

1 **Quasi-10-day wave activity in the southern high-latitude MLT**
2 **region and its relation to the large-scale instability and**
3 **gravity wave drag**

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13 **Abstract.** Seasonal variation of westward-propagating quasi-10-day wave (Q10DW) in
14 the mesosphere and lower thermosphere of the Southern Hemisphere (SH) high-latitude
15 regions is investigated using meteor radar (MR) observations for the period of 2012–
16 2016 and Specified Dynamics (SD) version of the Whole Atmosphere Community
17 Climate Model (WACCM). The phase difference of meridional winds measured by two
18 MRs located in Antarctica gives observational estimates of the amplitude and phase of
19 Q10DW with zonal wavenumber 1 (W1). The amplitude of the observed Q10DW-W1 is
20 large around equinoxes. In order to elucidate the variations of the observed Q10DW-W1
21 and its possible amplification mechanism, we carry out two SD-WACCM experiments
22 nudged towards the MERRA-2 reanalysis from the surface up to ~60 km (EXP60) and
23 ~75 km (EXP75). Results of the EXP75 indicate that the observed Q10DW-W1 can be
24 amplified around the barotropic/baroclinic instability regions in the middle mesosphere
25 around 60°S–70°S. In the EXP60, it is also found that Q10DW-W1 is amplified around
26 the instability regions, but the amplitude is too large compared with MR observations.
27 The large-scale instability in the EXP60 in the SH summer mesosphere is stronger than
28 that in the EXP75 and Microwave Limb Sounder observation. The larger instability in
29 the EXP60 is related to the large meridional and vertical variations of polar mesospheric
30 zonal winds in association with gravity wave parameterization (GWP). Given
31 uncertainties inherent in GWP, these results can suggest that it is possible for models to
32 spuriously generate traveling planetary waves such as Q10DW, especially in summer,
33 due to the excessively strong large-scale instability in the SH high-latitude mesosphere.

34 **1. Introduction**

35 A series of Rossby normal modes (free oscillations) is the homogeneous solution
36 of the governing equations on a sphere linearized with respect to the isothermal and
37 quiescent reference atmosphere (e.g., Andrews et al., 1987; Forbes et al., 1995; Salby,
38 1984). Traveling normal modes exhibit clear planetary-scale spatiotemporal oscillations
39 throughout the whole atmosphere, and for sufficiently large amplitudes, these traveling
40 planetary waves (PWs) can play an important role in the momentum and energy transfer
41 to the mean flow (Salby, 1984). Three gravest traveling normal modes have been
42 observed: Westward-propagating zonal-wavenumber-1 PWs with periods of
43 approximately 5, 10, and 16 days. The classical wave theory based on the isothermal
44 and quiescent atmosphere gives the theoretical periods of 5, 8.3, and 12.5 day, but the
45 periods in the real atmosphere can be shifted to values close to 5, 10, and 16 days,
46 respectively (Salby, 1981a, b), due to influences of the vertical and meridional variation
47 of the mean horizontal winds and temperature.

48 Among the gravest modes, the quasi-5-day wave (Q5DW) and quasi-16-day
49 wave (Q16DW) have extensively been studied through observations, modeling, and
50 assimilation products: Ground-based observations (e.g., Day and Mitchell, 2010; He et
51 al., 2020b; Mitra et al., 2022), satellite observations (e.g., Forbes and Zhang, 2017;
52 Huang et al., 2022), reanalysis data (e.g., Huang et al., 2017), and simulations (e.g., Qin
53 et al., 2021). Using meteor radars (MRs) located in the northern and southern polar
54 regions, Day and Mitchell (2010) showed that PW activity is strong during winter and
55 the seasonal variation of PW is similar in both polar regions. According to Qin et al.
56 (2021) and Mitra et al. (2022), the barotropic and baroclinic instabilities are the possible

57 sources of Q5DW and Q16DW in that the waves can draw energy from the mean flow
58 in the instability region. The disturbance of zonal-mean flow frequently occurs during
59 the large-scale meteorological events such as sudden stratospheric warming (SSW). It
60 has been reported that the amplitude of Q5DW or Q16DW increases during SSW events
61 (Eswaraiah et al., 2016; Lee et al., 2021; Li et al., 2021; Ma et al., 2022). In addition,
62 the amplified PWs can interact with tidal waves through the in-situ nonlinear
63 interaction, resulting ionospheric disturbances during SSW (e.g., Goncharenko et al.,
64 2020; Forbes et al., 2021; Liu et al., 2021; Qin et al., 2019).

65 In contrast, the westward propagating quasi-10-day wave (Q10DW) with zonal
66 wavenumber 1 (W1) has received little attention compared to the other gravest normal
67 modes. Forbes and Zhang (2015) showed that Q10DW-W1 has a mean period of $9.8 \pm$
68 0.4 days using the temperature measurements from the Sounding of the Atmosphere
69 using Broadband Emission Radiometry (SABER) instrument mounted on NASA's
70 TIMED (Thermosphere Ionosphere Mesosphere Energetics Dynamics) satellite in
71 2002–2013. They presented that the large amplitude of Q10DW-W1 is found in the
72 mid-latitude ($40\text{--}50^\circ$ latitude) mesosphere and lower thermosphere (MLT) region of
73 both hemispheres in equinoxes, although their results are limited to the latitude of 50°
74 because of the yaw cycle of the satellite. Hirooka (2000) reported that the global
75 structure of Q10DW-W1 using the Improved Stratosphere and Mesospheric Souder
76 (ISAMS) instrument aboard Upper Atmosphere Research Satellite (UARS) from
77 November 1991 to May 1992. The results also showed that the Q10DW-W1 is active
78 during equinoxes and winter at 0.1 hPa (~ 65 km). In addition, it is found that
79 nonuniform and background zonal wind field can influence the structure of the wave in
80 the mesosphere. The amplitude of the Q10DW-W1 is uniform or decays in the vertical

81 near the mesopause, and it does not increase above the mesosphere, even though the
82 critical layer is absent. Using the airglow intensities simulated by the global circulation
83 model assimilated by the reanalysis data from ground to 30 km, Egito et al. (2017) also
84 found that the 10-day oscillation is dominant from autumn to spring in the mid-latitude
85 MLT region. More recently, Huang et al. (2021) investigated the Q10DW activity based
86 on the Modern-Era Retrospective analysis for Research and Applications version 2
87 (MERRA-2) reanalysis data. They showed that the dominant components of Q10DW
88 are westward-propagating waves with zonal wavenumber 1 during winter and spring in
89 the stratosphere and mesosphere and eastward-propagating waves with zonal
90 wavenumber 1 and 2, which are excited in the mesospheric instability region. Although
91 both westward and eastward Q10DW modes are found, they mainly focus on the
92 eastward propagating Q10DW.

