

The impact of advection schemes on lateral shear and baroclinic instability

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Abstract

This paper quantifies spurious dissipation and mixing of various advection schemes in idealized experiments of lateral shear and baroclinic instabilities in numerical simulations of a re-entrant Eady channel for configurations with large and small Rossby numbers. Effects of advection schemes on the evolution of background potential energy and the dynamics of the restratification process are analysed. The advection schemes for momentum and tracer are considered using several different methods including a recently developed local dissipation analysis. We use the Weighted Essentially Non-Oscillatory (WENO) scheme and the 5-point-stencil Monotonicity Preserving (MP5) scheme as highly accurate but complex schemes. As lower order, less complex schemes, we use Total Variation Diminishing (TVD) schemes, e.g. the Symmetric Piecewise-Linear (SPL-max- $\frac{1}{3}$) scheme and a Third-Order-Upwind scheme. The analysis shows that the MP5 and SPL-max- $\frac{1}{3}$ schemes provide the best results with MP5 being approximately 2.3 times more expensive in our implementation. In contrast to the configuration with a small Rossby number, when significant differences between schemes become apparent, the different advection schemes behave similarly for a larger Rossby number. Another major outcome of the present study is that generally positive global numerical dissipation and positive background potential energy evolution delay the restratification process.

Keywords: Numerical dissipation, numerical mixing, mesoscale, submesoscale, baroclinic instability, lateral shear instability, numerical viscosity, numerical diffusivity, advection scheme, WENO, MP5, TVD

1. Introduction

It is well known that truncation errors of the discretised advection terms lead to spurious mixing and dissipation and may interact nonlinearly with parameterisations of turbulent mixing and transport. Hecht (2010), for example, attributes spurious cooling within and below the thermocline to interactions between dispersive centered tracer advection schemes and eddy parameterisations. Holland et al. (1998) discuss the

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6 local Gibbs phenomenon in the light of local anomalies due to overshooting and undershooting oscillations
7 in the tracer field. Farrow and Stevens (1995) find unphysical negative surface temperature and spurious
8 heating in some regions of an eddying Antarctic model. Griffies et al. (2000) suggest minimizing the amount
9 of spurious diapycnal mixing in the oceans pycnocline by properly resolving the admitted scales of motion.
10 Lee et al. (2002) report excessive effective diffusion due to numerical mixing and suggest using less diffusive
11 horizontal advection schemes and appropriate vertical resolution. These numerical inaccuracies are a major
12 factor hampering the representation of eddy transport and eddy-mean flow interaction in baroclinic instabil-
13 ities and lateral shear instabilities.

14

15 In ocean modelling, the main attempts to remove the stability problems with the simple central advection
16 schemes have been to use more diffusive schemes. Holland et al. (1998), for example, discuss a simulation
17 with a physically more realistic tracer pattern in a global model by using upstream schemes instead of central
18 advection schemes. Some methods that deal with the control of generation of spurious anomalies are now
19 widely implemented in ocean modelling. The Flux Limiter Method (FLM; Sweby, 1984), the Flux-Corrected
20 Transport (FCT) algorithm (Boris and Book, 1973; Zalesak, 1979) and the Piecewise Parabolic Method
21 (PPM; Colella and Woodward, 1984) are examples. Notwithstanding the substantial progress, these schemes
22 often suffer from diffusive or antidiffusive effects. Diffusive schemes cause energy loss in ocean models due to
23 discrete variance decay of tracer and momentum, in contrast antidiffusive schemes add energy to the system.
24 The former tends to slow down oceanic processes like baroclinic instability and the latter accelerates them
25 nonphysically. It is expected that the high accurate advection schemes minimize these problems by more
26 accurately simulating the discontinuities and maxima in the tracer and momentum field and will reduce the
27 unwanted variance decay.

28

29 Due to the lack of analytical solutions, the quantification of truncation errors is difficult in complex
30 three-dimensional model simulations. Fringer and Armfield (2005) further developed the idea of background
31 potential energy originally proposed by Winters et al. (1995) and Winters and D’Asaro (1996) and suggest
32 estimating the spurious diapycnal mixing from the variations in the background potential energy. Following
33 this approach, Getzlaff et al. (2010) compute effective diffusivities and Ilıcak et al. (2012) quantify the global
34 spurious diapycnal transport. Urakawa and Hasumi (2014) quantify numerical mixing in terms of spurious
35 water mass transformation rates. A different approach is taken by Burchard and Rennau (2008), inspired
36 by the work of Morales Maqueda and Holloway (2006), to quantify local numerical mixing in terms of the
37 local tracer variance decay induced by the advection scheme. This is generalized to a similar approach to
38 quantify numerical dissipation as a kinetic energy loss due to the discretisation of the momentum advection
39 (see Burchard (2012) and Klingbeil et al. (2014)). In this paper the energy variation due to both numerical
40 dissipation for the momentum equations and numerical mixing for the tracer equation is investigated using

41 the numerical dissipation analysis of Klingbeil et al. (2014) as well as the background potential energy anal-
42 ysis by Winters et al. (1995).

43

44 Despite the progress in developing the diagnostic methods of numerical mixing and dissipation, all the
45 studies reviewed so far, however, did not study systematically the behaviour of advection schemes in oceanic
46 applications. This motivated us to investigate these effects in a specific ocean model (General Estuarine
47 Transport Model; Burchard and Bolding, 2002). Since all sources of energy loss in the ocean model are the
48 same for all analyses, and only the deployed advection scheme is changed, all numerical effects are directly
49 related to the used advection schemes. We also expect that the advection schemes behave qualitatively simi-
50 lar in other ocean models. In addition, we want to answer the question whether the high accurate advection
51 schemes used in engineering applications can also provide better predictability for ocean models. For this
52 purpose the Weighted Essentially Non-Oscillatory (WENO) scheme (Liu et al., 1994) and the 5-point-stencil
53 Monotonicity Preserving (MP5) advection scheme (Suresh and Huynh, 1997) are compared with the flux
54 limiter advection schemes.

55

56 We apply the diagnosis of numerical dissipation and mixing to idealized re-entrant channel simulations
57 of lateral and baroclinic shear instability under different dynamical conditions. Such configurations are also
58 used to develop and test eddy parameterisations (Fox-Kemper et al., 2008; Brüggemann and Eden, 2014).
59 Since we expect that such instability processes suffer from the discretisation errors of both momentum and
60 tracer advection schemes, the advection schemes are initially categorised based on their dissipative behaviour
61 in a test case of lateral shear instability. Then, in the baroclinic instability experiment, we verify the effects
62 of different momentum and tracer advection schemes on the generation of eddies. For all setups the WENO
63 and MP5 schemes are compared to popular TVD schemes and the simple Third-Order-Upwind scheme (see
64 Table 1 for detail).

65

66 **2. Ocean model and methodology**

67 In this section the main features of the advection schemes and ocean model we use are explained. Then,
68 the methods used to investigate the effects of discretisation errors of advection schemes are introduced.

69 *2.1. Advection schemes*

70 The simplest possible discretisation of the advection equation e.g., First Order Upwind (FOU), is highly
71 diffusive and consequently useless for long-term unsteady simulations. However, higher order schemes, that
72 provide higher level of accuracy than FOU, generate unacceptable oscillations near discontinuities. The most
73 well-known approach to avoid oscillations is imposing monotonicity to the schemes to make them TVD (Total

Variation Diminishing). The Flux Limiter Method (FLM), for instance, which has been introduced by Sweby (1984), is designed such that it benefits from the monotonicity of a first order scheme and adopts nonlinearity properties of higher order schemes. The reader is referred to Thuburn (1997) for the similarity between TVD-schemes and Positive Schemes and Berger et al. (2005) and Spekreijse (1987) for similarities between slope limiters and FLM. These schemes often suffer from some issues such as smearing and squaring effects near discontinuities and maxima, see e.g. Čada and Torrilhon (2009). These effects cause both numerical dissipation and antidissipation in oceanic applications. The WENO scheme, as an example, aims to minimize these problems by using a convex combination of all possible stencils for computing the interfacial value providing higher-order accuracy in smooth regions and seeking the smoothest solution near discontinuities. The MP5 scheme employs a five-point stencil in a complex geometric approach to approximate the advective flux. One aim of this paper is to compare the effects of these two more recent schemes with the more established flux-limited schemes.

2.2. Ocean model

We use the General Estuarine Transport Model (GETM, www.getm.eu, for details see Burchard and Bolding (2002); Hofmeister et al. (2010); Klingbeil and Burchard (2013)). GETM is a primitive-equation, finite-volume, structured-grid model on an Arakawa C-grid, with bottom- and surface-following general vertical coordinates and explicit mode-splitting into a vertically integrated barotropic mode and a vertically resolved baroclinic mode. Several advection schemes for momentum and tracers which are solved in a flux form are implemented as directional-split schemes. In our simulations a linear version of the equation of state is used. The model has mainly been applied to coastal (Banas et al. (2007); Hofmeister et al. (2013)), estuarine (Burchard et al. (2004); Burchard et al. (2011)), shelf sea (van Leeuwen et al. (2013); Holtermann et al. (2014)) and lake (Umlauf and Lemmin (2005); Becherer and Umlauf (2011)) applications.

2.3. Methodology

The variation of the energy level in the system due to numerical mixing and numerical dissipation is diagnosed using the background potential energy (see e.g. Fringer and Armfield (2005)) and numerical dissipation analysis of Klingbeil et al. (2014), respectively. The effects of advection schemes on the dynamics of the flow are also investigated using eddy kinetic energy and potential energy anomaly time series.

Background potential energy (BPE)

Background potential energy,

$$BPE = g \int_V \rho(z_*(\mathbf{x}, t)) z_*(\mathbf{x}, t) dV, \quad (1)$$

is defined here as the lowest level of potential energy of the system after an adiabatic rearrangement (Winters et al., 1995). In the above relation $\rho(z_*(\mathbf{x}, t))$ and $z_*(\mathbf{x}, t)$ denote the density of the stably stratified sorted fluid and the height of the fluid parcel at position (\mathbf{x}, t) from a reference level after the rearrangement. The background potential energy remains constant if there is no mixing of temperature and salinity. However, even in the absence of physically induced mixing, numerical diapycnal fluxes change the background potential energy. Following the work of Winters et al. (1995) and Winters and D’Asaro (1996), Griffies et al. (2000) quantify the rate of numerical diapycnal mixing empirically by diagnosing the effective diffusivity from

$$k_{\text{eff}}(z_*(\mathbf{x}, t)) = \frac{-F(z_*(\mathbf{x}, t))}{\partial_{z_*(\mathbf{x}, t)} \rho(z_*(\mathbf{x}, t))} \quad (2)$$

where the averaged diapycnal flux $F(z_*(\mathbf{x}, t))$ is computed as

$$F(z_*(\mathbf{x}, t)) = \frac{1}{A} \int \mathbf{F}_D \cdot \hat{\boldsymbol{\rho}} \, dS \quad (3)$$

In (2) and (3), A , dS , $\hat{\boldsymbol{\rho}}$ and \mathbf{F}_D are horizontal cross-sectional area of the fluid domain, the differential area element for an isopycnal surface, a diapycnal unit vector and the amount of flux crossing an isopycnal surface, respectively. For the comparison of the effects of advection schemes the vertically averaged effective diffusivity,

$$k_{\text{avg}}^{\text{num}} = \frac{\int |k_{\text{eff}}(z_*(\mathbf{x}, t))| \, dz_*(\mathbf{x}, t)}{\int dz_*(\mathbf{x}, t)} \quad (4)$$

is computed as a single number.

Numerical dissipation

The conservation of discrete energy in numerical models is the focus of several studies, see e.g. Arakawa (1966), Marsaleix et al. (2008) and Klingbeil et al. (2014). These authors show that significant loss of kinetic energy is caused by truncation errors associated with the numerical advection of discrete momentum. Klingbeil et al. (2014) develop a 3D analysis method to quantify this spurious (numerical) dissipation in each grid cell. Their analysis follows Burchard and Rennau (2008), labelled there as BR08, and is based on the variance decay of the single velocity components $(\chi_{i+1/2,j,k}^u, \chi_{i,j+1/2,k}^v, \chi_{i,j,k+1/2}^w)$ and diagnoses for the C-grid a local numerical dissipation rate

$$\frac{1}{2} \chi_d(\mathbf{u})_{i,j,k} = \frac{1}{dV_{i,j,k}} (\chi_i + \chi_j + \chi_k), \quad (5)$$

where

$$\chi_i = \frac{1}{2} \left(dV_{i-1/2,j,k} \left(\frac{1}{2} \chi_{i-1/2,j,k}^u \right) + dV_{i+1/2,j,k} \left(\frac{1}{2} \chi_{i+1/2,j,k}^u \right) \right), \quad (6)$$

$$\chi_j = \frac{1}{2} \left(dV_{i,j-1/2,k} \left(\frac{1}{2} \chi_{i,j-1/2,k}^v \right) + dV_{i,j+1/2,k} \left(\frac{1}{2} \chi_{i,j+1/2,k}^v \right) \right), \quad (7)$$

$$\chi_k = \frac{1}{2} \left(dV_{i,j,k+1/2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \chi_{i,j,k+1/2}^w \right) + dV_{i,j,k-1/2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \chi_{i,j,k-1/2}^w \right) \right), \quad (8)$$

142 where

$$143 \chi_{i+1/2,j,k}^u = \frac{\mathcal{ADV}\{u^2\}_{i+1/2,j,k} - (\mathcal{ADV}\{u\}_{i+1/2,j,k})^2}{\Delta t} \quad (9)$$

144 and \mathcal{ADV} is the advection operator.

