} \hat{z} + \dot{\mathcal{M}}_j^+$

 - $\partial_t \underline{b} + u_i \nabla_i \underline{b} = \underline{B}^+$
 - $\nabla_i u_i = 0$

1) Augment the non-conservative terms



With this, it's trivial to find the scaleselective equations...

$$\partial_{t}\underline{\omega_{i}} + \underline{u_{j}}\nabla_{j}\underline{\omega_{i}} = \underline{\omega_{j}}\nabla_{j}\underline{u_{i}} + \nabla_{j}\left[\epsilon_{ijz}\underline{b} + \epsilon_{ijk}\underline{\dot{\mathcal{M}}_{k}}^{+}\right]$$
$$\partial_{t}\nabla_{i}\underline{b} + \underline{u_{j}}\nabla_{j}\nabla_{i}\underline{b} = -(\nabla_{j}\underline{b})(\nabla_{i}\underline{u_{j}}) + \nabla_{i}\underline{\dot{\mathcal{B}}}^{+}$$

$$\partial_t \frac{\underline{u_j u_j}}{2} + \underline{u_i} \nabla_i \frac{\underline{u_j u_j}}{2} = -\nabla_j (\underline{\Phi} \underline{u_j}) + \underline{u_z} \underline{b} + \underline{u_j} \dot{\mathcal{M}_j}^+$$

$$\partial_t (-z\underline{b}) + \underline{u_i} \nabla_i (-z\underline{b}) = -\underline{u_z}\underline{b} - z\underline{\dot{B}}^+$$

$$\partial_t \left(\frac{\underline{u_j u_j}}{2} - z\underline{b} \right) + \underline{u_i} \nabla_i \left(\frac{\underline{u_j u_j}}{2} - z\underline{b} + \underline{\Phi} \right) = \underline{u_j} \, \underline{\dot{\mathcal{M}}_j}^+ - z\underline{\dot{\mathcal{B}}}^+$$

Covariances->cospectra or blended structure functions All of the "interesting" terms: cross-scale transfer, shear production, etc., end up in realizing the augmented non-conservative terms.

$$\partial_{t} \frac{\underline{b}^{2}}{2} + \underline{u_{i}} \nabla_{i} \frac{\underline{b}^{2}}{2} = \underline{b} \underline{B}^{+}$$
$$\partial_{t} \frac{\underline{S}^{2}}{2} + \underline{u_{i}} \nabla_{i} \frac{\underline{S}^{2}}{2} = \underline{S} \underline{S}^{+}$$
$$\partial_{t} \frac{\underline{\Theta}^{2}}{2} + \underline{u_{i}} \nabla_{i} \frac{\underline{\Theta}^{2}}{2} = \underline{\Theta} \underline{T}^{+}$$

$$\partial_{t} \frac{\omega_{z}^{2}}{2} + \underline{u}_{\alpha} \nabla_{\alpha} \frac{\omega_{z}^{2}}{2} = \underline{\omega_{z}} \nabla_{j} \left[\epsilon_{zjk} \underline{\dot{\mathcal{M}}_{k}}^{+} \right] \\ + \underline{\omega_{z}} \omega_{j} \nabla_{j} \underline{u_{z}} - \underline{u_{z}} \nabla_{z} \frac{\omega_{z}^{2}}{2}$$

$$\partial_t \tilde{q} + \underline{u_i} \nabla_i \tilde{q} = (\nabla_i \underline{b}) \epsilon_{ijk} \nabla_j \underline{\dot{\mathcal{M}}_k}^+ + \underline{\omega_i} \nabla_i \underline{\dot{\mathcal{B}}}^+$$

$$\tilde{q} \equiv \underline{\omega_i} \nabla_i \underline{b}$$

For example... mean energy equation

$$\overline{D}_{t} \frac{\overline{u_{j}} \overline{u_{j}}}{2} = -\nabla_{j} (\overline{\Phi}\overline{u})$$

$$\overline{D}_{t} (-z\overline{b}) = -\overline{u_{z}}\overline{b} - z$$

$$-\overline{u_{j}} [\nabla_{i} \overline{u_{i}}\overline{u_{j}} - \nabla_{i}\overline{u_{i}} \overline{u_{j}}] + \overline{u_{i}}\overline{M_{i}}$$
subgrid shear production wind & diss.
$$z [\nabla_{i}\overline{u_{i}}\overline{b} - \nabla_{i}\overline{u_{i}} \overline{b}] - z\overline{B}$$
mix, rad, & diss.

 $(\overline{u_j}) + \overline{u_z}\overline{b} + \overline{u_j} \dot{M}_j$

 $z\overline{\dot{B}}^+$

 $\equiv \overline{u_i} \overline{\dot{\mathcal{M}}_i}^+ (61)$

 $-z\overline{\dot{\mathcal{B}}}$ (62) ≡

Or, spectral:

$$\partial_t \frac{\tilde{u_j}^* \tilde{u_j}}{2} = \tilde{u_z}^* \tilde{b} + \tilde{u_j}^* \widetilde{\dot{\mathcal{M}}}$$

Or, structure functions: Gives Karman-Howarth-Monin eqtn.