93 Several studies have investigated the response of Q10DW-W1 to SSWs.
94 Matthias et al. (2012) conducted a composite analysis of wave activities during major
95 Northern Hemisphere (NH) SSWs from 1989 to 1998, revealing an amplification of
96 Q10DW-W1 in the NH high-latitude MLT region following major SSW events. He et
97 al. ([2022a](#)[2020a](#), [2022b](#)[2020b](#)) utilized NH MRs to observe the occurrence of Q10DW-
98 W1 and Q16DW-W1 during four winter major SSWs. They found that these waves
99 persisted for approximately three to five whole cycles during the events. Chandran et al.
100 (2013) examined the forcing of secondary PWs-W1 driven by stratospheric instability
101 on zonal winds as a response to 2012 NH minor SSW. Sassi and Liu (2014) conducted
102 numerical simulations during minor and major NH SSWs and solar minimum condition.
103 They found that PWs-W1 with periods between 2 and 10 days originating in the high-
104 latitude NH could propagate equatorward and influence equatorially trapped tides. This

105 equatorward propagation of secondary PWs was also reported by Qin et al. (2022).
106 They suggested that secondary PWs-W1 with periods of 10 to 16 days generated in the
107 high-latitude NH during sudden stratospheric final warming could impact the Southern
108 Hemisphere (SH) stratosphere, depending on the phase of Quasi-Biennial Oscillation
109 (QBO). In the SH, studies by Lee et al. (2021) and Wang et al. (2021) using SH MRs
110 reported that Q10DW was amplified prior to 2019 SH SSW. Yamazaki and Matthias
111 (2019) reported that the Q10DW-W1 is not only intensified during SSWs but also
112 affected by seasonal timing of SSWs (i.e., final stratospheric warming) in stratospheric
113 instability regions.

114 While the amplification mechanism of Q10DW-W1 generated following SSWs
115 has been addressed in previous studies (e.g., Qin et al., 2022, Yin et al., 2023), the
116 specific mechanisms driving their seasonal amplification during equinoxes remain less
117 explored. In the present study, we focus on the seasonal variation of Q10DW-W1 in the
118 SH high-latitude MLT region using MRs located in Antarctica. Plus, we carry out
119 numerical simulations using the Specified Dynamics version of the Whole Atmosphere
120 Community Climate Model (SD-WACCM) nudged towards MERRA-2 reanalysis data
121 in order to elucidate the observed Q10DW-W1 and its amplification mechanism.
122 Section 2 describes two MRs located in the Davis station (68.6°S, 77.9°E) and King
123 Sejong Station (KSS; 62.2°S, 58.8°W) and how we obtain Q10DW-W1 from the
124 observations. Also, the SD-WACCM experiments and Microwave Limb Sounder
125 (MLS) data used for validation are described in Section 2. Results are presented in
126 Section 3. In Section 3.1, we show seasonal variation of observed and modeled
127 Q10DW-W1 in the SH high-latitude MLT region. The amplification mechanism of
128 Q10DW is discussed in Section 3.2. Q10DW activities from SD-WACCM simulations

129 are demonstrated in Section 3.3. In Section 4, the results are summarized, and their
130 implications are discussed.

131

132 **2. Data and Method**

133 **2.1 Meteor Radars**

134 In this study, we use two MRs located in the Davis station (68.6°S, 77.9°E) and
135 King Sejong Station (KSS; 62.2°S, 58.8°W), Antarctica from 2012 to 2016. The
136 operating frequencies of both Davis and KSS MRs are 33.2 MHz and the peak powers
137 are 6.8 kW and 12 kW, respectively. Details of the operation parameters of Davis and
138 KSS are summarized in Holdsworth et al. (2008) and Lee et al. (2018), respectively. A
139 large number of studies has been performed to investigate the PW or tidal activities in
140 the MLT region with a single-station measurements of horizontal winds from an MR
141 (e.g., Eswaraiah et al., 2019; Luo et al., 2021; Wang et al., 2021; Liu et al., 2022; Lee et
142 al., 2021). However, single-station analysis has a limitation in diagnosing the wave
143 propagation direction, and thus most of such studies focused on the timing of
144 occurrence and amplitude variations of wave with a particular periodicity. For detailed
145 analysis of PWs based on the Rossby normal modes, propagation directions and
146 wavenumbers need to be considered. Recently, He et al. (2018) developed a method of
147 estimating wave propagation direction and wavenumber as well as amplitude by
148 adopting Phase Differencing Technique (PDT) to longitudinally separated MR
149 observations based on the method of Walker et al. (2004). Since the longitude
150 difference (λ_{Δ}) between Davis and KSS is about 137°, it is appropriate for analyzing
151 PWs with zonal wavenumber 1 by applying the PDT. In order to estimate the zonal

152 wavenumber (s), we first make a continuous wavelet transform from the daily-mean
153 Davis and KSS MRs data ($W_{(f,t)}^{Davis}$, $W_{(f,t)}^{KSS}$), respectively, using the Morlet wavelet
154 function as a mother wavelet function (Torrence and Compo, 1998). Then, the cross
155 wavelet spectrum $C_{(f,t)}$ is derived: $C_{(f,t)} = W_{(f,t)}^{*Davis} W_{(f,t)}^{KSS}$, where $*$ denotes the complex
156 conjugate. Using the phase difference (θ_{Δ}) obtained from $\theta_{\Delta} = \text{Arg}(C_{(f,t)})$ at a given
157 frequency and time, we estimate zonal wavenumber (s): $s = (-\theta_{\Delta}/(2\pi) + C)/\lambda_{\Delta}$. In
158 this study, we focus on the PW activity with $s = 1$, and the number of whole wave cycle
159 (C) between two stations is set to be zero (see He et al., 2018 for detailed PDT analysis).

160 Classical wave theory shows that the latitudinal structures of zonal and
161 meridional wind components for Q10DW normal mode from the Laplace tidal equation
162 are antisymmetric and symmetric with respect to the equator, respectively (e.g., Figure 1
163 in Yamazaki and Matthias, 2019). The magnitude of Q10DW-W1 has maxima at the
164 latitude of 25° and poles for zonal and meridional wind components, respectively.
165 Around the latitude of 65°S close to the latitudes of the two MR observation sites, the
166 normalized amplitude of Q10DW-W1 normal mode for the zonal wind is nearly zero,
167 but the normalized normal mode magnitude for the meridional wind is larger than the
168 half of the maximum magnitude for the meridional wind (Yamazaki and Matthias,
169 2019). For this reason, daily-mean meridional wind data from the MRs is used for the
170 Q10DW analysis.

171

172 2.2 SD-WACCM

173 In this study, for detailed analysis of the observed Q10DW-W1 activity and its
174 amplification mechanism, we compare observational results with Q10DW-W1

175 simulated using the Specified Dynamics (SD) version of WACCM version 4 (Marsh et
176 al., 2013). WACCM4 is a high-top (up to the lower thermosphere about 140 km)
177 atmospheric component model of the Community Earth System Model developed at the
178 National Center for Atmospheric Research. WACCM4 employs Community
179 Atmospheric Model (CAM) version 4 physics package. The default horizontal
180 resolution of WACCM4 is $1.9^{\circ} \times 2.5^{\circ}$ (lat. \times long.), and it uses the 88 hybrid sigma
181 vertical levels for the SD mode. Since we focus on the PWs such as Q10DW-W1, daily-
182 mean values from the SD-WACCM are used. In this study, two SD-WACCM
183 experiments with two different nudging depths (EXP60 and EXP75) are performed. In
184 the EXP60 and EXP75, model variables are nudged towards the MERRA-2 reanalysis
185 data from surface to about 60 km in altitude and 75 km, respectively. The MERRA-2
186 reanalysis is produced by assimilating various types of observations into the Goddard
187 Earth Observing System version 6 (GEOS-6) global model (Gelaro et al., 2017). In
188 addition to conventional meteorological observations and operational satellite
189 measurements, the Earth Observing System (EOS) Aura MLS temperature and ozone
190 data are included in the assimilation procedure of the MERRA-2 from 5 hPa (~37 km)
191 up to 0.02 hPa (~75 km) and from 250 hPa (~10 km) to 0.1 hPa (~65 km), respectively
192 (Gelaro et al., 2017; McCormack et al., 2021). There is a divergence damping layer near
193 the top boundary of the GEOS-6 model used for production of the MERRA-2 reanalysis
194 (Fujiwara et al., 2017). The divergence damping is often used to effectively and
195 selectively remove high-frequency (noisy) gravity waves keeping the large-scale
196 circulation and PWs structure less changed (Jablonowski and Williamson, 2011). As a
197 result, MERRA-2 reanalysis can reflect the large-scale MLT variabilities (e.g.,
198 McCormack et al., 2021; Harvey et al., 2021). As suggested by Brakebusch et al.