145 The accumulated global numerically dissipated energy is then:

$$146 ND = \int \int \frac{1}{2} \chi_d(\mathbf{u})_{i,j,k} \rho_0 \, dV \, dt. \quad (10)$$

147 The local and global numerical (kinematic) viscosity are also diagnosed. For the 2D lateral shear
148 instability experiment (section 3), local and global numerical viscosity (ν_{num}^h and $\nu_{\text{num,g}}^h$, respectively)
149 associated with the depth-integrated momentum equations are given by

$$150 \nu_{\text{num}}^h = \frac{\chi(\mathbf{u})}{2S_{\alpha\beta}S_{\alpha\beta}}, \quad (11a)$$

$$151 \nu_{\text{num,g}}^h = \frac{\int \chi(\mathbf{u}) \rho_0 \, dV}{\int 2S_{\alpha\beta}S_{\alpha\beta} \rho_0 \, dV}, \quad (11b)$$

152 with the lateral rate of strain $S_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\alpha u_\beta + \partial_\beta u_\alpha)$ and $\alpha, \beta \in \{x, y\}$. This diagnostic is only used
153 for the 2D lateral shear instability experiment for which the local numerical viscosity can be considered
154 to be isotropic.

155 Eddy kinetic energy and available potential energy

156 Differences in the total eddy kinetic energy, the difference between total and mean kinetic energy,

$$157 EKE = \frac{1}{2} \int \left((u - \hat{u})^2 + (v - \hat{v})^2 + (w - \hat{w})^2 \right) \, dV \quad (12)$$

158 show the influence of advection schemes on the eddy field. In (12), \hat{u} , \hat{v} and \hat{w} are zonally-averaged
159 velocity components. In addition, available potential energy can quantify indirectly the stratification
160 of the fluid. Available potential energy $APE = PE - BPE$, is computed as the difference between
161 potential energy

$$162 PE = g \int_V \rho(z(\mathbf{x}, t)) z(\mathbf{x}, t) \, dV, \quad (13)$$

163 and BPE, derived in (1).

164 Diapycnal diffusivity

165 In order to evaluate different parameterisations for eddy fluxes, Brüggemann and Eden (2014) evaluate
166 the diapycnal diffusivity

$$167 k_{dia} = - \frac{\overline{v'b'}\partial_y \bar{b} + \overline{w'b'}\partial_z \bar{b}}{|\nabla \bar{b}|^2}, \quad (14)$$

176 where the diagnosed $\overline{v'b'}$ and $\overline{w'b'}$ are computed by considering the zonal and time mean of the velocity
 177 components (\bar{v}, \bar{w}) and buoyancy \bar{b} and corresponding deviations denoted by $(\)'$. The dependency of
 178 the diapycnal diffusivity profile on the different advection schemes is investigated in this study. Note
 179 that rotational eddy fluxes can bias k_{dia} if calculated in accordance to Eq. (14) (see Eden et al. (2007)).
 180 However, we assume that rotational eddy fluxes do not significantly influence k_{dia} calculated after Eq.
 181 (14) and we omit a more complicated derivation.

182 3. Lateral shear instability experiment

183 The lateral shear instability problem is designed as a zonal jet representative of for instance the Gulf
 184 stream. Instability is studied using the depth-integrated barotropic mode of GETM in Cartesian coordinates
 185 with an f -plane approximation with the Coriolis parameter $f_0 = 8.36 \times 10^{-5} s^{-1}$ in a zonal, flat bottom
 186 re-entrant channel of 1000 m depth and 240 km width. Since explicit viscosity is not employed in the model,
 187 all dissipation is due to the numerics. The simulations are conducted for the three horizontal resolutions of
 188 5 km, 2.5 km and 1.25 km. Since the high resolution configuration of the experiment generates the least
 189 numerical dissipation, the results of the highest-resolution simulation using the MP5 advection scheme are
 190 considered as reference. The experiment is configured for two different types of zonal velocity distribution.
 191 The first case (Eq. 15), hereafter GaussJet, is a jet with double exponential meridional distribution of zonal
 192 velocity and the velocity profile of the second case (Eq. 16), hereafter BoxJet, is combination of a box and a
 193 point jet (concentration of vorticity at a single point),

$$194 \quad u^{\text{GaussJet}}(y) = u_{\text{max}} \exp\left[-\frac{(y - y_c)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right] \quad (15)$$

$$196 \quad u^{\text{BoxJet}}(y) = \begin{cases} 0, & y < y_1 \\ u_{\text{max}} - u_{\text{box}} \frac{|y - y_c|}{y_2 - y_c}, & y_1 \leq y \leq y_2, \\ 0, & y > y_2 \end{cases} \quad (16)$$

197
 198 In the above relation, y is the meridional distance from the southern solid boundary, and we choose $\sigma = 9$
 199 km, $u_{\text{max}} = 2.5 \text{ m s}^{-1}$, $u_{\text{box}} = 2.0 \text{ m s}^{-1}$, $y_c = L_y/2$, $y_1 = L_y/4$, $y_2 = 3L_y/4$ where $L_y = L_x = 240$ km
 200 denotes the width and length of the channel (see Figure 1). The velocity profiles of both cases include at
 201 least two Rayleigh inflection points that satisfy the necessary condition for instability (Vallis, 2006). The
 202 geostrophically adjusted surface elevation η , which is computed numerically using the initial zonal velocity,
 203 is perturbed to generate lateral shear instability. Small perturbations grow and evolve into much larger ones.
 204 This process causes an exchange of energy between mean and eddy energy. Eddies are then dissipated due
 205 to numerical dissipation.

206

207 Figure 2 shows the evolution of the vorticity field for both jet configurations using the high resolution
 208 simulation and the MP5 scheme. The initial perturbations are amplified by extracting energy from the back-
 209 ground flow and potential energy. Then, unstable vortices are generated which finally evolve into much larger
 210 ones. This process causes an exchange of energy between potential energy and kinetic energy and between
 211 the background velocity field and eddies. Total energy will be gradually dissipated by numerical dissipation.
 212 Figure 2 shows that the point jet in the initial velocity field in BoxJet has made the flow more stable to
 213 the perturbation in comparison to GaussJet. Thus, the outset of vortical dynamics in GaussJet is earlier
 214 than BoxJet. In addition, the existing initial sharp discontinuities in the velocity field in BoxJet causes the
 215 generation of eddies with smaller spatial scales than eddies emerged in GaussJet.

216
 217 Figure 3a compares time series of numerical dissipation for the lowest resolution configuration in GaussJet
 218 with the reference case. The high resolution set-up of GaussJet is chosen as the reference since it generates
 219 the least numerical dissipation (see Table 2). In addition, increasing the resolution from 1.25 km to 0.625
 220 km does not increase the eddy kinetic energy level (see Figure 3b), which shows that the contribution of the
 221 new resolved turbulent flow to the eddy kinetic energy level and numerical dissipation is insignificant. The
 222 results presented in figure 3a demonstrate that the Superbee and SPL- $\frac{1}{3}$ advection schemes show significant
 223 antidissipative and dissipative behaviour, respectively. The different dissipative behavior is due to the fact
 224 that the flux limiter methods (e.g. Superbee, SPL- $\frac{1}{3}$), in contrast to the MP5 and WENO schemes that al-
 225 ways use higher-order polynomials to compute the interfacial value, increase the proportion of the first-order
 226 upwind advection scheme in the solution to guarantee monotonicity and consequently damp the numerical
 227 oscillation. This dissipates kinetic energy numerically. However later, the results demonstrate that for some
 228 flux-limiter schemes when the sharp gradients are smoothed, the kinetic energy is increased again due to a
 229 reduced contribution of the upwind scheme. These schemes introduce edges to the solution (see e.g. Čada and
 230 Torrilhon, 2009), which adds kinetic energy to the system or intensifies the buoyancy gradients numerically.
 231 Figure 3b compares the total eddy kinetic energy of GaussJet. For GaussJet, low-resolution simulations with
 232 WENO, MP5 and SPL-max- $\frac{1}{3}$ schemes generate similar eddy kinetic energy as in the reference MP5 simula-
 233 tion. However, for BoxJet (not shown), the higher resolution reference simulation (using the MP5 scheme)
 234 resolves more eddies and generates a higher level of eddy kinetic energy. The maximum difference between
 235 the final EKE for both cases and the low resolution configuration is approximately 20 percent of initial me-
 236 chanical energy. Figures 3c and 3d show that the dissipative schemes (e.g. SPL- $\frac{1}{3}$) generate positive and the
 237 antidissipative scheme (Superbee) generates negative global numerical viscosity while MP5 and SPL-max- $\frac{1}{3}$
 238 (neutral schemes) generate a relatively small global numerical viscosity. In addition, the global numerical
 239 viscosity of the Superbee scheme in BoxJet is slightly positive in the earlier stage of instability where sharp
 240 velocity gradients still exist.

241

242 Figures 4a and 4b compare two snapshots of local numerical dissipation rate of the GaussJet for the
 243 Superbee and SPL- $\frac{1}{3}$ schemes. The comparison demonstrates that Superbee has the largest area of negative
 244 values and SPL- $\frac{1}{3}$ is mostly positive which explains the global negative and positive numerical dissipation
 245 of the Superbee and SPL-max- $\frac{1}{3}$ schemes. When the antidissipative schemes, e.g. the Superbee scheme,
 246 generate globally negative numerical dissipation rates, the regions with high negative numerical dissipation
 247 rate are larger than the areas with the positive values. Figure 4c shows the snapshot of local numerical vis-
 248 cosity of the GaussJet using (11a). The local numerical viscosity includes regions with positive and negative
 249 local values. The results demonstrate that the regions with the high magnitude of local numerical viscosity
 250 coincide with high numerical dissipation rate. However, this does not always apply since the regions with
 251 very small magnitude of shear have high numerical viscosity too. Following the approach that Ilıcak et al.
 252 (2012) used to show the relation of the grid Reynolds number to the rate of change of background potential
 253 energy, the grid Reynolds number is shown here locally and to compare with the local numerical dissipation.
 254 Figure 4d shows the grid Reynolds numbers which are computed using the local horizontal velocity and local
 255 numerical viscosity. The results indicate that in contrast to the conclusion of Ilıcak et al. (2012) that high
 256 tracer diffusion is associated with high Reynolds numbers, here regions with high dissipation rate show low
 257 Reynolds numbers. This relation also follows when computing a Reynolds number using the global numer-
 258 ical viscosity and the maximum initial velocity. Using the global numerical viscosity of different advection
 259 schemes for both GaussJet and BoxJet shown in Figs. 3c and 3d and considering the constant initial veloc-
 260 ity as the velocity scale, the relation of high (anti-)dissipative schemes generating low Reynolds numbers is
 261 reconfirmed. However, this relation might not be correct for the regions with very low shear. Since refining
 262 the grid reduces the global numerical viscosity, the grid Reynolds number will also be increased.

263
 264 Table 2 compares the ratio of the total accumulated numerically dissipated energy to the total initial me-
 265 chanical energy for the three resolutions for all advection schemes. For both cases increasing the resolution
 266 reduces the numerical dissipation. As expected, the FOU advection scheme shows the highest amount of
 267 dissipation. In addition, Superbee and SPL- $\frac{1}{3}$ have the highest negative and positive numerical dissipation
 268 among the TVD schemes. SPL-max- $\frac{1}{3}$ and MP5 generate the least absolute dissipation. The amount of dis-
 269 sipation for the Third-Order-Upwind scheme for the high resolution experiment is comparable to the WENO
 270 and MP5 schemes.

