Response

Dear editor and reviewers,

Thank you for your reviews, and suggestions. We have carefully worked through your points and have modified our manuscript to reflect them.

Both reviewers mentioned our use of RCP8.5. Reviewer 1 wanted a scientific elaboration on our use of RCP8, while second reviewer 2 thought that RCP8.5 was still relevant to climate risk planning. We have added a section into our introduction to explain and defend our use of RCP8.5.

Reviewer 2 asked for a more in-depth evaluation, and assessment of the currents, stratification, and more explanation of the observed salinity changes. We have expanded our evaluation, and added additional evaluation against the ICES long term mooring time series (with an additional figure). We have assessed the NWS circulation with volume transport cross sections, and the mean and variability for the barotropic residual currents (with an additional figure in the paper, and several additional ones in the supplement. We have assessed the timing and duration of stratification, which shows a substantial lengthening (with an additional figure). We also show that the salinity change on the shelf is consistent with the changes in the winder North Atlantic, in the driving simulations.

Both reviewers also gave a list of minor edits which we have corrected, although may have introduces new ones in our news sections.

We have now copied the reviewer comments below, and reply to each point in red to ensure we have covered all their points, and point the reviewers to the appropriate line number and section in the manuscript to aid their reassessment.

The revised manuscript is much more in-depth, commensurate with the topic. We have tried to mitigate some of the increase in size from the additional material by moving the data description (~3000 words) to the appendices.

I hope you are happy with this revised version. I will be away for February, and early March, but should still be in email contact.

Kind regards

Jonathan, Matthew, and the co-authors.

Reviewer 1

RC1: 'Comment on egusphere-2023-1816', Anonymous Referee #1, 02 Oct 2023

The paper is concerned with marine climate projections for 21st century for the north-west European shelf seas. The study is based on numerical modelling and consists of dynamical downscaling of 12 members of HadGEM3-GC3.05 Perturbed Parameter Ensemble using a model NEMO at 7 km resolution. These ensembles are run under the high greenhouse gas emissions RCP8.5 scenario for the time period 1990-2098. The results are then processed to obtain end of 21st century projections of main essential climate variables. The paper is written clearly, is well structures and goes into a great level detail as regards models set-up, including the availability of the output, the directory structure, etc. The results are also
presented in clear and concise way. I recommend this paper for publication given that major comment is addressed in the revised paper and some minor technical/grammar issues are addressed.

**Major comment:**

In the introductory section the authors should elaborate as to why RCP8.5 scenario was chosen. First of all, it is part of the older CMIP5 pool of scenarios rather than one of the CMIP6 scenarios. Outputs from global CMIP6 models have been already available to the scientific communities for downscaling for a few years, thus authors should justify the use of CMIP5 rather than the newer CMIP6. Furthermore, RCP8.5 (and CMIP6' SSP5-8.5), fossil-fuelled development with very high GHG emissions, are widely regarded as highly unlikely scenarios with a consensus that we are already not following the RCP8.5 trajectory. Therefore, I marking a paper down on its scientific significance and I am recommending that the authors elaborate on its scientific value in the revised version. Perhaps the paper still presents a value to the scientific community and it would be good to hear the opinion of the authors. The conclusions section needs to clearly state that reported projections concern a very pessimistic, highly unlikely scenario.

We have added a substantial section into our introduction to respond to this point (lines 85-104 of the introduction). To address your concerns directly we respond directly to your main points:

1) **Why RCP8.5 was chosen?**
   The choice of forcing scenario is motivated primarily by the desire for a set of NWS marine climate projections consistent with the latest set of UK Climate Projections (UKCP18), which were run under RCP8.5, as their development was begun before the SSP scenarios became available. This consistency allows researchers to look across both the land and marine domains in multi-variate space in a way that has previously not been possible to facilitate, e.g., consideration of compound hazards and the combined effects of multiple climate-impacts drivers. See lines 88-93.

2) **Why we use a CMIP5 models rather than a CMIP6 models?**
   HadGEM3-GC3.1 is the Met Office CMIP6 model, and is very similar to HadGEM3-GC3.05 which we use here (line 115). So while the scenario we use is from CMIP5, the model we use is from CMIP6.