199 (2013), nudging coefficients for EXP60 and EXP75 are 0.01 s^{-1} below the altitudes of
200 50 km and 65 km, respectively, and they linearly decrease and become zero above the
201 altitudes of 60 km and 75 km, respectively.

202 WACCM simulation requires the data of sea surface temperature, sea ice
203 fraction, solar and geomagnetic indices, and ionization rate by energetic particle
204 precipitation (EPP) for the time period of simulations. The sea surface temperature and
205 sea ice fraction data are produced by the NOAA Optimum Interpolation (Reynolds et
206 al., 2002). The solar and geomagnetic indices are obtained from NASA GSFC/SPDF
207 OMNIWeb interface (<https://omniweb.gsfc.nasa.gov/ow.html>). The EPP ionization rate
208 is provided by the CCM1 reference-C2 data for the period of 1960–2100 (Eyring et al.,
209 2013). Regarding MLT dynamics, effects of gravity wave drag (GWD) are crucial.
210 WACCM includes a suite of GWD parameterizations (Richter et al., 2010) for effects of
211 unresolved GW momentum transfer from orography (McFarlane, 1987), deep
212 convection (Beres et al., 2005), and frontal activity (Charron and Manzini, 2002). SD-
213 WACCM simulations start from January 1, 2011 and end at the end of 2016. First one-
214 year results are discarded as a spin-up, and results for 2012–2016 are compared with
215 MR observations.

216

217 **2.3 MLS**

218 For validation of Q10DW-W1 estimates obtained from MR observations, we
219 derive the geostrophic winds from geopotential height (GPH) data (version 5.1 product)
220 measured using MLS onboard the NASA's EOS Aura satellite (Schwartz et al., 2008).
221 Geostrophic wind components are computed following Matthias and Ern (2018). The

222 Aura satellite launched on July 2004 is in a sun-synchronous orbit with an altitude of
223 705 km. Spatial coverage of MLS instrument is from 82°S to 82°N with a 165 km
224 resolution along the track. The sun-synchronous orbit of Aura satellite can provide a
225 global coverage data per day with about 15 orbits. The global coverage of GPH is
226 produced using daily mean values in 5°×5° (lat. × long.) grids. In this process, GPH
227 data is filtered on the basis of the recommended precision, status, quality, and
228 convergence thresholds of Version 5.0 Level 2 and 3 data quality and description
229 document (https://mls.jpl.nasa.gov/data/v5-0_data_quality_document.pdf).

230

231 **3. Results and Discussion**

232 **3.1 Seasonal variation of Q10DW-W1 in the MLT region**

233 The perturbation meridional wind for Q10DW-W1 is symmetric in latitude
234 about the equator as mentioned earlier. Therefore, in order to extract and analyze
235 Q10DW-W1, which is potentially related to the Rossby normal mode in the MLT
236 region, it is necessary to confirm whether the latitudinal structure of Q10DW-W1 has
237 the hemispheric symmetry. Although the KSS and Davis MR observations can provide
238 information about the longitudinal propagation of Q10DW-W1, it is impossible to
239 estimate the latitudinal structure using these radars alone. In this study, the meridional
240 geostrophic winds obtained from the MLS geopotential data are used to confirm the
241 hemispheric symmetry of Q10DW-W1 estimated from MRs. The amplitudes of
242 Q10DW-W1 in the MLS are obtained using the two-dimensional Fast Fourier transform
243 (FFT) of the geostrophic meridional winds averaged over the height range of 80–90 km
244 in time (30-day sliding window) and longitude domain. The time-latitude cross section

245 of the amplitude of Q10DW-W1 derived from the MLS geostrophic meridional wind
246 averaged over the height range of 80–90 km is presented in the Supplement (Fig. S1).
247 Hereafter, the Q10DW denotes westward-propagating quasi-10-day normal mode wave
248 with zonal wavenumber 1 and the hemispheric symmetry, where quasi-10-day
249 periodicity means the periods between 9 and 11 days. Unless the hemispheric symmetry
250 is satisfied, the analyzed westward propagating signals with zonal wavenumber 1 are
251 referred to as quasi-10-day-like oscillations (Q10DOs).

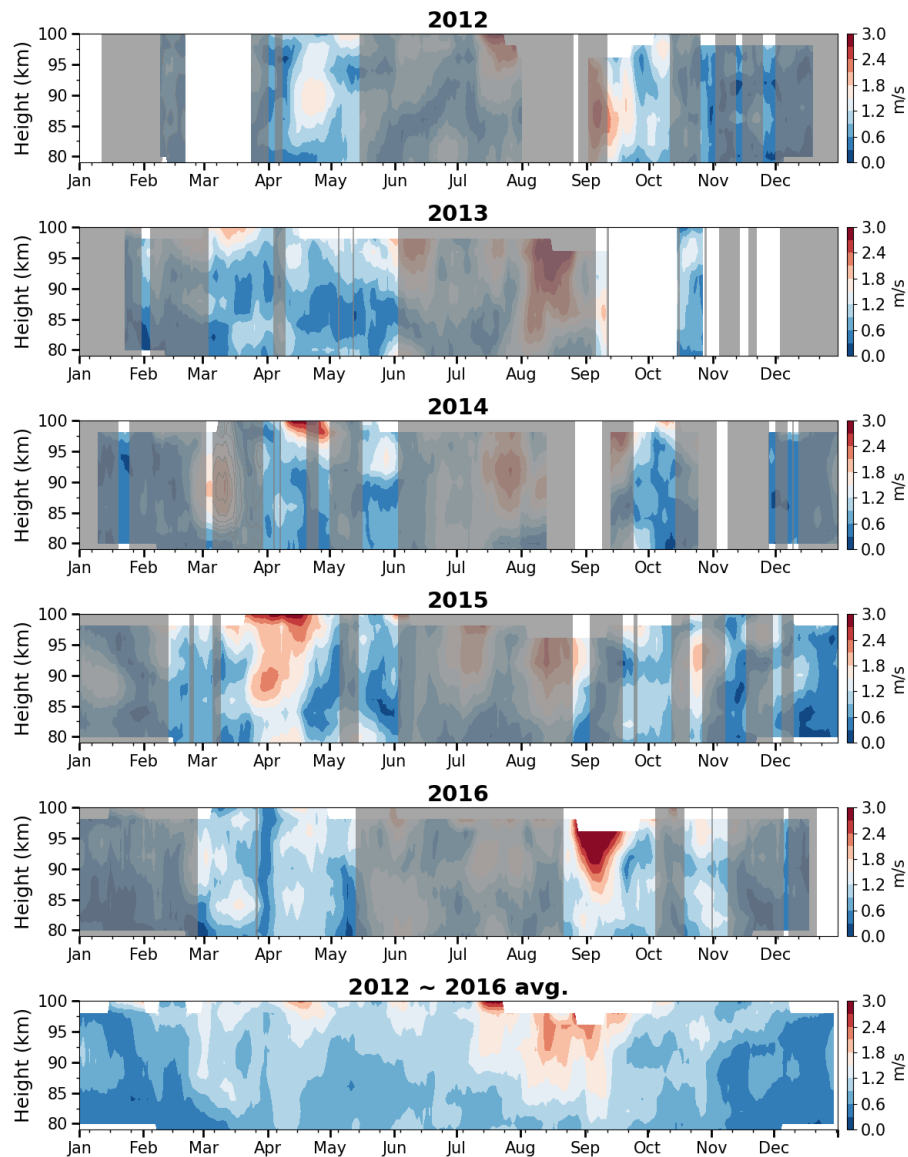
252 Figure 1 shows the time-height distributions of the amplitudes of Q10DWs and
253 Q10DOs derived from the daily-mean meridional winds observed at the Davis and KSS
254 MRs using the PDT method. The regions shaded in gray represent the time periods
255 when the hemispheric symmetry is not found in the MLS results as shown in Fig. S1.
256 The time periods of the hemispheric symmetries are defined by the periods when the
257 amplitudes of the MLS meridional geostrophic winds (vertically averaged over 80–90
258 km) with quasi-10-day periodicity exceed 3.5 m s^{-1} in both 60°N – 80°N and 60°S – 80°S .
259 The MLS results in solstices are generally shaded in gray (see Fig. S1). This result
260 indicates that Q10DWs in a form of normal modes are found during equinoxes, which is
261 consistent with the results from Forbes and Zhang (2015). Using the periods of the
262 hemispheric symmetry of the Q10DW obtained from the MLS, we identify the normal
263 mode Q10DW from the Davis and KSS MR observations.