271

272 4. Baroclinic instability experiment

273 We use an eddy channel flow experiment to diagnose the effects of numerical mixing and dissipation
 274 on baroclinic instabilities. Such configurations are often used to validate mixing parameterisations (e.g.,

275 Fox-Kemper et al., 2008; Eden, 2010, 2011; Skillingstad and Samelson, 2012). Our configuration resembles
 276 the models of Eady (1949) and Stone (1966) (see Brüggemann and Eden (2014) for more details).

277

278 The configuration is a zonal, re-entrant, flat-bottom channel on a f -plane. There is a constant vertical
 279 and meridional buoyancy gradient and a zonal background velocity in thermal wind balance which is unstable
 280 to small perturbations. The northern and southern solid boundaries are considered as free slip. Similar to
 281 the lateral shear instability experiment, explicit viscosity and diffusivity are not employed in the model. Note
 282 that the same advection schemes for all spatial directions are selected for the momentum and tracer equation.
 283 However, due to the fact that MP5 and WENO schemes are very expensive algorithms they are selected here
 284 only for the horizontal direction. For this simulation scenario, the vertical advection scheme of P2-PDM
 285 is applied together with the schemes of WENO and MP5 for both tracer and momentum equations. For
 286 another scenario, the Third-Order-Upwind scheme is also used for the momentum equations for all directions
 287 and in combination with the P2-PDM scheme for the tracer equation. In addition to these simulations,
 288 another series of simulations is also performed. In these simulations one advection scheme is used for the
 289 momentum equations in all directions while the advection schemes for the tracer is changed. The results
 290 of these simulations show similar diffusive effects for the tracer field. However, the diffusive schemes used
 291 for the tracer equations provide less kinetic energy for the momentum advection scheme to dissipate. Less
 292 numerical dissipation due to diffusive tracer advection is demonstrated and explained by Klingbeil et al. (2014)

293

294 The configurations differ in their horizontal grid sizes and dynamical regimes, namely with Rossby numbers
 295 of 0.1 and 0.8, respectively (see Table 3). The grid sizes for the setups N32, N64, N128, N256 for the
 296 configuration with $Ro = 0.8$ are 5 km, 2.5 km, 1.25 km and 0.625 km and for the configuration with $Ro = 0.1$
 297 are 40.0 km, 20.0 km, 10.0 km and 5.0 km, respectively. Small perturbations are added to the temperature
 298 field which grow continuously until finite amplitude baroclinic waves develop (Figures 5a and 6a). In this
 299 stage, the re-stratification process is initiated (Figures 5b and 6b). The zonal scale of the fastest growing
 300 modes, L_s , using the classical Eady solution for the configuration with $Ro = 0.1$ and Stone's approximation
 301 for finite Richardson numbers Ri for the configuration with $Ro = 0.8$ are approximated as $L_s \approx 3.9$ km and
 302 $L_s = 2\pi/k_s \approx 25.175$ km, respectively. k_s is computed as

$$303 \quad k_s = \sqrt{\frac{5/2}{1 + Ri} \frac{f}{U_0}} \quad (17)$$

304 where U_0 and R_i are 0.2 m s^{-1} and 1.562, respectively. In (17), k_s and U_0 are wavenumber and velocity
 305 scale, respectively. At the phase that finite amplitude baroclinic waves are developed, the computed scale of
 306 maximum instability based on spectral analysis of velocity field, in good agreement with the approximations,
 307 are 155 km and 25 km for the configurations with $Ro = 0.1$ and $Ro = 0.8$, respectively. Growth of the un-
 308 stable waves (see Figures 5c and 6c) is driven by a conversion of available potential energy into eddy kinetic

energy. In this stage, the restratification process is intensified (see Figures 5d and 6d). Later, the fluid is almost stratified (see Figures 5f and 6f) and closed asymmetric eddies and symmetric dipoles emerge for the configurations with low and high Rossby numbers, respectively (see Figures 5e and 6e).

312

In the rest of this section the effects of the advection schemes on the components of total energy are analysed. Figure 7 explains the components of the total energy and their evolution in the baroclinic instability. The initial background potential energy is considered as reference while the sum of the initial available potential energy and the initial kinetic energy are considered as the initial mechanical energy. Eddy kinetic energy extracts energy from available potential energy and accelerates the mean kinetic energy. When the flow is almost stratified, energy is exchanged between eddy kinetic energy and mean kinetic energy. This phase is associated with shear production of eddies and reduction of numerical dissipation rate and background potential energy variation. In addition to the dissipation of kinetic energy other sources of numerical errors contribute in energy lost (Tartinville et al. (1998), important ones are grid-staggering and internal pressure gradient errors which contribute to the residual in our energy budget).

4.1. Background potential energy

Figures 8a and 8b compare the time evolution of background potential energy (BPE) for the setups with $Ro = 0.1$ and $Ro = 0.8$, respectively. They show that a larger portion of available potential energy (APE) is dissipated in the configuration with $Ro = 0.1$ than for the configuration with $Ro = 0.8$. SPL- $\frac{1}{3}$, for example, dissipates 5 percent of initial mechanical energy for the configuration with $Ro = 0.8$ and 10 percent for the configuration with $Ro = 0.1$, respectively. Figures 8c and 8d compare the BPE of the model for all four resolutions for both configurations when approximately 70 and 65 percent of APE is released, respectively. They show that refining the grid generally decreases the BPE. They also show that all advection schemes dissipate energy globally in the restratification phase. From the outset of the simulation until approximately day 40 for the configuration with $Ro = 0.8$ and day 200 for the configuration with $Ro = 0.1$, the instability restratifies the fluid. During this phase the initial sharp temperature gradients are smoothed and all advection schemes present globally diffusive behaviour, as already seen in BoxJet of the lateral shear instability setup (see Figure 3d), where all schemes are dissipative initially. After that stage, which coincides with the threshold of switching from the initial semi-3D flow to a two-dimensional flow including eddies of larger size, the horizontal temperature gradients are weak, and the vertical heat flux is decreased. Consequently, the advection schemes are less diffusive in the second phase. In all configurations, SPL- $\frac{1}{3}$ and Superbee are the most diffusive and antidiffusive schemes, respectively.

340

Figures 9a and 9b compare the averaged numerical diapycnal diffusivity $k_{\text{avg}}^{\text{num}}$ of some advection schemes for the setup N128. It becomes evident that the most diffusive advection schemes result in the largest effec-

342

343 tive diffusivity. In addition, the averaged numerical diapycnal diffusivity of different advection schemes in
344 the configuration with $Ro = 0.1$ are clearly distinct. In contrast, the results show that almost all advection
345 schemes are in the same order diffusive in the restratification phase for the configuration with $Ro = 0.8$. In
346 all configurations, SPL- $\frac{1}{3}$ and Superbee are the most diffusive and antidiffusive schemes, respectively.

347

348 Figures 9c and 9d compare the maximum averaged numerical diapycnal diffusivity of different advection
349 schemes computed for the three different horizontal resolutions. Refining the grids decreases the maximum
350 averaged numerical diapycnal diffusivity in the configuration with $Ro = 0.1$. In contrast, refining the grid
351 *increases* the maximum averaged numerical diapycnal diffusivity for the configuration with $Ro = 0.8$. A
352 possible explanation for this is that the eddies in the resolutions with $\frac{\Delta x}{L_0}$ smaller than 0.5 are properly
353 resolved. Thus, increasing the resolution not necessarily decreases the effective diffusivity.

354 4.2. Numerical dissipation

355 Figures 10a and 10b compare the (accumulated) global numerically dissipated energy of the configurations
356 with $Ro = 0.1$ and $Ro = 0.8$, respectively. The analyses demonstrate that the numerical dissipation evolves in
357 two phases. The first phase is during the restratification process which causes the highest level of dissipation,
358 and the second phase is associated with a quasi two-dimensional flow. All advection schemes in the first
359 phase are globally dissipative. In the first phase all schemes have locally positive numerical dissipation rates.
360 However, in the second phase, when the momentum gradients are smooth, the antidissipative schemes have
361 a larger area of negative local numerical dissipation rate than in the first stage.

362

363 In all configurations, SPL- $\frac{1}{3}$ and Superbee are the most dissipative and antidissipative schemes, respec-
364 tively. The proportion of dissipated energy in both regimes is approximately in the same order except for
365 the Third-Order upwind scheme which allows a higher level of numerical dissipation for the configuration
366 with high Rossby number. Figures 10c and 10d compare the numerical dissipation of the model for the
367 configurations with $Ro = 0.1$ and $Ro = 0.8$ when approximately 70 and 65 percent of APE are released,
368 respectively. This demonstrated that increasing the horizontal resolution generally decreases the numerical
369 dissipation.

370 4.3. Available potential energy

371 Figures 11a and 11b compare the time evolution of the APE of different advection schemes. In contrast
372 to the configuration with $Ro = 0.8$ where the advection schemes release APE in the same order, the ad-
373 vection schemes for the configuration with $Ro = 0.1$ generate different results. The antidissipative schemes
374 reduce APE more than the others for all resolutions. The Superbee scheme reduces APE the most and the
375 difference of final APE of the Superbee scheme with the most diffusive advection scheme, SPL- $\frac{1}{3}$, is about

376 5 percent of total initial mechanical energy. The sensitivity analysis (see figures 12a and 12b) to the grid
377 size demonstrates that the low resolution experiments release much less APE in the first phase than the high
378 resolution experiments.

379 4.4. Eddy kinetic energy

380 Figures 13a and 13b compare the evolution of eddy kinetic energy for configurations with $Ro = 0.1$ and
381 $Ro = 0.8$. The comparison of the eddy kinetic energy in the end of first phase shows that for the configuration
382 with $Ro = 0.1$ the Superbee scheme, as the antidissipative scheme, allows for the highest level of eddy kinetic
383 energy. It has 20 percent more eddy kinetic energy than the most dissipative scheme, SPL- $\frac{1}{3}$. The comparison
384 of results for the configuration with $Ro = 0.8$ and the setup N128 indicates that all schemes generate a similar
385 level of eddy kinetic energy.

386 4.5. Diapycnal diffusivity

387 Figures 14a and 14b compare the vertical profile of diapycnal diffusivity for configurations with $Ro = 0.1$
388 and $Ro = 0.8$. The time averaging is done for the period where 10 to 50 percent of APE is released. The
389 results of the configuration with $Ro = 0.1$ (see figure 14a) show that the vertical structure and the magnitude
390 of the diapycnal diffusivity largely depended on the advection schemes. The neutral advection schemes
391 e.g. MP5, show large amplitudes of diapycnal diffusivity in the mid water depth. The schemes with more
392 absolute numerical diffusion show less dependency of water depth on the magnitude of diapycnal diffusivity.
393 However, the results of the configuration with $Ro = 0.8$ (see 14b) does not show a direct dependency of
394 diapycnal diffusivity on numerical dissipation. For $Ro = 0.8$ we find much less dependency of K_{dia} on the
395 numerical advection scheme. In these ageostrophic experiments, K_{dia} is by one order of magnitude larger
396 than in the geostrophic experiments with $Ro = 0.1$ in accordance to the results from Brüggemann and Eden
397 (2014). Therefore, we assume that the effects of the numerical advection scheme is overlayed by the physical
398 dynamics.

399 5. Summary and discussion

400 This study assesses the role of diffusive and dissipative effects of various advection schemes on baroclinic
401 and lateral shear instabilities under different dynamical conditions categorised by large and small Rossby
402 numbers. The question was whether advection schemes which have been successfully applied on engineering
403 scales and for one-dimensional problems can improve the predictability of eddy permitting ocean models. All
404 advection schemes can be categorised based on their unwanted effects near discontinuities and smooth regions
405 in one-dimensional initial value problems. Theses effects in ocean models may cause unphysical violation of
406 energy and tracer variance conservation. Depending on whether energy decreases, increases or is almost con-
407 stant, advection schemes are categorised as dissipative, anti-dissipative and neutral, respectively. Dissipative

408 schemes are commonly used because of their numerical stability, but also anti-dissipative schemes may be
409 numerically stable and thus useful, see e.g. Fringer and Armfield (2005); Rennau and Burchard (2009). The
410 advection schemes applied in the present study have been selected based on their known general proper-
411 ties. The original WENO and MP5 schemes were selected as highly accurate and complex algorithms. The
412 SPL-max- $\frac{1}{3}$ and P2-PDM schemes were selected as representatives of the flux limiter schemes with minimum
413 numerical dissipation. In addition, the SPL- $\frac{1}{3}$ scheme is representative for diffusive advection schemes, along
414 with the very diffusive and simple First-Order Upstream (FOU) scheme, whereas the Superbee scheme is
415 known for its anti-dissipative properties. All these properties are known from idealised one-dimensional test
416 scenarios, but their behaviour in different dynamical regimes for the ocean is unknown. The behaviour of
417 advection schemes which are excluded here is assumed to be comparable to schemes belonging to the same
418 category (accurate, dissipative, anti-dissipative).