And the interpretation of Ertel potential vorticity in Large Eddy Simulations (Bodner & BFK, 2021)

- The potential vorticity is a secondorder derived conserved property
- Because it is second-order, it has complex nonlinear aspects
- It turns out that *it has a highwavenumber divergence* in 3D turbulence
- Thus, you need to pre-filter the equations in order to use PV in 3D simulations permitting 3D turbulence, but the "augmented" terms capture this simply.

 $\partial_t \omega_i + u_j \nabla_j \omega_i = \omega_j \nabla_j u_i + \nabla_j \left[\epsilon_{ijz} b + \epsilon_{ijk} \dot{\mathcal{M}}_k \right]$ $\partial_t \nabla_i b + u_j \nabla_j \nabla_i b = -(\nabla_j b)(\nabla_i u_j) + \nabla_i \dot{\mathcal{B}}$ $\partial_t q + u_i \nabla_i q = (\nabla_i b) \epsilon_{ijk} \nabla_j \dot{\mathcal{M}}_k + \omega_i \nabla_i \dot{\mathcal{B}}$ $q \equiv \omega_i \nabla_i b$ $\partial_t \tilde{q} + \overline{u_i} \nabla_i \tilde{q} = (\nabla_i \overline{b}) \epsilon_{ijk} \nabla_j \overline{\dot{\mathcal{M}}_k}^+ + \overline{\omega_i} \nabla_i \overline{\dot{\mathcal{B}}}^+$ $\tilde{q} \equiv \overline{\omega_i} \nabla_i b$



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Total J-Flux, z = -25m



-div(J-flux)

Second order structure functions are often equivalent to spectra & co-spectra

 $\overline{U^2} =$

and

 $D_U(s) = [u(s)]$

Following the same metho produce the same relation

K. McCaffrey, BFK, and G. Forget. Estimates of ocean macro-turbulence: Structure function and spectral slope from Argo profiling floats. Journal of Physical Oceanography, 45(7):1773-1793, July 2015.

$$\int_{0}^{\infty} E(k) dk \qquad (A9)$$

$$\overline{(x) - u(x + s)]^{2}}. \qquad (A10)$$
od, $D_{U}(s) \propto s^{\beta_{D}}$ and $E(k) \propto k^{\beta_{E}}$

$$aship: \beta_{D} = -\beta_{E} - 1.$$

Quasigeostrophy? Not for submesoscales...

Vertical Velocity

Models & Theory predict a strong dependence on scale

" Mesoscale" (>100 km, 100 days): 10μm/s (1m /day) - Not important " Submesoscale" (<10 km, 1 day): 1 cm/s (1 km/day)- Important, New "Mixed layer" (<100m, 1 hour): 1 cm/s - - Dominant



Movie & Slide Courtesy of Eric D'Asaro: See D'Asaro, E.A., Shcherbina, A.Y., Klymak, J.M., Molemaker, J., Novelli, G., Guigand, C.M., Haza, A.C., Haus, B.K., Ryan, E.H., Jacobs, G.A. and Huntley, H.S., 2018. Ocean convergence and the dispersion of flotsam. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 115(6), pp.1162-1167.

E. A. D'Asaro, D. F. Carlson, M. Chamecki, R. R. Harcourt, B. K. Haus, B. Fox-Kemper, M. J. Molemaker, A. C. Poje, and D. Yang. Advances in observing and understanding small-scale open ocean circulation during the Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative era. Frontiers in Marine Science, 7:349, May 2020.





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MLI & SI: Upper Ocean MLD, Energetics, Entrainment, Dispersion, and Frontal Strength



Surface submesoscales (MLI) play a major role in cross-scale energy fluxes

G. Hall and B. Fox-Kemper, 2021: Regional mixed layer depth as a climate diagnostic and emergent constraint. In prep.

J. Pearson, BFK, R. Barkan, J. Choi, A. Bracco, and J. C. McWilliams, 2019: Impacts of convergence on Lagrangian statistics in the Gulf of Mexico. Journal of Physical Oceanography, 49(3):675–690. URL http://dx.doi.org/10.1175/JPO-D-18-0029.1.

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J. Pearson, BFK, B. Pearson, H. Chang, B. K. Haus, J. Horstmann, H. S. Huntley, A. D. Kirwan, Jr., B. Lund, and A. Poje. Biases in structure functions from observations of submesoscale flows. JGR-Oceans, 2019. Submitted.

H. Chang, H. S. Huntley, J. A. D. Kirwan, D. F. Carlson, J. A. Mensa, S. Mehta, G. Novelli, T. Ozgokmen, BFK, B. Pearson, J. Pearson, R. Harcourt, and A. J. Poje. Small-scale dispersion in the presence of Langmuir circulation. JPO, 2019. Accepted.

J. Pearson, BFK, R. Barkan, J. Choi, A. Bracco, and J. C. McWilliams. Impacts of convergence on Lagrangian statistics in the Gulf of Mexico. JPO, 49(3):675-690, 2019.

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What happens when surface fluxes filter through sea ice?







Deformation rate, from RGPS data (day-1) Credit: S. Bouillon What happens when surface fluxes filter through sea ice?



Image credit: D. Schwen via C. Bitz





Deformation rate, from RGPS data (day-1) Credit: S. Bouillon

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