264 The 5-yr average (The bottom-most panel of Fig. 1) between 2012 and 2016
265 indicates that the Q10DWs are generally enhanced from late February to April and from
266 late August to September in the altitude range of 82–98 km with the maximum
267 amplitude of 2.6 m s^{-1} . The Q10DWs are usually more amplified in early spring from
268 late August to September with the largest amplitudes around the altitudes of 90–95 km.

269 Large amplitudes are found in winter (July to mid-August), but they are unlikely to
270 represent the normal mode Q10DWs, as it is clear from the gray shading in winter.
271 According to Wang et al. (2021), the nonlinear wave-wave interaction can generate
272 Q10DOs in southern winter. Their Q10DOs are eastward propagating, interacting with
273 stationary PWs with zonal wavenumber 1. Meanwhile, the Q10DWs and Q10DOs (Fig.
274 1) obtained from two MRs using the PDT method are westward propagating.
275 Understanding of the mechanisms of the winter-time westward-propagating Q10DOs is
276 beyond the scope of this study, and it requires continuing researches. It is important to
277 note that the amplitudes of Q10DW are systematically lower in MRs compared to the
278 MLS results. These discrepancies might be attributed to the accuracy of estimated
279 geostrophic winds from the MLS data, or the inherent limitations of MR analysis, which
280 in our case involves only two stations located at slightly different latitudes.

281 For individual years, it is also found that the amplitude of Q10DW is generally
282 large in equinoxes (see panels for each year in Figs. 1 and S1). During March–April
283 (autumn), active Q10DWs are identified, and their amplitudes reach up to $\sim 3 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ in
284 2014 and 2015. Particularly, the peak in September (spring) is prominent in 2016. These
285 MR observation results are remarkably consistent with results obtained using satellite
286 geopotential height in the SH high-latitude region (Forbes and Zhang, 2015).
287 Occasionally, large amplitude Q10DWs are observed near the altitude of 98–100 km in
288 equinoxes (e.g., April 2015), but results around 100 km can be less reliable because the
289 number of MR echoes above 96 km is much smaller than that around 90 km (Lee et al.,
290 2022).

Q10DW/Q10DO Amp. from Meteor radars (meridional wind)



291

292 **Figure 1.** Time-height distributions of the amplitudes of Q10DWs (unshaded region)

293 and Q10DOs (shaded region) derived from meridional winds observed by MRs at Davis

294 (68.6°S, 77.9°E) and KSS (62.2°S, 58.8°W) for 2012–2016. The bottom-most panel

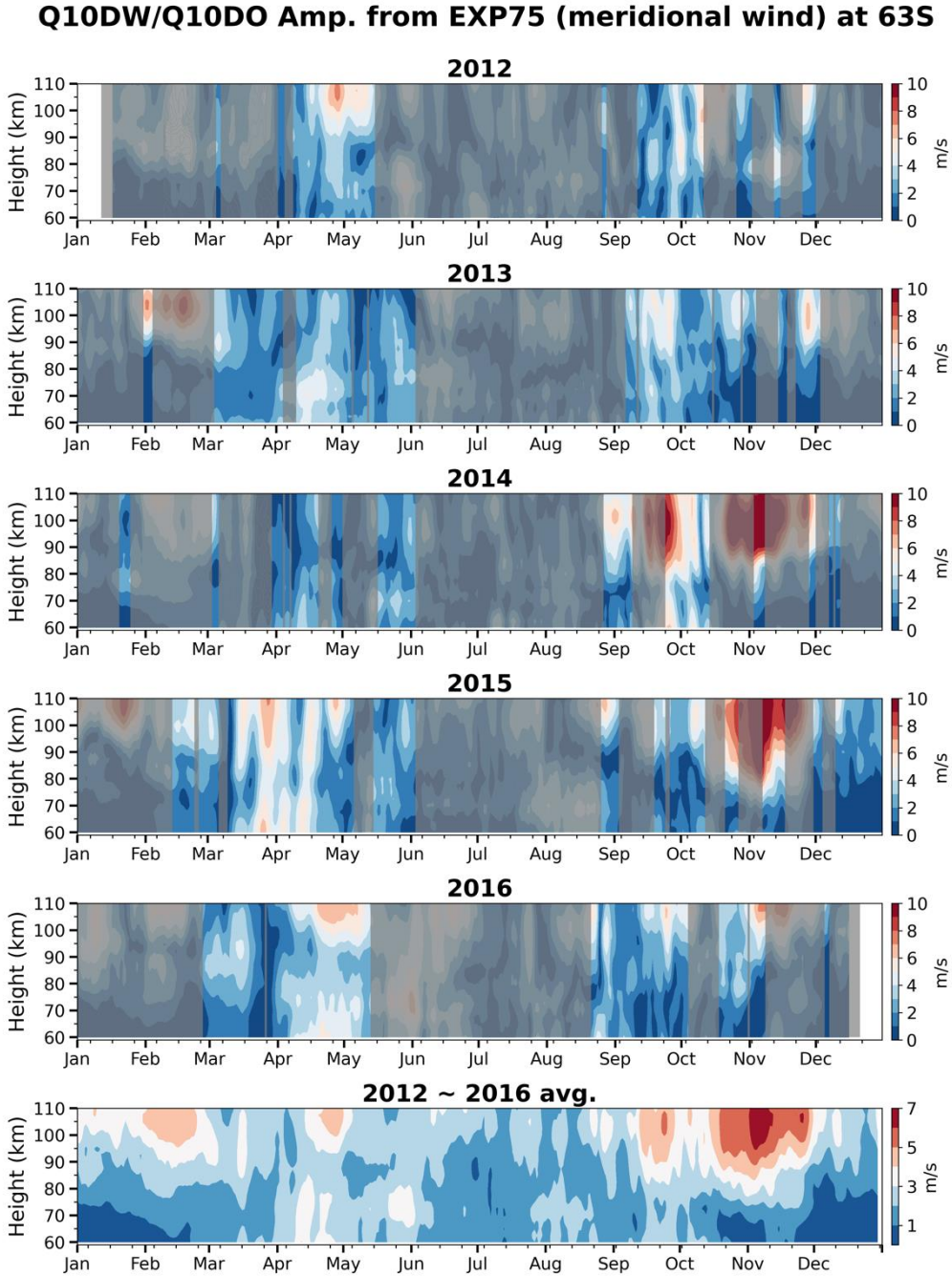
295 shows the 5-yr average from 2012 to 2016. The gray shading represents time periods

296 where the hemispheric symmetry is unclear in the MLS results (see the text for details

297 of the unclearness of symmetry).