419

420 In the barotropic lateral shear instability experiment we only solve the momentum equations. Two dif-
421 ferent setups of an unstable jet were designed to investigate the performance of the advection schemes in
422 eddy simulations which are developed from initial smooth maxima and sharp gradient in the velocity field.
423 The numerical analyses confirmed the above-mentioned dissipative behaviour of advection schemes. However,
424 the Superbee scheme which is known as an anti-dissipative scheme presents also global dissipative behaviour
425 in the initial phase of the instability process. This scheme, as a hybrid scheme, adds locally the dissipation
426 of an upwind first order scheme to the model until the sharp discontinuities are smooth. In this experi-
427 ment, the MP5 scheme generates the least absolute numerical dissipation. From the flux limiter schemes, the
428 SPL-max- $\frac{1}{3}$ scheme generates the least numerical dissipation which is comparable with the numerical dissi-
429 pation of the WENO scheme. The WENO, MP5 and SPL-max- $\frac{1}{3}$ schemes are categorised as neutral schemes.

430

431 To investigate the interplay between the numerical mixing of tracers and numerical kinetic energy dis-
432 sipation, the baroclinic instability experiments are performed. The results show that the tracer advection
433 schemes which increase the BPE more, provide less kinetic energy to be dissipated by the momentum advec-
434 tion scheme. For all advection schemes, the variation of BPE occurs in two phases. In the first phase, which
435 is associated with baroclinic production of eddy kinetic energy, the advection schemes which are recognised
436 as neutral schemes in the lateral shear instability experiment increase BPE by approximately 4 to 5 percent
437 of initial mechanical energy for oth configurations with large and small Rossby number when $\Delta x/L_0 = 1/4$.
438 However, the diffusive scheme for the configuration with $Ro = 0.1$, SPL- $\frac{1}{3}$, and the anti-diffusive scheme, Su-
439 perbee, change the BPE two times more than when these schemes are used in the configuration with $Ro = 0.8$.
440 In contrast to the first phase, in the second phase, when turbulence is fully developed, BPE is approximately
441 constant. The same holds for the numerical dissipation. The neutral schemes dissipate approximately 15 to
442 20 % of the initial mechanical energy in all simulations for the same resolution. In addition, in contrast to

443 the first phase, the kinetic energy is only weakly dissipated. In general, the numerical dissipation and mixing
444 rates in the first phase are much larger than in the second phase and all schemes are globally dissipative
445 in the first phase. However, for the experiments with $Ro = 0.1$ the advection schemes which are generally
446 known as anti-diffusive schemes present partially globally anti-dissipative and anti-diffusive behaviour during
447 the second phase. The possible reason is that both momentum and tracer gradients are sharp in the first
448 phase and smooth in the second phase. Therefore, the local dissipation and mixing rate are mostly positive
449 in the first phase.

450

451 It was shown that the $SPL-\frac{1}{3}$ and Superbee schemes generate the maximum and minimum numerical
452 dissipation and background potential energy variation, respectively. The schemes with numerical dissipation
453 being in the middle between the numerical dissipation of the most dissipative and anti-dissipative schemes
454 can be considered as the best advection schemes. The same should hold for the variations of background
455 potential energy. Thus, it can be concluded that the MP5 advection scheme provides the most appropriate
456 results for both dynamical regimes. However, the WENO scheme, despite of its complex algorithm and high
457 computational costs, appears not to be as energy conserving as the $SPL-\max-\frac{1}{3}$ scheme. The P2-PDM scheme
458 was in general more diffusive and dissipative than the $SPL-\max-\frac{1}{3}$. The $SPL-\frac{1}{3}$ scheme reduces energy more
459 than other schemes and the Superbee scheme is the one which adds energy to the system. The result shows
460 that the scenario of using a Third-Order-Upwind scheme for the momentum and a flux limited scheme for
461 the tracer equation as energy conservative as the $SPL-\max-\frac{1}{3}$ scheme for the configuration with high Rossby
462 number, although the Third-Order-Upwind scheme is more dissipative than the $SPL-\max-\frac{1}{3}$ scheme in the
463 lateral shear instability experiment. Thus, the final results of this scenario also depend on the selected flux
464 limited scheme for the tracer equation.

465

466 Results demonstrate that refining the grid reduces the global numerical viscosity of the lateral shear
467 instability experiment and the averaged numerical diffusivity of the configuration with small Ro of the baro-
468 clinic instability experiment. However, increasing the horizontal resolution in the configuration with large
469 Ro increases the numerical diapycnal diffusivity. This might be due to the fact that the eddies are resolved
470 appropriately for the high resolution setups. In addition, the results of the diapycnal diffusivity analysis
471 present similar vertical profiles for all schemes. The diapycnal diffusivity analysis shows that the vertical
472 structure of diapycnal diffusivity depends on the applied advection schemes. The vertical profile of the di-
473 apycnal diffusivity is more water depth depended when the MP5 and $SPL-\max-\frac{1}{3}$ schemes are used.

474

475 The analyses of eddy kinetic and available potential energy reveal that all advection schemes for the con-
476 figuration with $Ro = 0.8$ generate approximately the same level of EKE and APE. However, when the flow
477 is quasi two-dimensional, the dissipative schemes generate less eddy kinetic energy than the anti-dissipative

478 schemes. However, the APE analysis of the configuration with the low Rossby number demonstrates that
479 the anti-diffusive scheme in the first phase of stratification released more potential energy than the diffusive
480 scheme, although they finally reach to the same level of potential energy. Furthermore, for this configura-
481 tion, it was shown that the anti-dissipative schemes generate the highest eddy kinetic energy in both phases.
482 It was also shown that refining the grids for both dynamical regimes decreases the final level of APE and
483 consequently the final level of stratification.

484
485 For assessing the trade-offs between complex advection schemes versus high-resolution simulations, a
486 sensitivity analysis is performed using identical advection schemes in all directions and equations for three
487 different computational grids. As a simple test scenario, an idealised test case is selected (see Klingbeil et al.
488 (2014) for details), since it can be performed in serial mode using GETM and its physical process is compa-
489 rable to the idealised test cases used in the present study. The results (see Table 4) show that computations
490 using the MP5 and WENO schemes are about 4-6 times more expensive than using the flux limiter schemes,
491 depending on the model resolution. The substantial changes in relative computational costs between different
492 model resolutions are due to the different percentage of the total computational time that the calculation of
493 the advection terms takes for the different model resolutions. In addition, the numerical simulations using
494 MP5 and WENO schemes for the horizontal direction of the baroclinic instability test case take approximately
495 2.3 times longer than simulating with flux limiters in our implementation. The SPL-max- $\frac{1}{3}$ scheme causes
496 more appropriate variation of energy in comparison to other flux limiters, and the MP5 schemes provides
497 best energy conservation but is several times more expensive than the flux limited schemes. In addition, the
498 results of all experiments demonstrate that refining the grid reduces the numerical dissipation and numerical
499 mixing of tracer. These very high extra computational costs of these accurate schemes demonstrate that those
500 are only valuable for the generation of reference solutions rather than production simulations for complex
501 realistic ocean scenarios.

503 6. Conclusion

504 To conclude, the results of this study show that all tested advection schemes are numerically dissipative
505 and increase the background potential energy in the restratification phase of the baroclinic instability ex-
506 periment. However, when the governing flow is 2D, the Superbee advection scheme is anti-dissipative for
507 both test cases, while the other schemes are dissipative. One major outcome of the present study is that
508 generally positive global numerical dissipation and positive background potential energy evolution delay the
509 restratification process. Returning to the main question of this study, it is now possible to state that MP5
510 and SPL-max- $\frac{1}{3}$ generate the best results, with the MP5 being computationally more demanding but more

511 accurate. Taken together, these results suggest to use either MP5 as a high-order advection scheme or SPL-
512 $\max\text{-}\frac{1}{3}$ as a flux limited advection scheme for eddy-resolving ocean models if new mixing parameterisations
513 are to be derived or high accuracy of the results is demanded.

514

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Name	Limiter	Reference
Third Order Upwind	$\{\phi = (1/2 + x) + (1/2 - x)r, x = (1 - 2C_r)/6\}$	e.g. Pietrzak (1998)
P2-PDM	$\{\max(0, \min(\phi, 2/(1 - C_r), 2\frac{r}{C_r}))\}$	e.g. Pietrzak (1998)
Superbee	$\max[0, \min\{2r, \max(r, 1), 2\}]$	e.g. Waterson and Deconinck (2007)
SPL- $\frac{1}{3}$	$\max[0, \min(2r, 1/3 + 2r/3, 2/3 + r/3, 2)]$	e.g. Waterson and Deconinck (2007)
SPL-max- $\frac{1}{3}$	$\max[0, \min(2r, \max(1/3 + 2r/3, 2/3 + r/3), 2)]$	Waterson and Deconinck (2007)
Name	Type	Reference
MP5	Geometrical approach (monotonicity preserving, fifth order)	Suresh and Huynh (1997)
WENO	Adaptive stencil (fifth order)	e.g. Shu (1998)

Table 1: List of advection schemes. The first group of advection schemes is expressed in flux-limiter form. $r = \frac{S_{i+1} - S_i}{S_i - S_{i-1}}$, S = concentration, C_r = Courant number. In the MP5 and WENO scenarios in baroclinic instability experiment the vertical momentum and tracer advection schemes are P2-PDM. Since FOU is very diffusive, it is used just in the lateral shear instability experiment.

Grid properties						
Name	R2500		R1250		R625	
Number of cells	96*96		192*192		384*384	
Cell size (Δx)	2.5 km		1.25 km		0.625 km	
Time step (Δt)	1.0 s		0.5 s		0.25 s	
ND/ME0	GaussJet			BoxJet		
Advection scheme	R2500	R1250	R625	R2500	R1250	R625
FOU	5.91×10^{-1}	5.00×10^{-1}	3.75×10^{-1}	5.91×10^{-1}	3.47×10^{-1}	2.24×10^{-1}
Third Order Upstream	4.17×10^{-2}	1.06×10^{-2}	2.80×10^{-3}	2.02×10^{-2}	7.50×10^{-3}	3.30×10^{-3}
P2-PDM	4.90×10^{-2}	1.20×10^{-2}	3.10×10^{-3}	2.41×10^{-2}	8.70×10^{-3}	3.50×10^{-3}
Superbee	-1.26×10^{-1}	-4.47×10^{-2}	-1.75×10^{-2}	-5.96×10^{-2}	-2.89×10^{-2}	-1.75×10^{-2}
SPL-max- $\frac{1}{3}$	5.70×10^{-3}	-4.60×10^{-3}	-3.00×10^{-3}	2.50×10^{-3}	-1.50×10^{-3}	-1.50×10^{-3}
SPL- $\frac{1}{3}$	1.26×10^{-1}	3.86×10^{-2}	1.19×10^{-2}	6.29×10^{-2}	2.18×10^{-2}	1.00×10^{-2}
MP5	1.89×10^{-2}	4.70×10^{-3}	1.20×10^{-3}	1.15×10^{-2}	7.80×10^{-3}	6.70×10^{-3}
WENO	3.62×10^{-2}	9.20×10^{-3}	2.60×10^{-3}	2.57×10^{-2}	1.18×10^{-2}	8.80×10^{-3}

Table 2: The parameters and results of the lateral shear instability test case. First panel: resolution and grid size, Second panel: The ratio of the (accumulated) global numerically dissipated energy (ND) to initial total kinetic energy (ME0) until the 8th day.

Grid properties								
Configuration	Configuration with $Ro = 0.8$				Configuration with $Ro = 0.1$			
Name	N32	N64	N128	N256	N32	N64	N128	N256
Horizontal cells number (N_x, N_y)	32*32	64*64	128*128	256*256	32*32	64*64	128*128	256*256
Horizontal grid size (Δx , km)	5.0	2.5	1.25	0.625	40.0	20.0	10.0	5.0
Barotropic time step (s)	8.0	4.0	2.0	1.0	64.0	32.0	16.0	8.0
Baroclinic time step (Δt , s)	480.0	240.0	120.0	60.0	3840.0	1920.0	960.0	480.0
Parameters								
Name	Symbol							
Rossby number	Ro		0.8		0.1			
Velocity scale	U_0		0.2 m s ⁻¹					
Coriolis frequency	f_0		$5.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{s}^{-1}$					
Rossby radius of deformation	$L_0 \approx \frac{U_0}{f_0 Ro} \approx \frac{NH}{f_0}$		5000.0 m		40000.0 m			
Richardson number	$Ri = 1./Ro^2$		1.562		100			
Channel width & length	$L_y \approx L_x \approx 32L_0$		160 km		1280 km			
Water depth	H		200 m		1600 m			
Aspect ratio	$(\delta = H/L_0)$		4.0×10^{-2}					
Vertical buoyancy gradient	$N^2 = (Lf_0/H)^2 = (f_0/\delta)^2$		$1.56 \times 10^{-6} \text{s}^{-2}$					
Horizontal buoyancy gradient	$M^2 = U/(f_0H) = [Ro/\delta f_0^2]$		$5.0 \times 10^{-8} \text{s}^{-2}$		$6.25 \times 10^{-9} \text{s}^{-2}$			

Table 3: The resolutions and parameters used in the baroclinic test case.