3) **Explicit acknowledgement that projections are very pessimistic, highly unlikely scenario.**
   RCP8.5 is a relatively high impact “business as usual” scenario from the CMIP5 suite of models, rather than the more recent CMIP6, which are based on the “Shared Socioeconomic Pathway” (SSPs). RCP8.5 has very similar total radiative forcings to the SSP5-8.5 scenario (Tebaldi et al., 2021), although RCP8.5 has a slightly weaker global temperature response, attributed to a lower CO$_2$ concentration (Fyfe et al., 2021).
Recent studies have criticised the use of RCP8.5 in climate projections, particularly in terms of its apparent low likelihood, given emissions reductions pledges associated with the Paris Agreement (Hausfather and Peters, 2020). However, there are several scientific reasons why this remains a useful scenario in the context of policy-relevant climate information. Firstly, it has a high signal-to-noise ratio and can therefore better separate the forced climate response from internal variability. Secondly, RCP8.5 can be readily translated into warming levels, which was the primary basis of the last UK Climate Change Risk Assessment and appear prominently in the 6th IPCC Assessment Report (AR6; IPCC, 2021a). Thirdly, risk-based decision making requires a comprehensive picture of the future risk landscape, including higher warming levels associated with any combination of emissions back-tracking, positive carbon-cycle feedbacks, and high climate sensitivity (IPCC, 2021b). Finally, high emissions scenarios such as RCP8.5 provide a useful baseline scenario from which the benefits of mitigation action and avoided costs can be assessed.

This is included in the updated manuscript in lines 85-88, and 94-104.

**Technical comments:**

Ln73: add is after This

*Done*

Ln79: change evaluation to evaluate

*Done*

Ln113: change interpolates to interpolate

*We changed interpolated to interpolate*

Ln122: remove can

*Done*

Ln124: remove can

*Done*

Ln128: change is it to it is

*Done*

Ln130: Figure 3 is introduced before Figures 1 and 2. Figure numbering needs to be revised in the manuscript

*Due to the reorganisation of the paper, all the figure and table numbers were revised.*

Ln140: remove is
Done
Ln311: change time so to times of
   Done
Ln428: change is to are
   Done
Ln496: change process to processes
   Done
Ln499: change ocean to ocean
   We couldn’t find this in the manuscript.
Ln608: change if to of
   Done
Ln623: change it is to its
   Done
Ln623: change computationally to computational
   Done
Ln759: add in after interested
   Done
Ln776: remove be
   Done
Ln778: change give to gives
   Done
Ln779: change response to responses
   Done
Ln1118: change to no to do not
   Done
Reviewer 2
RC2: 'Comment on egusphere-2023-1816', Anonymous Referee #2, 10 Oct 2023

General review comments

In “21st century marine climate projections for the NW European Shelf Seas based on a Perturbed Parameter Ensemble”, Tinker and colleagues present a dynamic regional downscaling of a global climate model projection (HadGEM3-GC3.05) for the high emissions scenario RCP8.5 for the north-west European continental shelf region on a 7 km spatial resolution grid using the NEMO coastal ocean model. The paper describes the regional downscaling experimental design, as well as an extensive evaluation of the model against observations and other model data.

The paper is generally well written, and the dataset will be of great value to researchers working on understanding the impacts of global warming on the coastal seas of north-west Europe, especially with a focus on informing decision makers of the adjacent countries on climate action to adapt to threats and opportunities of climate change. The overall structure and detail are good, but there are some significant improvements to be made before the manuscript can be published. I have the following more general comments on the manuscript, in addition to those relating to specific lines.

A list of minor spelling and grammar issues encountered during the review are included at the end for consideration by the authors, but the sections below outline the main points for attention by the authors to improve the manuscript.

Thank you for your detailed review, we have tried to respond to it in full, but this has led to several new sections and figures, so we have tried to find a balance between a comprehensive response and the overall length of the paper.

Novelty to the international research community beyond the UK

At times, the writing is relatively “parochial” to the UK and its climate reporting structures, while the model region covers many other countries EEZs. Through international legislation (Marine Strategy Framework Directive and Oslo-Paris Convention), much of the marine region represented in the model domain is of relevance on a wider international stage. Below some specific examples where the authors can address this in the manuscript and ensure the work receives also some international recognition.

Thank you for your comment and suggestions. We have consulted with external expert colleagues, and have added a section into the introduction, that hopefully addresses your concerns.