298 Figure 2 demonstrates the time-height distributions of the amplitudes of
299 Q10DWs and Q10DOs around the latitude of 63°S in the EXP75 SD-WACCM
300 simulation for the altitude range of 60–110 km for 2012–2016, along with the
301 hemispheric symmetry period obtained from the MLS results. The bottom-most panel of
302 Fig. 2 shows the 5-yr average from 2012 to 2016. The amplitudes are obtained by
303 decomposing the meridional winds obtained from the simulation into westward
304 propagating Fourier modes with zonal wavenumber 1 using the 2D FFT in time (30-day
305 sliding window) and longitude domain around 63°S. From Fig. 2, it is clear that the
306 seasonal variations of Q10DW amplitudes obtained from the simulation have year-to-
307 year variations, as in the Q10DW amplitudes derived from the two MRs. However, the
308 Q10DW activities observed from the MR observations are ~~generally larger~~much smaller
309 than those in the EXP75 simulation (see Fig. 1).

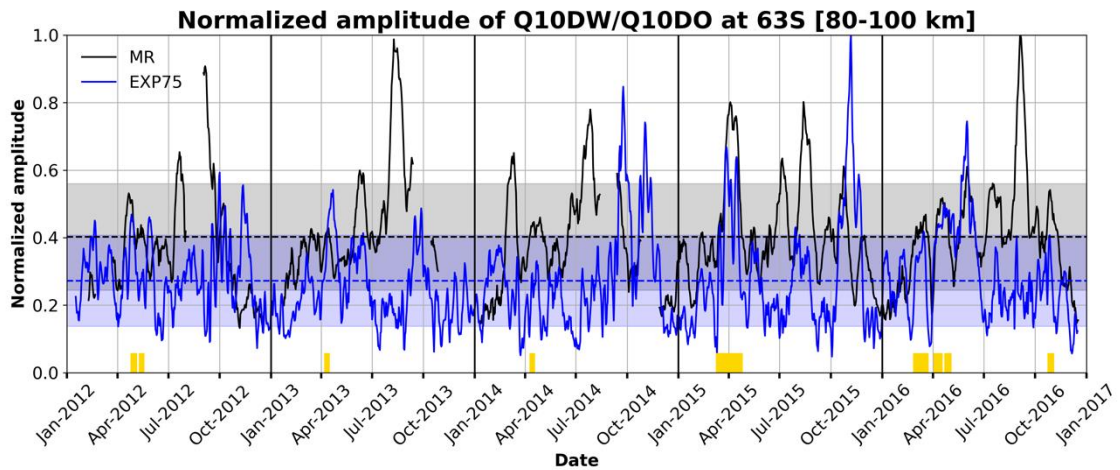
310 The 5-yr average in Fig. 2 shows that there are four main time periods
311 (February, April, September, November) when the modeled Q10DWs and Q10DOs are
312 active in the EXP75. The time periods of April and September are consistent with the
313 MR observations in terms of Q10DW amplitudes and the hemispheric symmetry
314 obtained from the MLS, but the other periods are not. The active signals simulated in
315 February and November do not appear to be normal mode Q10DWs because the
316 hemispheric symmetry is not seen in the MLS data during February and November. For
317 a more comprehensive understanding of the Q10DOs in the EXP75 during February and
318 November, we will discuss in more detail later in Section 3.3 by comparing between the
319 EXP75 and EXP60.



320

321 **Figure 2.** Time-height distributions of the amplitudes of Q10DWs (unshaded region)
 322 and Q10DOs (shaded region) around 63°S for 2012–2016 in the EXP75. The bottom-
 323 most panel shows the 5-yr average between 2012 and 2016. The gray shaded areas
 324 represent periods where the hemispheric symmetry is not observed in the MLS results.

325 Figure 3 shows time series of the normalized amplitudes of Q10DWs and
326 Q10DOs obtained from the MR observations (black) and EXP75 simulation (blue).
327 Normalization is carried out by averaging the amplitudes in the altitude range between
328 80 and 100 km and dividing the 5-yr averaged values by the respective maximum
329 values in the same altitude range. We select the dates when (i) the amplitudes obtained
330 from both MRs and EXP75 exceed their respective 5-yr mean values, (ii) their
331 correlation is relatively large (> 0.6), and (iii) the hemispheric symmetry occurs in the
332 MLS results. The correlation coefficients are computed for sliding 7-day windows with
333 1-day step. The dates when the three criteria are satisfied are represented by yellow
334 boxes on abscissa in Fig. 3. The total number of the dates when the Q10DW was
335 substantially active in both observations and model (EXP75) is 46. Using EXP75 results
336 on the selected dates, the amplification mechanisms of the observed Q10DW will be
337 discussed.



338

339 **Figure 3.** Time series of normalized amplitudes of Q10DW/Q10DOs from the
 340 observations (black line) and EXP75 simulation (blue line). The dashed lines and
 341 shaded areas represent the mean and standard deviation of normalized amplitude of
 342 Q10DW/Q10DOs from the observations (black) and EXP75 (blue), respectively.
 343 Yellow boxes on abscissa indicate the dates when the normalized amplitudes from both
 344 MRs and EXP75 can be considered to be due to the normal mode Q10DWs.

345 3.2 Amplification mechanisms of Q10DW

346 The amplitude of upward propagating PWs grows with height when their
347 vertical propagation is allowed, but it can decrease with height in the evanescent region
348 where the square of refractive index n^2 becomes negative. Regions of negative n^2 are
349 often accompanied by regions of the negative latitudinal gradient of zonal-mean
350 potential vorticity (\bar{q}_ϕ), where \bar{q} is the zonal-mean quasi-geostrophic potential vorticity
351 (QGPV), the overbar denotes zonal averaging, ϕ is the latitude, and the subscript ϕ
352 denotes the partial derivative in the latitudinal direction. In the regions of negative \bar{q}_ϕ ,
353 the barotropic and baroclinic instabilities can occur (Matsuno, 1970), and it is known
354 that PWs can amplify extracting energy from the mean flow while they pass through the
355 instability regions (Meyer and Forbes, 1997; Cohen et al., 2013). If PWs somehow
356 reach their critical lines within an instability region, it is possible for these PWs to
357 tunnel through the critical lines (Rhodes et al., 2021). In case that the evanescent region
358 is thin enough, and the PWs can reach their critical lines, it is also possible for the
359 overreflection to take place, resulting in the amplified PWs and the propagation of the
360 amplified PWs out of the overreflection region (Lindzen et al., 1980; Rhodes et al.,
361 2021).