Name	$\Delta x = \Delta y = 1.0 \text{ km}, \Delta z = 0.5 \text{ m}$	$\Delta x = \Delta y = 0.5 \text{ km}, \Delta z = 0.5 \text{ m}$	$\Delta x = \Delta y = 1.0 \text{ km}, \Delta z = 0.25 \text{ m}$
FOU	1.0	2.74	1.406
Third Order Upwind	1.177	3.60	1.697
P2-PDM	1.27	4.0	1.81
Flux limiters	1.17	3.46	1.61
MP5	4.17	14.27	5.80
WENO	3.84	15.68	5.49

Table 4: Comparison of computational costs for the simulation of an idealised mesoscale eddy test case using different advection schemes (see the details of the test case in Klingbeil et al. (2014)). The setup is configured here as a flat bottom basin of 20 m depth and 30 km width and length. The computations are performed for three different types of computational grid configurations. The computation cost of each simulation is reported as the ratio of its computation time to the computation time of the simulation which uses the FOU advection scheme for the grid configuration with $\Delta x = 1.0 \text{ km}$, and $\Delta z = 0.5 \text{ km}$. All simulations are performed in serial mode.

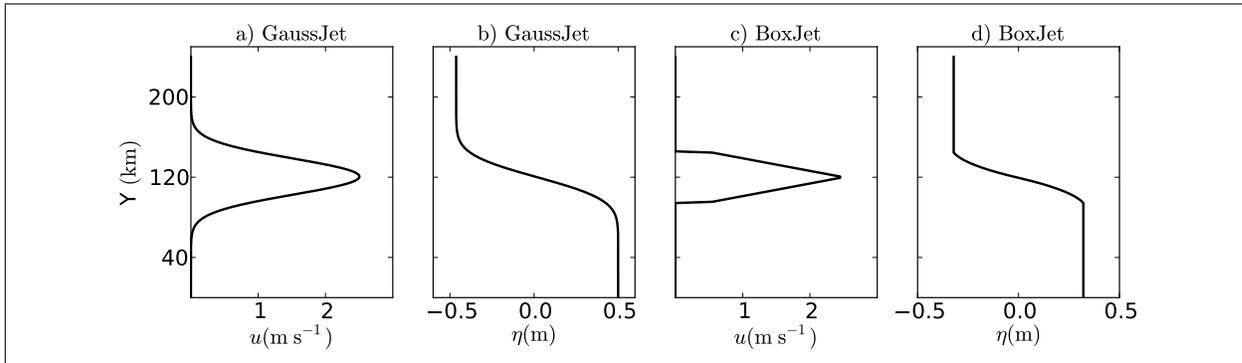


Figure 1: Initial conditions for the lateral shear instability test case. a,b : Zonal velocity and surface elevation for test GaussJet; c,d : Zonal velocity and surface elevation for test BoxJet; $u_{max} = 2.5 \text{ m s}^{-1}$.

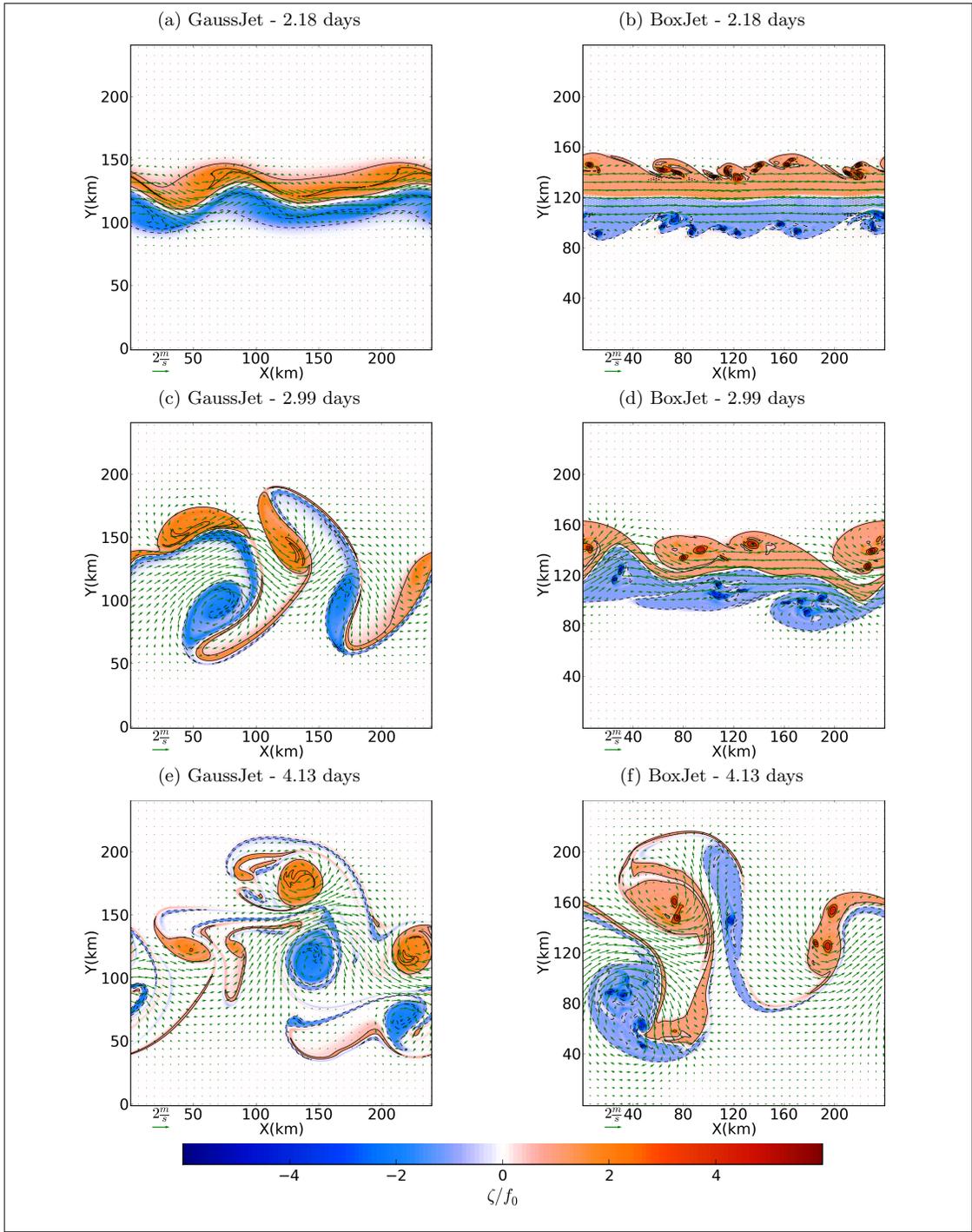


Figure 2: Time evolution of the vorticity and velocity field of GaussJet (a,c,e) and BoxJet (b,d,f) for the lateral shear instability test case using MP5 advection scheme for resolution R625.

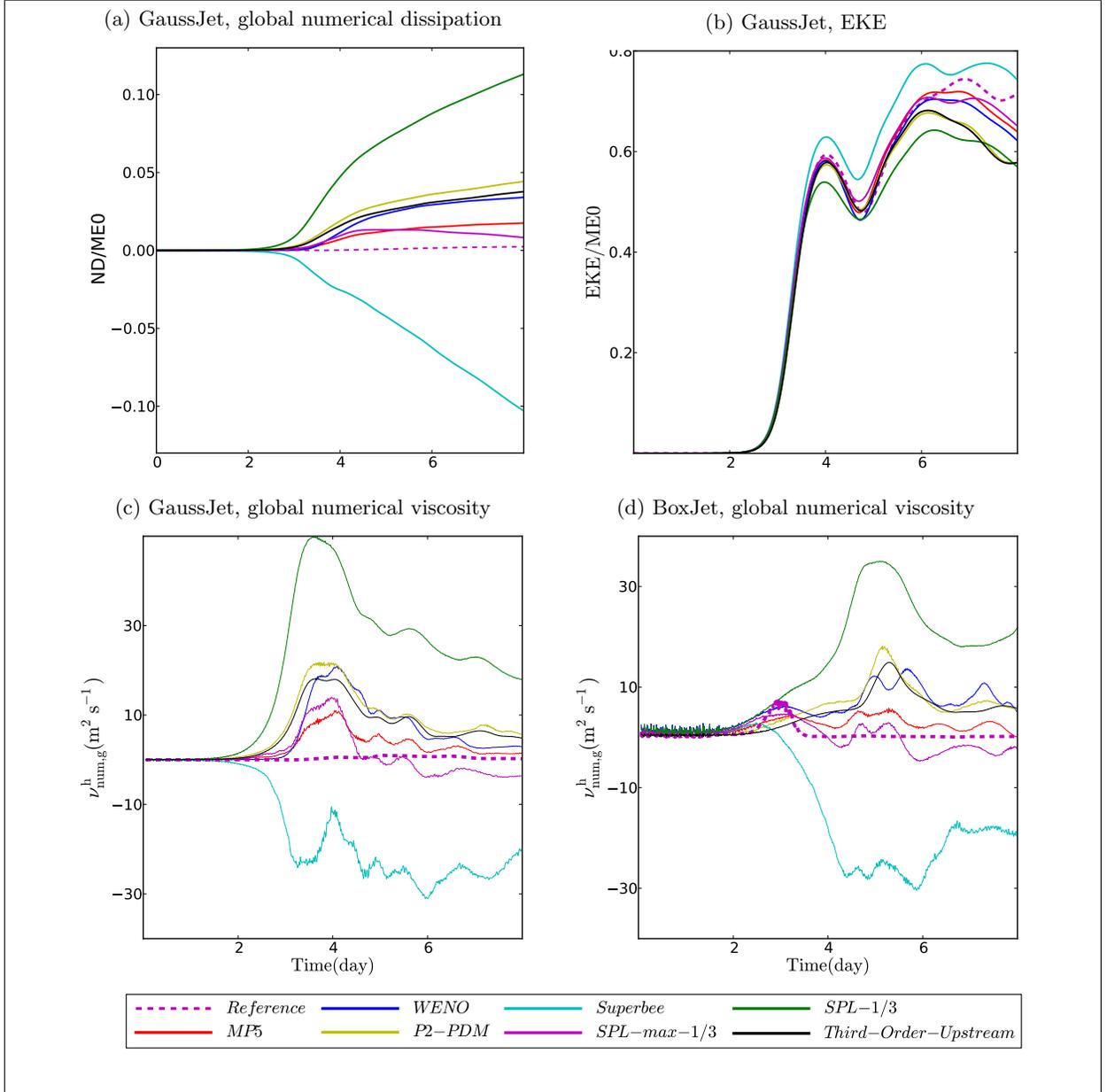


Figure 3: Lateral shear instability test case for resolution R2500: (a): ratio of (accumulated) global numerically dissipated energy to initial mechanical energy; (b): ratio of total Eddy Kinetic Energy (EKE) to total initial mechanical energy; (c,d): comparison of global numerical viscosity.