The full section is in lines 53-77, but the we have copied the first few sentences (first 7 out of 24 lines) here:
“Beyond the UK, there are numerous legislative mechanisms that support the protection and management of the NWS Marine Environment. At the European level examples include: the EU Common Fisheries Policy (CFP, 2013); The EU Habitats Directive (1992); The Oslo-Paris (OSPAR) Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (1993); and The EU Marine Strategic Framework Directive (2008). There are also important international treaties and conventions such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC, 1992) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD, 1992). These are all implemented at the UK level (Frost et al., 2016) and all have varying and overlapping goals and targets linked to the protection and monitoring of the marine environment…”

- L17-18: The authors consider this dataset the “state-of-the-art for marine UK projections”. Do they mean projections from a UK climate research group, as in the state-of-the-art that the UK science community produces; or do they mean state-of-the-art for the UK marine region. If the latter, could this be extrapolated for the wider north-west European continental shelf? If not, which other groups are providing state-of-the-art climate projections for this region, and how do these compare with the dataset presented here?

  We consider these to be state-of-the-art for NWS marine climate projections. We agree that calling them UK projections is a little “parochial”, and that they may be of interested to reader from many other countries. We have changed the text in the abstract, on line 17, to read:

  “These simulations represent the state-of-the-art for NWS marine projections.”

- L41-51: The focus here is strongly on the UK’s evidence requirements for reporting under its national structures. The Oslo-Paris Convention published an ambitious strategy for the North-East Atlantic region, which has a strong emphasis on climate change and ocean acidification. The authors may wish to use this and other international legislative frameworks covering climate change (UNFCCC) or marine (EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive) to highlight the relevance of these simulations outside of the UK research community.

  Thank you for pointing this out. We have hopefully captured this in the new paragraph (see above) in the updated manuscript, see lines 53-77.

**Advocacy for RCP8.5 still being relevant to climate change risk planning**

The chosen RCP has not been part of the most recent suite of climate models under the IPCC reporting structures. There is increasingly wide recognition that our progress on climate targets means that the narrative of RCP8.5 is increasingly unlikely. However, my understanding is that the total resultant radiative forcing of 8.5 W/m² is not beyond reality, especially when considering uncertainties in climate model processes and their parameter space. The authors should guide the reader in understanding why the RCP8.5 suite of downscaled ensembles is still relevant to help policy makers and businesses plan for the worst eventualities of climate change impacts.
Thank you for your comment, we have added a new section in the introduction (lines 85-104) in response to the first reviewer, and your comments were very useful. You might find our response the first reviewer useful.

**Discussion of the salinity signals**

The description of the salinity signals in the present day and future climate scenarios raises more questions than the authors have referred to.

L584-586: The freshening is glossed over quite quickly here. What is the source for this? Is this entirely driven by a reduction in inflow of Atlantic water from the adjacent open ocean? From Figure 9 this doesn’t appear to be the case and instead may be in the global climate model simulations? Was this something that has been reported for HadGEM3 PPE?

We have now discussed the freshening in more detail, assessed the larger scale North Atlantic salinity change in the driving simulations, and shown that this is the main source of the freshening. There is a substantial freshening at the lateral boundaries, that propagates into the model, and is of a similar strength and is correlated across the ensemble – see figures S28, S29. It is beyond the scope of the current study to investigate the drivers of the freshening of the driving models, but we have speculated in the discussion as to the possible cause.

We do not think that the freshening is caused by a switch of the North Sea circulation configuration toward a more estuarine type as posited by Holt et al. (2018). We now have a new circulation section (sections 2.5 and 5.1), and discuss the role of circulation in the NWS salinity change – this is discussed in from line 849:

“However, we do not see the North Sea circulation configuration change seen by Holt et al. (2018), which effectively isolates the North Sea from the Atlantic, with the North Sea becoming more estuarine, so while our slight reduction in the modelled NNSI will play a role in the NWS freshening, the main driver is likely to be the freshening of the North Atlantic.”

L602-608: The present day appears to be simulated as saltier than the reanalysis model, and the agreement between ensemble members of the trend in freshening appears to break down into the future (my interpretation of the statement “divergence of the ensemble”). Is this due to parametrisations in the water cycle and how different ensembles explore parameter space for this?