362 Another possible way of modulating PWs is their excitation by the
363 nonconservative GW forcing (Song et al., 2020). Nonconservative GWD forcing
364 (NCGWD; Z') can generate PWs as it is clearly seen from the perturbation QGPV
365 equation given in the form of wave action conservation equation (1) when diabatic
366 forcing is ignored in Z' [see Andrews et al. (1987) and Palmer (1982) for details]:
367

$$368 \quad \frac{\partial A}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} = \rho_0 \overline{Z' q'_{(M)}} / (\bar{q}_\phi / a), \quad (1)$$

369

370 where a is the earth's mean radius; ρ_0 is the reference density given as an exponentially
 371 decreasing function of log-pressure height z ; the prime denotes the perturbation from the
 372 respective zonal mean; A , defined below using $q'_{(M)}$, is the wave-activity density in the
 373 spherical QG system; $q'_{(M)}$ is the perturbation of modified QGPV, modified to consider
 374 the planetary vorticity advection by the isallobaric meridional wind in spherical geometry
 375 (Matsuno, 1970; Palmer, 1982); Z' is the curl of the horizontal GWD perturbation; $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{F}$
 376 is the divergence of Eliassen-Palm (EP) flux (\mathbf{F}), and the flux \mathbf{F} is considered to be the
 377 wave-activity flux given by $\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{c}_g A$ in the QG framework, where \mathbf{c}_g is the group velocity
 378 in the latitude-height domain.

379 In (1), the wave-activity density A and the modified QGPV perturbation $q'_{(M)}$ are
 380 given in spherical geometry (Palmer, 1982), respectively, as follows:

381

$$382 \quad A = a \cos \phi \frac{1}{2} \rho_0 \frac{\overline{q'^2_{(M)}}}{\bar{q}_\phi / a}, \quad (2)$$

$$383 \quad q'_{(M)} = \frac{v'_\lambda}{a \cos \phi} - \frac{f}{a \cos \phi} \left(\frac{u' \cos \phi}{f} \right)_\phi + \frac{f}{\rho_0} \left(\rho_0 \frac{\theta'}{\bar{\theta}_z} \right)_z, \quad (3)$$

384

385 where u and v are zonal and meridional wind components, respectively; λ is the
 386 longitude; f is the Coriolis parameter; θ is the potential temperature. The subscript λ and
 387 z mean the partial derivatives in longitude and vertical directions, respectively.

388 For understanding of amplification of PWs around the instability regions, the
 389 barotropic and baroclinic instability regions are determined by the negative sign of \bar{q}_ϕ
 390 (Andrews et al. 1987) given by:

391

$$392 \quad \bar{q}_\phi = 2\Omega \cos \phi - \left[\frac{(\bar{u} \cos \phi)_\phi}{a \cos \phi} \right]_\phi - \frac{a}{\rho_0} \left(\frac{\rho_0 f^2}{N^2} \bar{u}_z \right)_z, \quad (4)$$

393

394 where Ω is the earth's rotation rate and N is the buoyancy frequency. The negative sign
 395 of \bar{q}_ϕ is a necessary condition of the barotropic and baroclinic instabilities. The second
 396 (with negative sign) and third (with negative sign) terms on the right-hand side of (4)
 397 represent the meridional and vertical curvatures of the zonal-mean zonal wind,
 398 respectively. If the second or third term is dominant, \bar{q}_ϕ can become negative, and the
 399 instabilities can take place.

400 The square of refractive index n^2 is used to analyze the propagation
 401 characteristics of PWs and depends on the mean QGPV gradient as follows:

402

$$403 \quad n^2 = \frac{\bar{q}_\phi}{a(\bar{u}-c)} - \frac{s^2}{a^2 \cos^2 \phi} - \frac{f^2}{4N^2 H^2}, \quad (5)$$

404

405 where c is the zonal phase speed of single PW (i.e., $c = 2\pi a \cos \phi / (s\tau)$; s is the zonal
 406 wavenumber, and τ is the wave period), and the constant scale height H is set equal to 7
 407 km. The propagation of PWs is possible in regions of positive n^2 . On the other hand,
 408 PWs can be reflected or be evanescent in the region where $n^2 < 0$ (Matsuno, 1970).

409 In order to analyze the wave propagation and wave activity for the selected dates
 410 for Q10DWs (or Q10DOs) found in MRs and model simulations, we use the EP flux as
 411 diagnostic tools, derived in the Transformed Eulerian-Mean framework for the spherical
 412 QG system (Palmer, 1982; Andrews et al., 1987). In the spherical geometry, the
 413 meridional [$F^{(\phi)}$] and vertical [$F^{(z)}$] components of the EP flux $\mathbf{F} \equiv [0, F^{(\phi)}, F^{(z)}]$ are
 414 given by

415

$$416 \quad F^{(\phi)} = -\rho_0 a \cos \phi \overline{u'v'}, \quad (6)$$

$$417 \quad F^{(z)} = \rho_0 a \cos \phi f \overline{v'\theta'}/\bar{\theta}_z, \quad (7)$$

418

419 Figure 4 shows the EP flux \mathbf{F} and wave activity density normalized by $\rho_0 a \cos \phi$
 420 for Q10DWs in the EXP75. The propagation inhibition region ($n^2 < 0$) and the
 421 contours of zonal-mean zonal wind are overplotted. Thick green and black lines indicate
 422 the regions of $\bar{q}_\phi = 0$ and of critical lines for Q10DWs, respectively. The critical lines
 423 are plotted by computing the zonal phase speed (c) of Q10DW: $c = 2\pi a \cos \phi / (s\tau)$,
 424 where $s = 1$ and $\tau = 10$ day. The wave-activity density is shaded in blue and red
 425 depending on its sign [$\text{sgn}(A)$]. For the EP flux vector, $\mathbf{F}/\text{sgn}(A)$ ($= \mathbf{c}_g|A|$), rather than
 426 \mathbf{F} itself ($= \mathbf{c}_g A$), is plotted such that the EP flux can always be parallel to the local
 427 group velocity of Q10DWs regardless of the instability regions where $\bar{q}_\phi < 0$ and thus
 428 $A < 0$. For better illustration of the EP flux in the atmosphere where its density
 429 decreases exponentially with height, the meridional and vertical components of EP flux

430 are scaled by $(p_s/p)^{0.85}[F^{(\phi)}/(a\pi), F^{(z)}/(3 \times 10^5)]$ (Edmon et al., 1980; Gan et al.,
431 2018), where p_s and p are the surface and atmospheric pressures, respectively.

432 For Fig. 4, we select the four dates of (a) 30 April 2012, (b) 11 April 2013, (c) 6
433 April 2015, and (d) 29 October 2016 when the three criteria mentioned in Fig. 3 are
434 satisfied (see yellow boxes in Fig. 3). That is, the normalized amplitudes of Q10DWs
435 from both MRs and EXP75 are larger than its average, the correlation coefficient is
436 larger than 0.6, and the hemispheric symmetry is found in the MLS results. The 30
437 April 2012 case (Fig. 4a) shows that the stratospheric jet is located around (40°S – 60°S ,
438 55 km) in the latitude-height domain and that there is a predominant branch of upward
439 and equatorward Q10DW EP flux vectors across the center of the stratospheric jet. In
440 the high-latitude mesosphere, there are two regions where both the large-scale
441 instability ($\bar{q}_\phi < 0$) and evanescence ($n^2 < 0$) take place, and they are located in
442 (55°S – 65°S , 60–85 km) and (65°S – 80°S , 70–110 km), respectively. Along the
443 instability boundaries (green lines), large positive or negative Q10DW activities are
444 found. Divergent EP flux vectors in the meridional direction are clearly seen around the
445 instability region located at (53°S , 65–75 km), which implies the excitation of Q10DWs
446 in association with the instability. In the region of MR observations (60°S – 65°S , 85–
447 100 km), substantially amplified Q10DW activity appears, and the equatorward
448 Q10DW EP flux towards the MR sites is found over the amplified Q10DW activity.