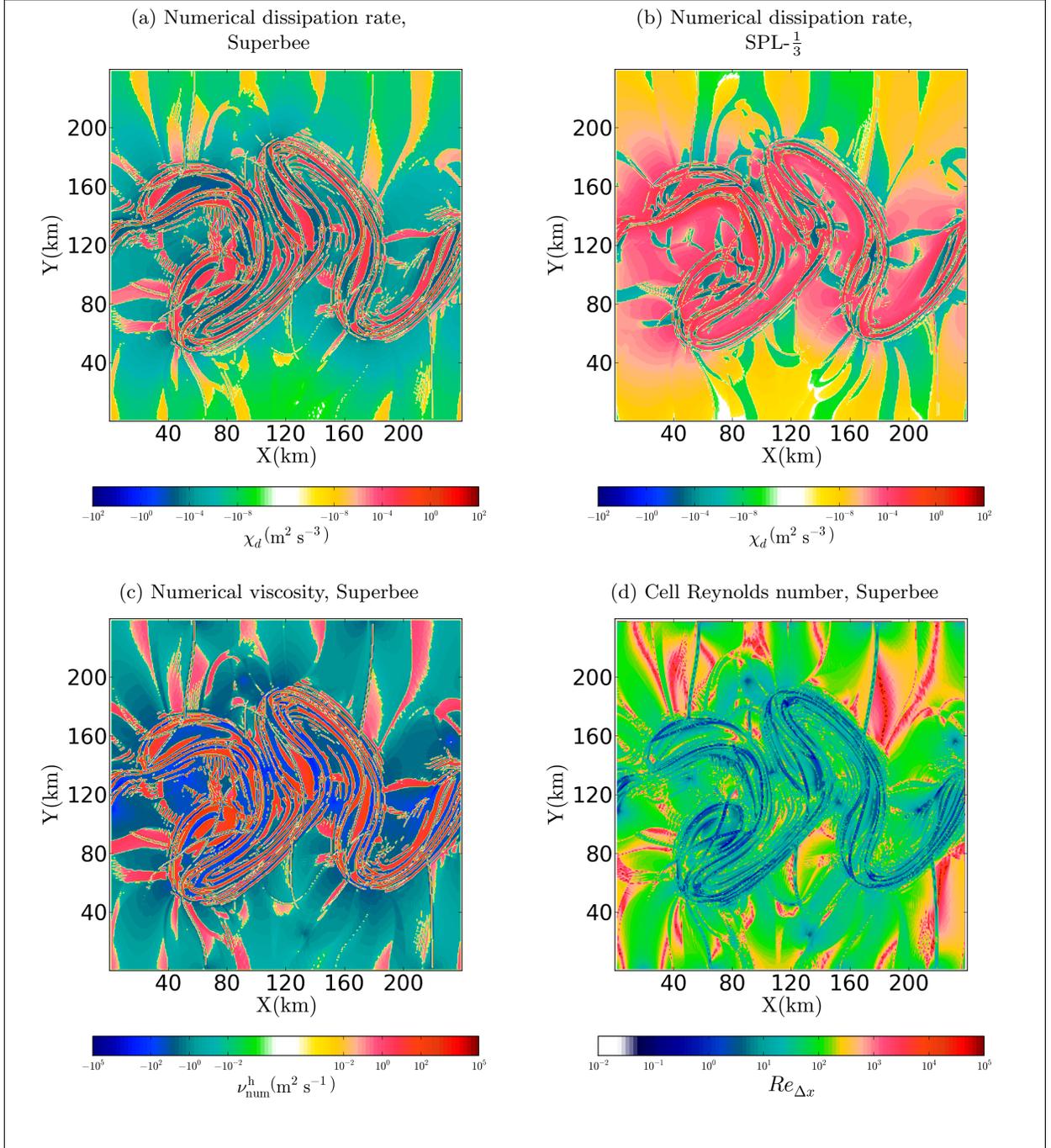


Figure 4: Lateral shear instability test case for GaussJet and the resolution R625. (a,b): Local numerical dissipation rate (see Eq. 5) for the Superbee and $\text{SPL}-\frac{1}{3}$ schemes as antidissipative and dissipative schemes, respectively. (c): Local numerical viscosity (see Eq. 11a) for the Superbee scheme. (d): Local grid Reynolds number for the Superbee scheme. All snapshots are at 2.99 days.

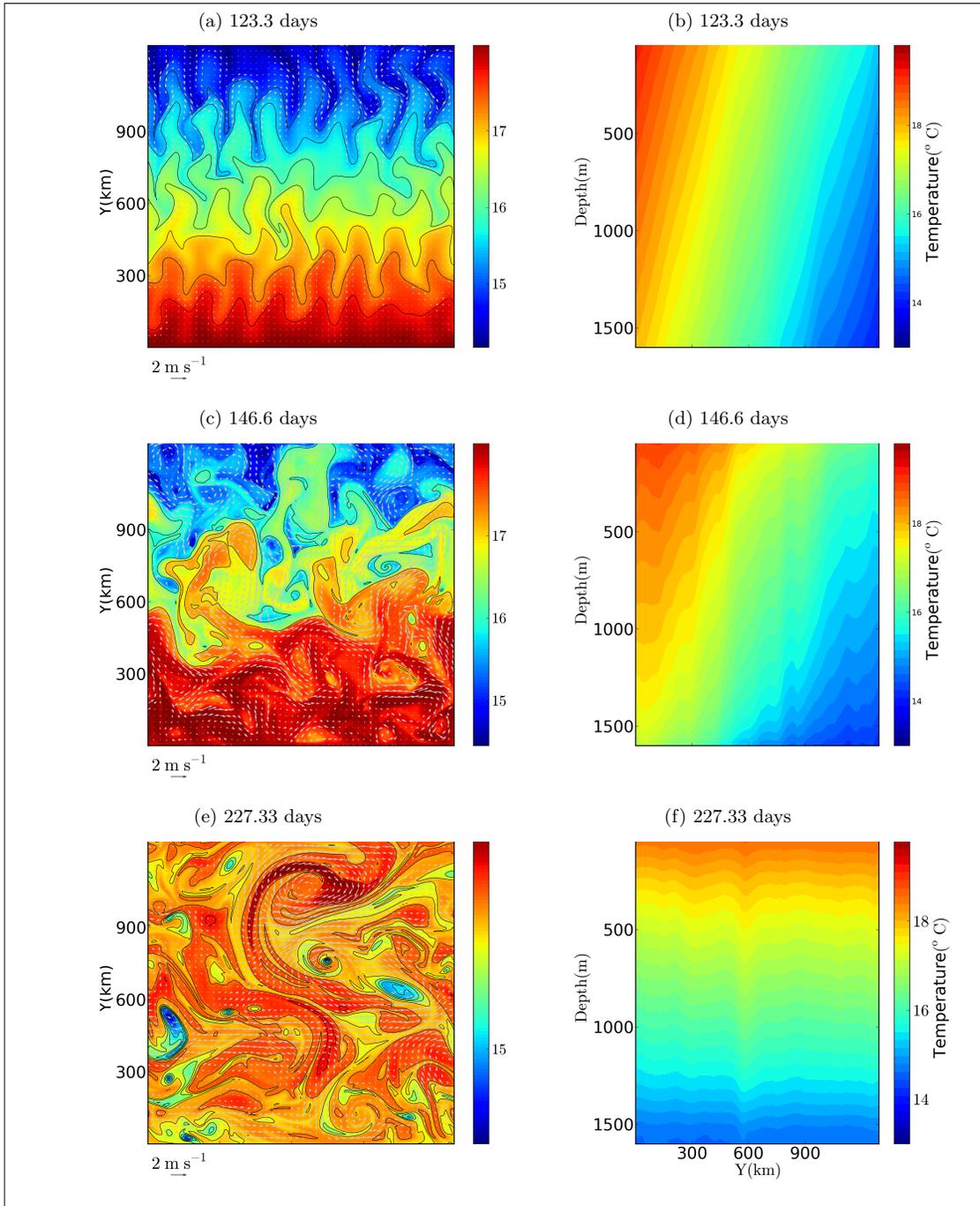


Figure 5: The configuration with $Ro = 0.1$ of baroclinic instability test case using MP5 advection scheme for the setup N256. (a,c,e): contours of horizontal surface temperature and velocity field (arrows); (b,d,f): zonal average contours of temperature.

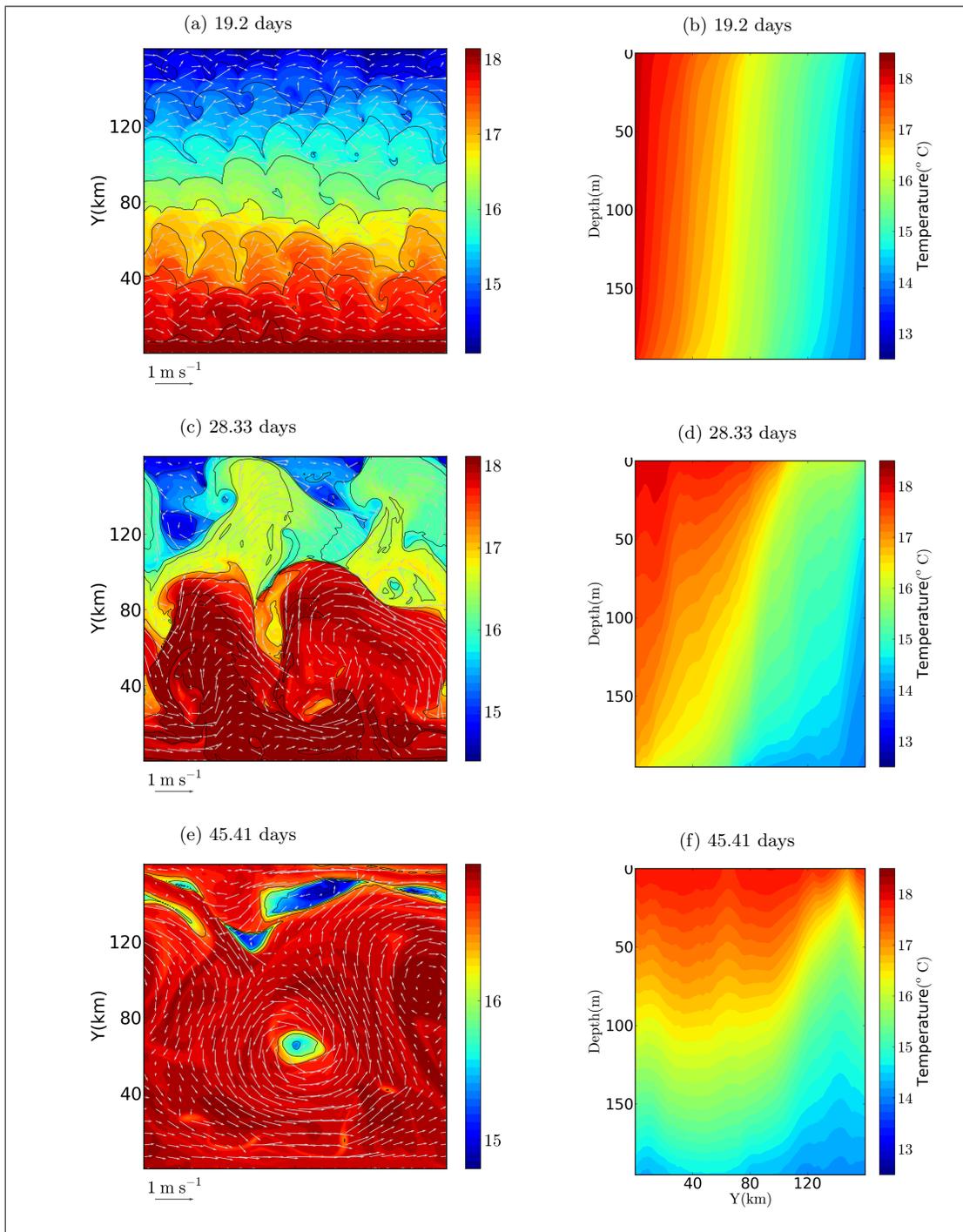


Figure 6: The configuration with $Ro = 0.8$ of baroclinic instability test case using MP5 advection scheme for the setup N256. (a,c,e): contours of horizontal surface temperature and velocity field (arrows); (b,d,f): zonal average contours of temperature.

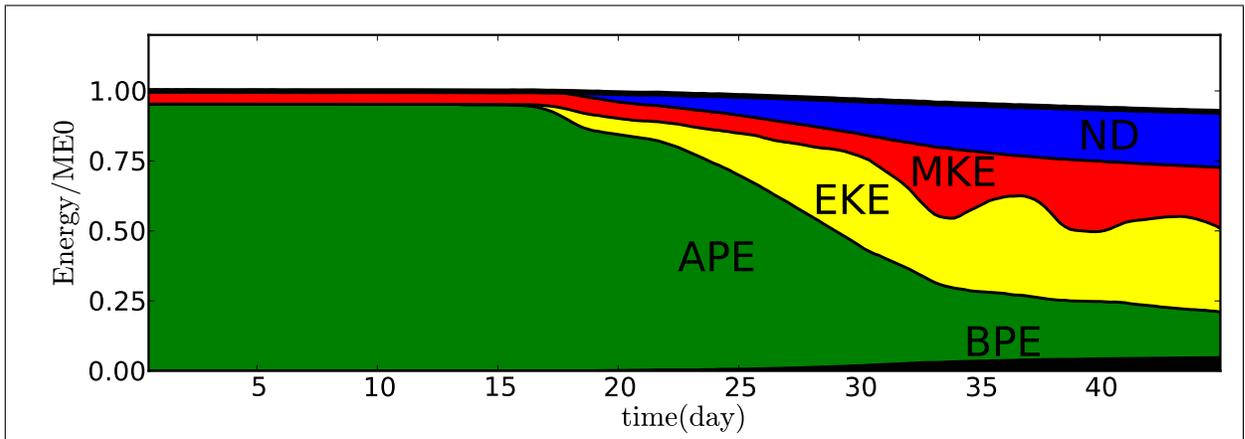


Figure 7: Evolution of the components of total energy for the baroclinic instability experiment. Stacked plots with contour shapes present the ratio of background potential energy variation (BPE), available potential energy (APE), eddy kinetic energy (EKE), mean kinetic energy (MKE) and numerical dissipation (ND) to the initial mechanical energy for the configuration with $Ro = 0.8$ using the MP5 advection scheme for the setup N128. ME0 is initial mechanical energy which is sum of initial available potential energy and initial kinetic energy. The thick black line shows the total energy level. The reduction of the total energy is due to truncation errors of other terms than the momentum advection.