Over most of the NWS, there is a relatively good agreement (or near agreement) between the NWSPPE and the RAN, with the RAN being within the NWSPPE range. There are larger differences in the Skagerrak and Norwegian Trench. This is likely due to differences in the treatment of the exchange with the Baltic. This is a notoriously difficult region to model, and which we discuss from line 738 We note that the RAN is too salty in this region, so our simulations may be more realistic here.

Your interpretation is correct, that the divergence in the ensemble SSS through the 21st Century reflects the different ensemble members having different freshening trends. We link this to the different North Atlantic 21st Century freshening across the ensemble. In supplementary Figure S24a, we correlate the NWS freshening (how each
the NWS freshens across the 21st century in each of the 12 ensemble members, to the 21st century HadGEM3-GC3.05 freshening across the 12 ensemble members, for each point. This shows that the ensemble response (which ensemble members freshen most) is highly correlated between the HadGEM3-GC3.05 North Atlantic, and our NWSPPE. Figure S24b then shows that the absolute values of freshening are also comparable.

There are many parameters that are perturbed within the PPE, with a very complex response, and so understanding the water-cycle response to parameter changes would require dedicated research that is beyond scope of the present study. However, the water cycle diversity within the HadGEM3 PPE solely propagates into our model simulations through the Atlantic Lateral Boundary Conditions and the surface fluxes, as we use climatological rivers and Baltic LBCs. This is an important limitation for understanding the NWS water cycle response as the climatological rivers and Baltic LBCs don't "see" any hydrological changes simulated in the parent GCM. We say this on line 917.

Attention to the circulation (tidal currents and the residual currents)

The focus of this manuscript is on evaluation against SSH, temperature and salinity. However, the regional model should also be capable of representing changes in the residual circulation of the North Sea. The inflow of Atlantic waters along the northern boundary is particularly important for the productivity of this region. A notable manuscript by Holt and colleagues in 2018 (https://doi.org/10.1029/2018GL078878) presented changes in the Atlantic water exchange of this region. The manuscript makes no reference to this paper, or whether these changes are observed in the dynamic downscaling of the HadGEM3-GC3.05 PPE ensembles. In addition, tidal current strength is an important forcing mechanism for the position of frontal regions in the north-west European shelf region.

Thank you for your comment. We now evaluate the modelled residual circulation in terms of volume transport against observation-based estimates (Sections 3.6 and 4.6). We have also added an in-depth analysis of the residual circulation of the NWS (see sections 2.5 and 5.1, starting on lines 232, 561 and discussed from line 825). We now cite Holt et al. 2018 in the revised manuscript - thank you for highlighting it – and investigate whether we see the same change in the NWS circulation configuration. We see a general reduction in residual circulation strength on the NWS, but we do not see that large scale North Sea circulation change as seen by Holt et al. 2018. However, we do note a change to the south and west of Ireland. We do not assess tidal current strength which we consider outside the scope of the paper, although do assess the tidal characteristics with a co-tidal chart in Figure 1.

Discussion of key shelf sea processes

The authors present some of the results on shelf sea stratification and mixed layer depth, but these could be brought more to the fore. There is no mention of the calculation method for PEA, although there appears to be a distinction in the supplementary materials of the PEA due to the salinity structure. There is brief mention of the spatial pattern of PEA, but no mention of any significant changes in the onset or duration of stratification changing under the projected warming scenario.
In the revised manuscript we have defined the Potential Energy Anomaly, and note
the temperature and salinity components of it (see section 2.9). We have analysed and
described changes in the seasonal cycle of SST (etc), noting that the greatest warming
is in the autumn (see paragraph starting on line 677). This leads us into an assessment
of the timings and duration of the stratification (see section 2.10, and paragraphs
starting on line 701 and 810). We have shown that the spring onset is a few days
earlier, but the autumnal break down is substantially later, which is consistent with the
change in the seasonal cycle. We later discuss these results, and consider their
implication on the ecosystem (see paragraph starting on line 810).

**Quality of graphics and captions**

The authors should review the graphics and how these are included. For many figures, the
continuous colour bar makes it difficult to really discern the spatial patterns and the
magnitude of signals. A more discrete colour scheme and associated colour bar should be
considered. The continuous colour bar in some panels is also meaningless (e.g. Figure
3f). Many of the figures also include too many small panels, which make them difficult to
view. Even on a PDF, you need to zoom significantly to view the images. On a printed page,
this is even worse. While screen reading is probably more and more common, the authors
should consider those with small screens and/or those using a printed copy on A4
paper. Finally many of the captions are insufficient – each figure caption should be capable
of being read independently of any other image. The cross-referencing to other figure
captions for the details of what is shown is frustrating for the reader.