449 Figure 4b demonstrates the case of 11 April 2013. One major branch of Q10DW
450 EP flux vectors (Fig. 4b) originates from the stratospheric jet located at (55°S – 60°S ,
451 45–60 km). In the southern and upper side of the stratospheric jet, the instability and
452 evanescent region extends from 45 km to 70 km height in the latitude of 50°S – 75°S .

453 Above the instability region, distinct region of strong wave activity is found around
454 (50°S – 65°S , 65–90 km), and this region is partially overlapped by the MR observation
455 region. Around this region, the Q10DW EP flux is directed downward and poleward
456 inside of the instability region (within green line). The Q10DW EP flux is directed
457 upward and equatorward outside and above the instability region. This diverging pattern
458 of EP flux around the instability region also shows the possibility of the excitation of
459 Q10DW in association with the instability.

460 For 6 April 2015 case (Fig. 4c), the structure of wave-activity density and
461 instability regions are similar to the 30 April 2012 case (Fig. 4a). The instability and
462 evanescent regions occur around (60°S – 80°S , 70–100 km). Along the instability
463 boundaries, there are strong positive and negative wave-activity densities, and this
464 region of strong wave activities includes the MR observation region. Again, the
465 divergence of Q10DW fluxes appears in the upper part of the instability region around
466 (60°S – 70°S , 80–100 km). The Q10DW propagates upward and equatorward outside of
467 the instability region and downward inside of the instability region, as in the other dates
468 shown in Figs. 4a and 4b. Unlike the other events, the propagation of Q10DW is
469 poleward in the stratosphere (30–60 km altitude). This result is consistent with Qin et al.
470 (2022). They reported that the meridional component of EP flux extends from the
471 stratosphere in the NH across the equator to the SH stratosphere during the westerly
472 phase of QBO in the middle stratosphere and during the westerly phase of the semi-
473 annual oscillation in the upper stratosphere.

474 In 29 October 2016 case (Figure 4d), the center of stratospheric jet is located
475 around (60°S – 70°S , 20–30 km). Above the stratospheric jet, the eastward wind turns

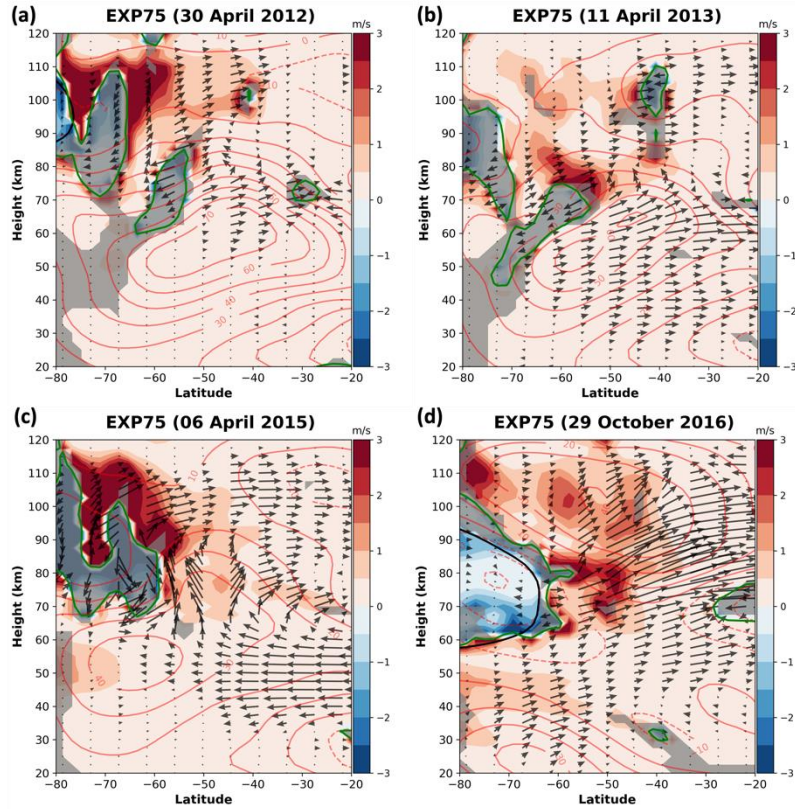
476 westward around the altitude of 60 km. Within the region of westward wind, the
477 instability and evanescent regions are found. In addition, the critical lines exist inside
478 the instability region. The overreflection or transmission process can take place near the
479 critical lines as we mentioned. Notably, the significantly large positive and negative
480 wave-activity density regions are found around (45°S–70°S, 60–90 km) near the
481 instability boundaries, and these regions are partially overlapped by the MR observation
482 region. This result suggests that the observed amplification of Q10DW may be
483 attributed to the overreflection process. The EP flux of Q10DW predominantly
484 propagates upward and equatorward away from the strong wave-activity region around
485 (60°S, 60–70 km) with weak poleward propagation of Q10DW towards the instability
486 region across the critical lines.

487 For all the cases shown in Fig. 4, the results indicate that a distinct strong wave-
488 activity density region is located within the area observed by the MRs (around 60°S–
489 70°S and 80–100 km in height), associated with the large-scale instability region.
490 Considering the wave-activity density A is directly proportional and inverse
491 proportional to the $\overline{q'^2}$ and $\overline{q_\phi}$, respectively, it can be thought that the small $\overline{q_\phi}$
492 contributes the large magnitude of A near the instability region. However, we confirm
493 that the large $\overline{q'^2}$ is located around the instability region, leading to the overall large
494 wave-activity density (not shown in here). In addition, the group velocity of the wave is
495 given by $\mathbf{c}_g = \mathbf{F}/A$. For the selected cases (Fig. 4), the EP flux \mathbf{F} in the MR observation
496 region is relatively small, while the magnitude of A is comparatively large. This
497 suggests a small group velocity in this region. These results agree with the study of

498 Thorncroft et al. (1993), which states that during the amplification of baroclinic waves,
499 the group velocity tends to be small.

500 As previously mentioned, Song et al. (2020) proposed that the NCGWD can
501 generate PWs. In addition, Forbes and Zhang (2015) suggested that the dissipation of
502 gravity waves filtered by the Q10DW wind field can generate a secondary Q10DW by
503 momentum deposition. In this regard, the both parameterized GWs and resolved GWs
504 ($s \geq 20$) could also play a role in generating Q10DW. To verify the contribution of
505 NCGWD, we analyze linearized disturbance QGPV equation (Andrews et al., 1987) for
506 the 4 cases shown in Fig. 4. Our analysis shows that the contribution of both NCGWD
507 and resolved GW for the Q10DW is negligible in the MLT region (see Fig. S3 in the
508 Supplement).

509 These results indicate that the large amplitudes of Q10DW observed in the SH
510 high-latitude region by the Davis and KSS MRs can originate from the high-latitude
511 stratosphere-mesosphere region, where the barotropic/baroclinic instability or
512 overreflection near the critical layer occur.