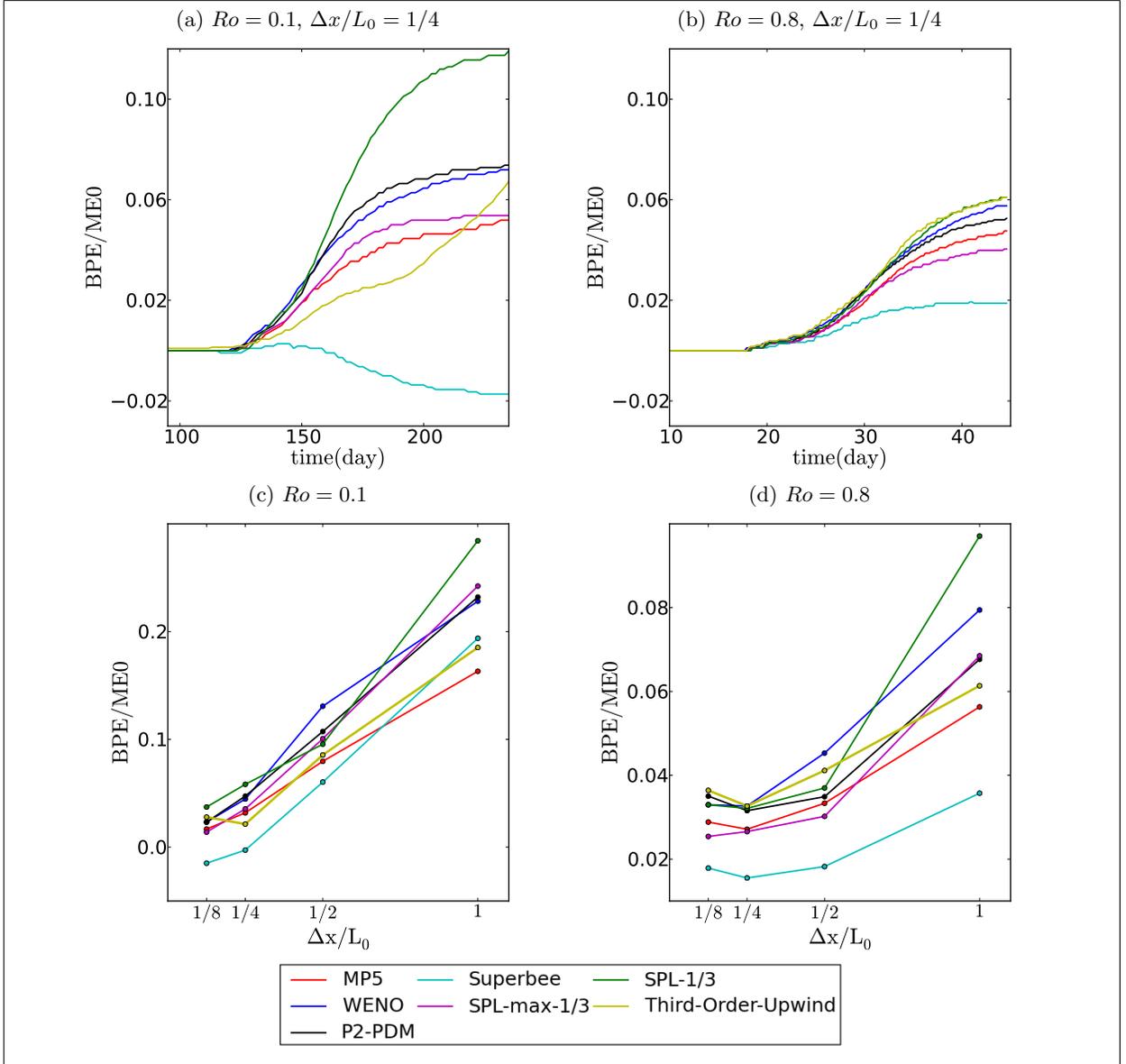


Figure 8: Baroclinic instability test case. Ratio of variation of background potential energy to initial total mechanical energy. $ME0$, L_0 and Δx are initial total mechanical energy, initial Rossby radius of deformation and grid size, respectively. (a,b): Time evolution of background potential energy of the configurations with $Ro = 0.1$ and the configurations with $Ro = 0.8$ for the setup N128; (c): Background potential energy of the configuration with $Ro = 0.1$ when 70 % of available potential energy is released; (d): Background potential energy of the configuration with $Ro = 0.8$ when 65 % of available potential energy is released.

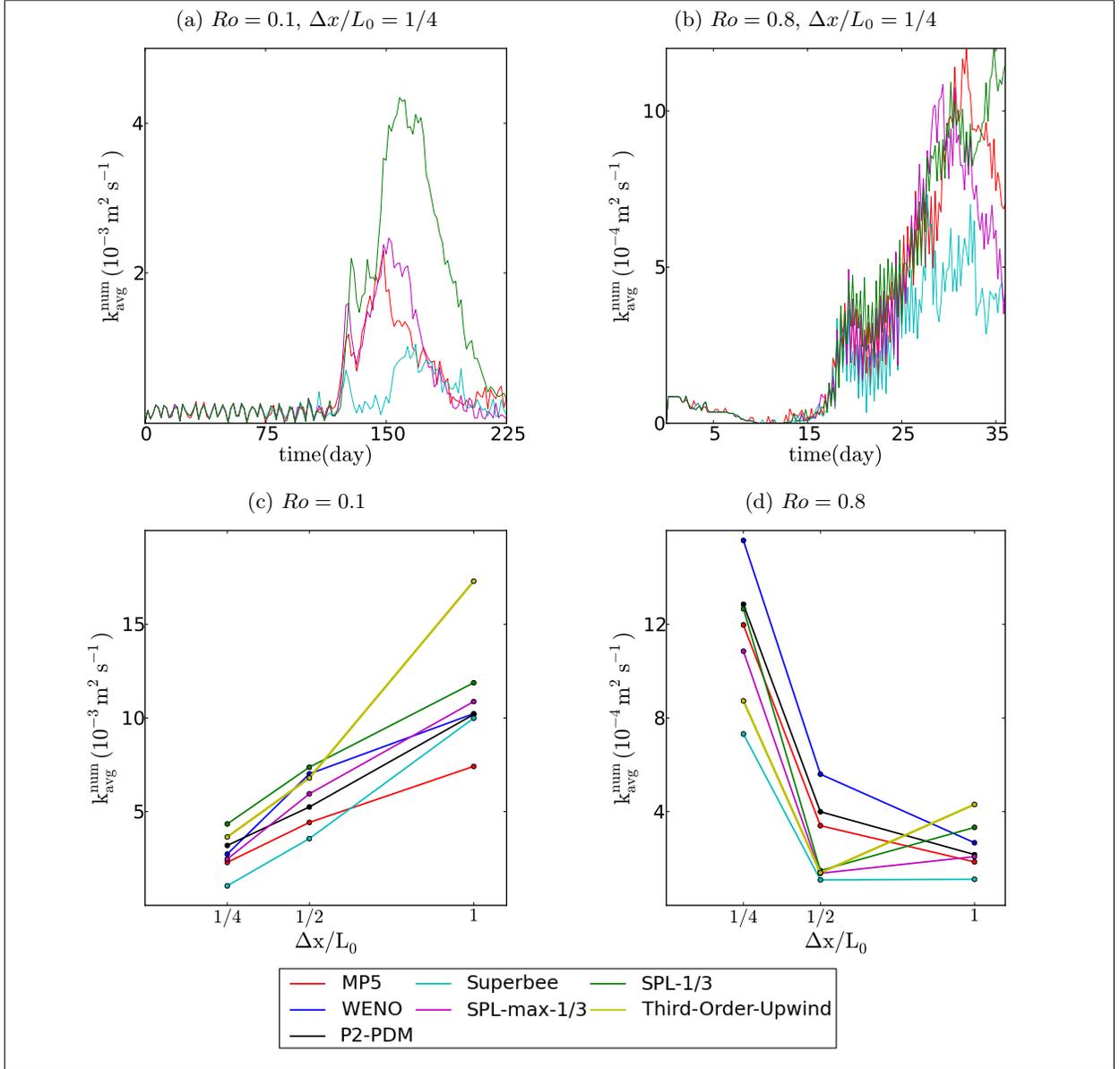


Figure 9: Baroclinic instability test case. L_0 , k_{avg}^{num} and Δx are initial Rossby radius of deformation, averaged numerical diapycnal diffusivity and grid size for the setup N128 for four different advection schemes (SPL- $\frac{1}{3}$, Superbee, MP5, SPL-max- $\frac{1}{3}$). (a,b): Evolution of numerical diapycnal diffusivity of the configuration with $Ro = 0.1$ and the configuration with $Ro = 0.8$; (c): maximum numerical diapycnal diffusivity of the configuration with $Ro = 0.1$; (d): maximum numerical diapycnal diffusivity of the configuration with $Ro = 0.8$.

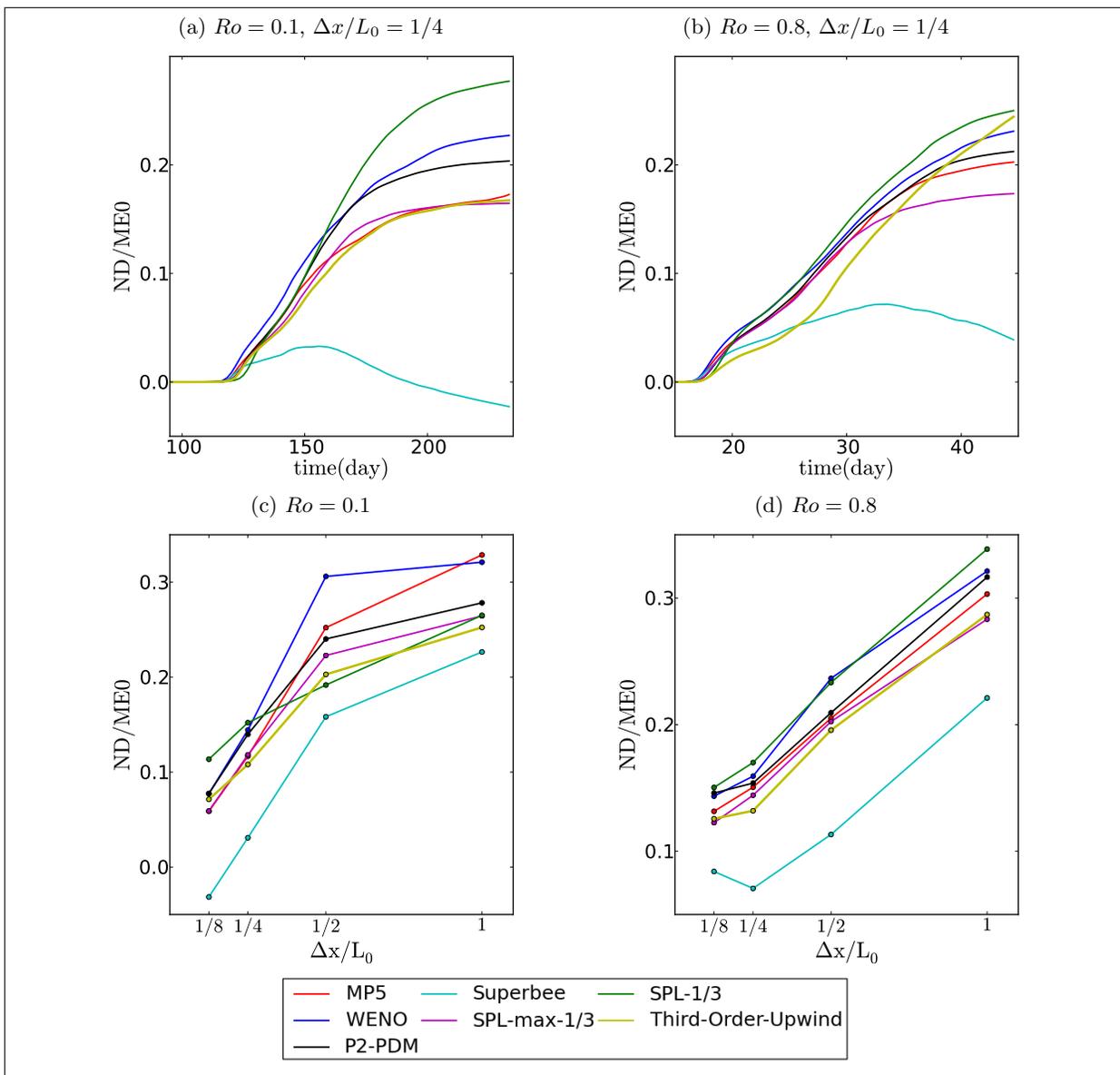


Figure 10: Baroclinic instability test case. Ratio of numerical dissipation to total initial mechanical energy. $ME0$, L_0 and Δx are initial total mechanical energy, initial Rossby radius of deformation and grid size. (a,b): Numerical dissipation of the configuration with $Ro = 0.1$ and the configuration with $Ro = 0.8$ for the setup N128; (c): Numerical dissipation of the configuration with $Ro = 0.1$ when approximately 70 % of available potential energy is released; (d): Numerical dissipation of the configuration with $Ro = 0.8$ when 65 % of available potential energy is released.