Thank you for your suggestions. We have made the following changes to address your
concerns. Where we use continuous colormap, we have included contours at the
colorbar tick levels, to aid interpretation. Where continuous colormaps don’t make
sense (like in the old Figure 3f), we have used appropriate discrete colormaps. The
main SST/NBT/SSS etc change maps (Figures 9, 10, 11, 13) with both mean and
variance, have been moved to the supplementary material (Figures S17-S22), and
replaced with large mean change maps (for the annual mean, and the 4 seasons). We
have also expanded the figure captions, so there is no cross-referencing required.

We will include the high-resolution figures zipped as a supplement).

**Choice of regions**

There appear to be two sets of regions that results are presented for: one as applied in the
evaluation against EN4, and one to calculate regional statistics. Why are these regions not
the same? Is it due to the underlying data in EN4 (although the highly sampled North Sea
should really be within the ability to be evaluated at higher granularity)?

Yes, the regions are different due to EN4 data sparsity in some location, so we
decided to aggregate regions up for the EN4 evaluation. We otherwise use the
Wakelin regions as they are widely used in the literature, are based on oceanographic
conditions and geographic regions, and give a good granularity. We now include the
Wakelin regions in the supplement (Figure S2), so the user can see the EN4 stats in
the three Wakelin North Sea regions.
Comments relating to specific lines

L64-77: The authors chose to add the description of the HadGEM3-GC3.05 PPE in the “Data” Section. I would suggest this is moved to the “Model and Methods” Section. There is already a section here on the HadGEM3-GC3.05 PPE, and by placing in this section, it may sit better alongside the wider description of the model and its forcing datasets. There is information in Section 2.1 that is not included in 3.2, so the authors should merge these sections (rather than removing 2.1). I would suggest the “Data” Section focuses on the datasets used to validate/evaluate the projections.

Good idea. We have done this.

L136-139: Technical comment on choice of MDT product: The authors use the AVISO mean dynamic topography to compare to the NWSPPE mean SSH for the present day. It is my understanding that the AVISO MDT has had significant improvements since that published by Rio and colleagues in 2014. These include revisions in 2018 and 2022.

I had actually used the CLS2018 dataset, and have now clarified this in the manuscript.

L153-154: The tide gauge at Smögen was excluded due to the significant influence of GIA. On line 333, the tide gauge at Bergen is also highlighted as potentially affected by GIA. Is this not a known issue, and therefore wasn’t excluded before the analysis? I am trying to understand why one gauge was excluded from the analysis, but not the other, even though both are highlighted as having the same issue.

The Smögen tide gauge record appears to be dominated by the GIA, with a substantial sea level rise that is not represented in our model simulations, and so was excluded. I noted the possibility of the GIA component of the Bergen tide gauge given its location on GIA maps, however, We have removed this comment, now, as it was speculation.

L251-252: 3 ensembles were excluded from the original set of 15 in the global PPE (as described in L225-227). I would add a brief internal reference to this description here, or add a “… due to unrealistic representation of the AMOC (see description above)” to aid the reader in understanding the reduction from 15 members to 12.

Thanks, good point. Given the reorganisation of the text, We have simply removed this first mention of the 3 excluded ensemble members, as the additional info isn’t necessary at this point.

L268-333: The entirety of Section 4 is brief in its assessment of the model’s performance, while this should be a significant part of the manuscript. Based on Figure 2, the OSTIA data are outside of 1.96 ensemble standard deviations for much of the domains, with the exception of autumn. The authors do not state whether this therefore requires bias correction of the projections. The authors may have incorrectly worded the description, but I would disagree with the statements in L301-304 given the OSTIA is more than 1.98 standard deviations from the ensemble mean.

To address you concern on the amount of model assessment, we have expanded this section, with additional analysis, explanation, and datasets. We have added evaluation
against the ICES climate time series, and volume transport estimates through cross-
sections.

The NWEPPE SST is highly correlated with the OSTIA data, and have mean absolute
biases less than 0.5 °C. Given all the possible ways of showing the data, We wanted
to be as critical of the model performance as possible, but perhaps it is better to start
from the annual mean, and then move to the seasonal (or even monthly fields). The
basic model climate in terms of the annual mean SST is very good, with most of the
NWS within 0.7°C of the OSTIA data, and almost all the NWS having he OSTIA
SSTs within the NWS ensemble. It is when you start to look at details of the seasonal
cycle that you see regions (to the west of the UK) that are too warm in summer, and in
the northern North Sea (and around Scotland) where the SSTs are too cool in the
autumn. We have now included an annual mean panel in the figure, and expanded the
text.

L305-316: While EN4 offers a great assemblage of the data collected over the entire spatial
scale of the north-west European shelf, it lack the extraction of high resolution time series
and fixed stations/hydrographic sections. There are some data products out there that do
provide such time series (e.g. through the sites monitored for UK Marine Strategy at coastal
locations such as Western Channel Observatory and Scottish Coastal Observatory, and
through the ICES Working Group on Oceanic Hydrography’s Report on Ocean Climate and
associated data time series). While the authors point out the inability for EN4 to provide such
time series, they have not highlighted that there are some products out there that could
remedy this.

Thank you for this suggestion. Long time series allow the comparison of the model
and observed climate, without being contaminated by the “weather”, which the EN4
analysis suffers. We have now undertaken additional evaluation against 11 ICES T
and S long term climate timeseries, and have compared he mean values, and the
interannual variability (see section 3.3 and 4.4 and Figure 4).

L439-443: The wording describing the value of the time stamp associated with the
climatological seasons is somewhat confusing. The paragraph includes two different
examples, first for summer then for winter. The paragraph would be more clear if the
example of the second paragraph would be consistent with the previous sentence.

Good point, We have changed this to consider winter in both cases – see section
15.4.2, line 1645

L689: For SST the statement re. confidence in near future projections is likely warranted, but
based on my understanding of the Time of Emergence as presented here, I am not sure I
would agree with that assessment for salinity, especially given the divergence in the
ensembles of future SSS response.

While the SSS doesn’t emerge across the NWS, emerges later, and has greater spread,
there are some locations where it does emerge. We have therefore changed this
statement to “This can guide where and when to use the NWSPPE for near future
temperature and salinity projections.” – see line 872.
L1085: Table 1 – missing that this is for the datasets used, not the quality. The table lacks the
description for the assessment of sea level variability.

    This has been added, and the table has been expanded to include the new data sets.

Figure 5u – the markers for the locations are very difficult to read and may benefit from
being in a more obvious colour (such as red).

    We have expanded the map, and change the letters to red (see table 6)

**List of minor edits (grammar/spelling/clarity).**

Throughout: inconsistency on the spacing of “datasets” (sometimes also “data sets”).

    Done, all now are datasets

L24: Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation [remove “s”]

    Done

L46-48: This is a long sentence. I would suggest splitting in two shorter sentences. One
ending after “evidence” on line 47 and the second starting “However, as the NWS climate
projections had not been updated, assessment of those aspects …”.

    Done

L62: … observational data sets… [error in “observational data”]

    Done, no in section 3

L69: “GSI18.0 science” is not the correct phrasing. I would suggest “GSI18.0 scheme” or
“GSI18.0 sea ice configuration”.

    Done

L72-73: This is discussed later. [missing “is”]

    Done, also noted by reviewer 1

L76-77: Tinker et al. (2020) lists all the HadGEM3-GC3.05 variables use to drive our
simulations, and their frequency, in their Table S9. [typo in “to drive” and “simulations”]

    Done

L94: There are few EN4 locations where observations are available … [remove “there are”]

    Done

L127-128: “… we can then give the number of NWSPPE standard deviations it is from the
ensemble mean.” [word order+ plural missing]
North Atlantic Oscillation, and Atlantic Multidecadal Variability. [missing “and”]

Line 332-333: Do you mean “Le Havre”? I think the letters have been muddled here.

for each ensemble member [remove “s”]

… associated with uncertain parameters

… then the ensemble mean

… how the ensemble mean and ensemble standard deviation have changed

… this does not give information on the uncertainty …

The text refers twice to DMU_T. Does the second one need to be DMV_T?

… while the pattern of … reflects the complex [missing “s” on “reflect”].