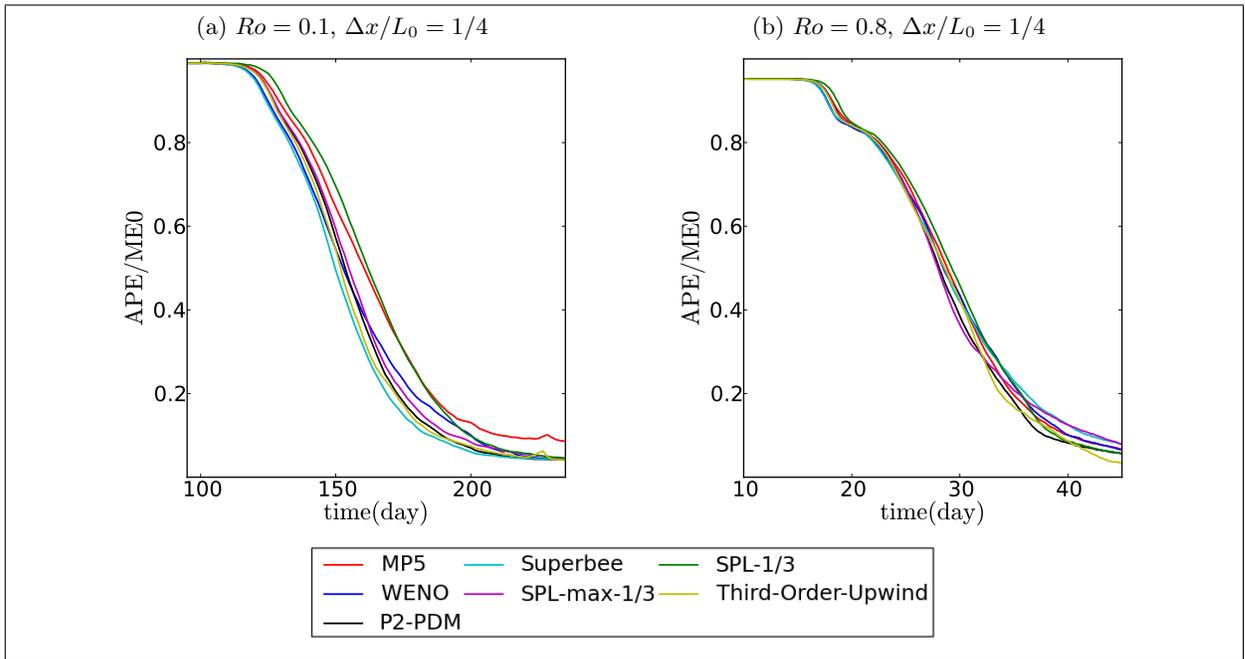


Figure 11: Baroclinic instability test case. Ratio of APE to MEO. ME0 is initial total mechanical energy. (a,b): Evolution of available potential energy of the configuration with $Ro = 0.1$ and the configuration with $Ro = 0.8$ for the setup N128.

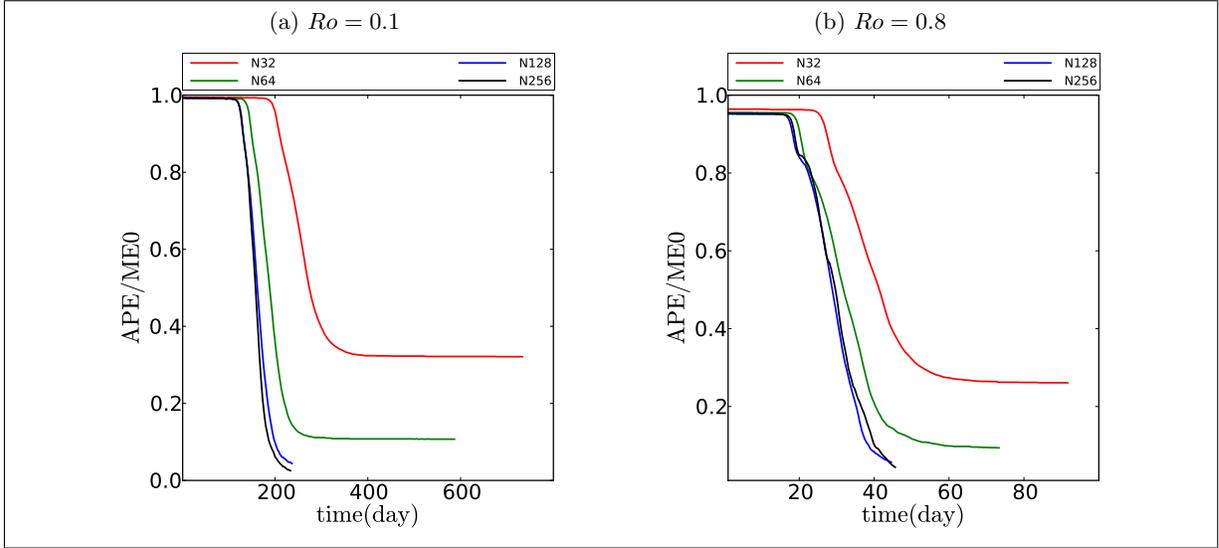


Figure 12: Baroclinic instability test case. Ratio of APE to ME0. ME0, is initial total mechanical energy. (a,b): Evolution of available potential energy of the configuration with $Ro = 0.1$ and the configuration with $Ro = 0.8$ for all resolutions using the SPL- $\frac{1}{3}$ advection scheme.

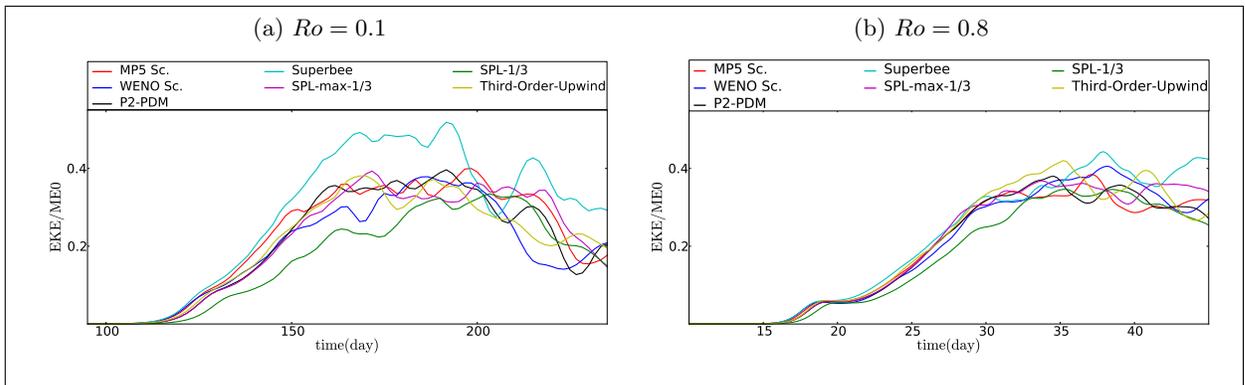


Figure 13: Baroclinic instability test case. (a,b): ratio of total Eddy Kinetic Energy (EKE) to total initial mechanical energy for the setup N128. ME0 is initial total mechanical energy.

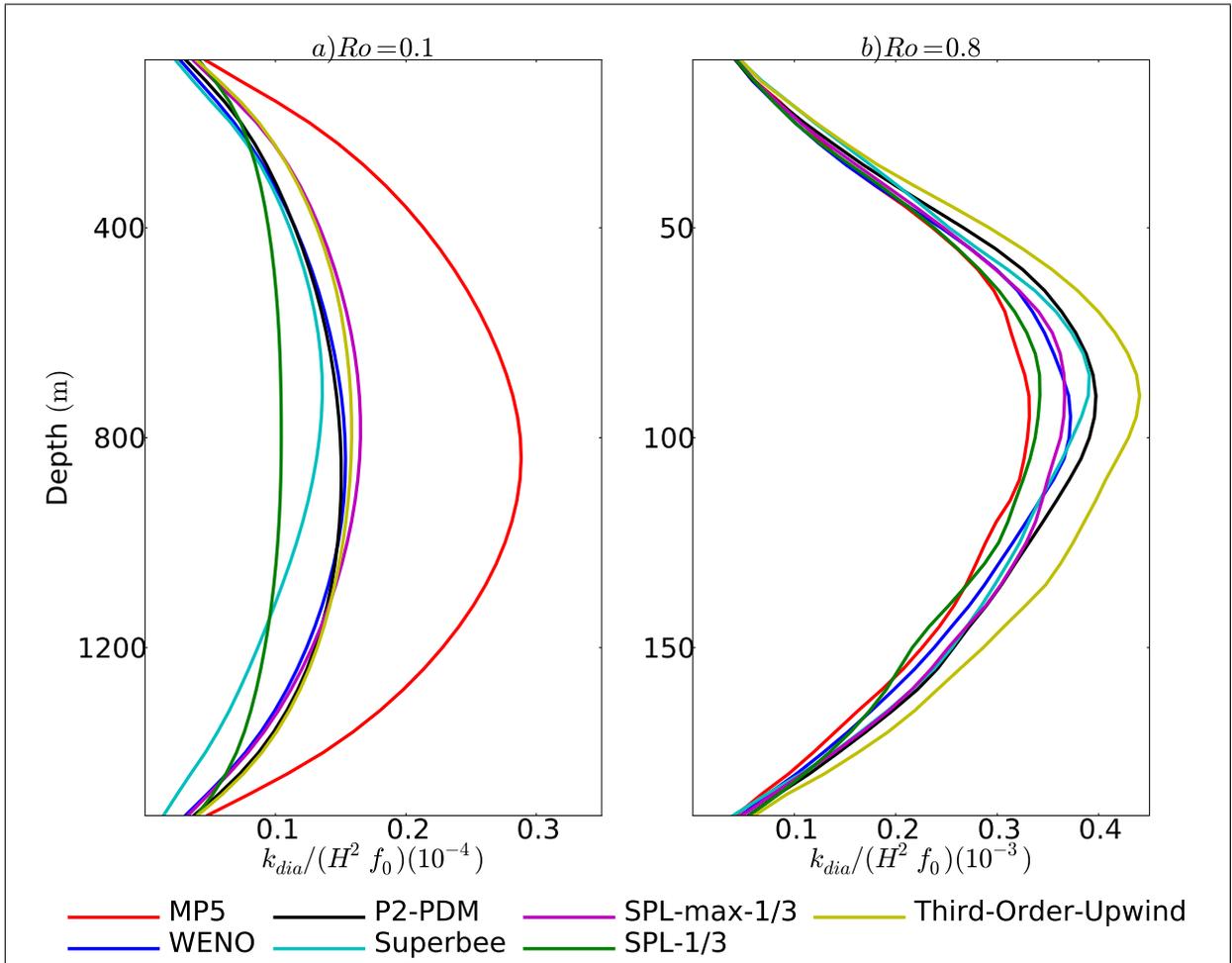


Figure 14: Baroclinic instability test case. Vertical profiles of horizontally and temporally averaged diapycnal (see Eq. 14) for the setup N128. (a): the configuration with $Ro = 0.8$, (b): the configuration with $Ro = 0.1$.