513

514 **Figure 4.** EP flux parallel to local group velocity [$\mathbf{F}/\text{sgn}(A)$] and normalized wave
 515 activity density [$A (\rho_0 a \cos \phi)^{-1}$] given in the unit of m s^{-1}] for the Q10DWs in the
 516 EXP75 on (a) 30 April 2012, (b) 11 April 2013, (c) 6 April 2015, and (d) 29 October
 517 2016. The activity density A is shaded in blue and red depending on its sign. The
 518 boundaries of the instability regions ($\bar{q}_\phi = 0$, green lines), the negative n^2 regions (grey
 519 shading), and the red contours for zonal-mean zonal wind are overplotted. For eastward
 520 (westward) zonal-mean zonal wind, contours are plotted in solid (dashed) lines, and
 521 contour interval is 10 m s^{-1} .

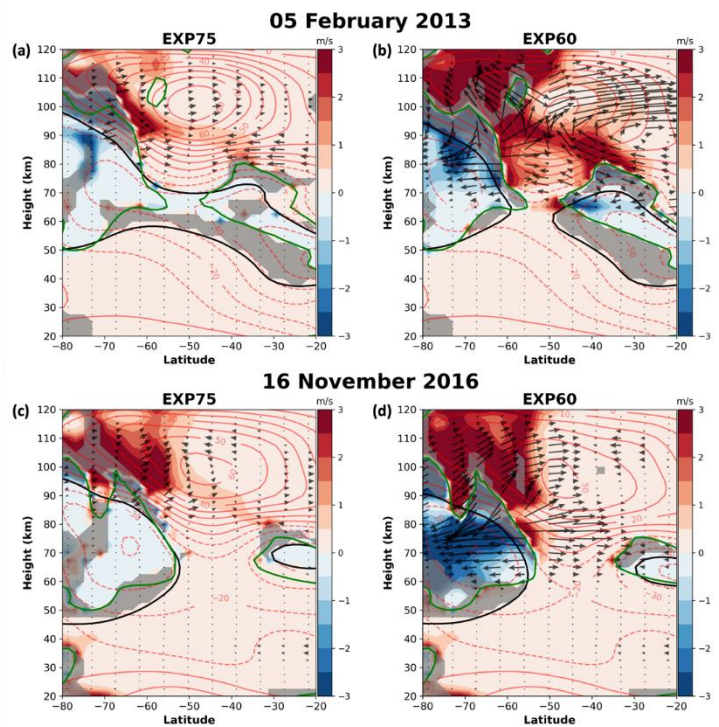
522 3.3 Comparison of Q10DO between SD-WACCM simulations

523 This section compares the Q10DOs around the mesospheric instability regions
 524 in the two SD-WACCM simulations (EXP75 and EXP60) for February and November.

525 February and November are chosen because the amplitudes of modeled Q10DOs are
526 substantial. The magnitude of Q10DO in the EXP75 is generally smaller than that in the
527 EXP60, which is more comparable to the MR and MLS observations in which both
528 Q10DWs and Q10DOs are weak (see Figs. S1 and S2 in the Supplement). Note that
529 more realistic meteorological fields are nudged throughout the mesosphere in the
530 EXP75. In this section, comparison between EXP75 and EXP60 for February and
531 November is carried out to reveal mechanisms behind weak Q10DOs in the EXP75.

532 Figure 5 demonstrates the properties of Q10DO and background atmospheric
533 conditions (as shown in Fig. 4) for 5 February 2013 and 16 November 2016 when the
534 Q10DO activity is found to be large in both simulations. The left and right panels of
535 Fig. 5 are the results from the EXP75 and EXP60, respectively. In Fig. 5, it is clear that
536 the strong wave-activity density for Q10DO arise in polar regions above the altitude of
537 70 km in the EXP60, and the magnitude of the EP fluxes in the EXP60 is much larger
538 than that in EXP75. In addition, in 5 February 2013 for the EXP60 (Fig. 5b), a
539 substantially strong wave-activity density region is located in the mid-latitude
540 mesospheric region as well. Around the strong wave-activity regions in the polar upper
541 mesosphere, it is seen that the EP fluxes of Q10DWs are divergent. In addition, the
542 distinct wave-activity density of Q10DO regions in the EXP60 occur along the
543 instability regions and critical lines around (50°S – 70°S , 70–110 km) and (20°S – 40°S ,
544 65–80 km). On the other hand, the wave-activity density of Q10DO in the EXP75 (Fig.
545 5a and 5c) is located at relatively higher altitudes (80–100 km), and the strength of
546 Q10DO EP flux and wave-activity density are weaker than EXP60. Moreover, the
547 negative EP flux divergence (EPFD) is much larger in the EXP60 than in the EXP75
548 above the altitude of 80 km (not shown in here).

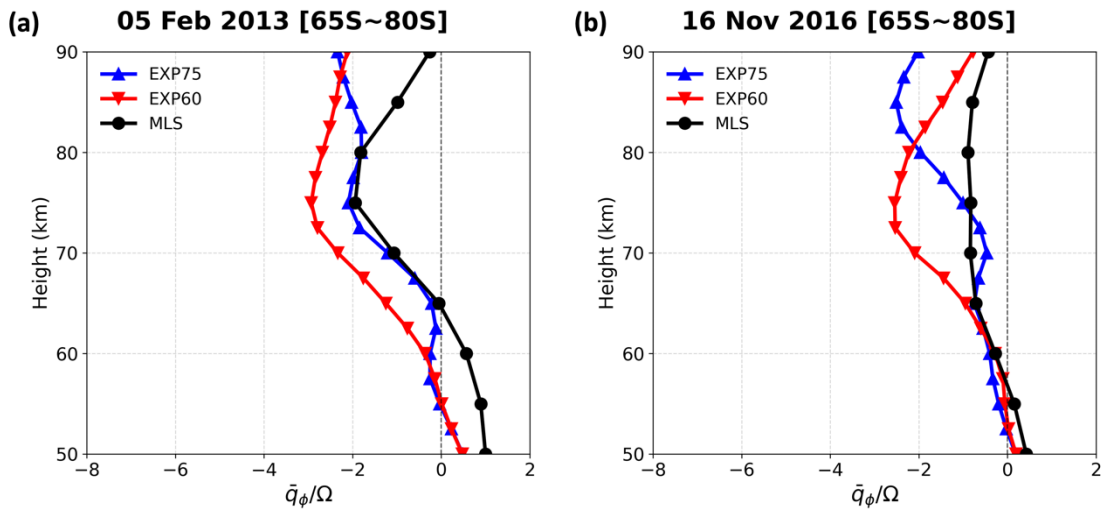
549 Our analysis reveals that the larger wave-activity density and EP fluxes in the
 550 EXP60 along the large-scale instability region in the polar upper mesosphere compared
 551 to the EXP75. This indicates that the stronger large-scale instability in the EXP60 can
 552 amplify Q10DO activities, which is consistent with the analysis result that the
 553 barotropic and baroclinic instabilities can be the major sources of the amplification of
 554 traveling PWs (Harvey et al., 2019).



555
 556 **Figure 5.** Same as Fig. 4 but for (a and b) 5 February 2013 and (c and d) 15 November
 557 2016. The left and right columns represent the results from EXP75 and EXP60,
 558 respectively.

559 Figure 6 shows the \bar{q}_ϕ (normalized by Ω) for 5 February 2013 and 16 November
 560 2016 from the EXP75 (blue), EXP60 (red), and MLS (black). The normalization makes
 561 \bar{q}_ϕ dimensionless. The \bar{q}_ϕ/Ω from MLS is derived in the quasi-geostrophic framework

562 (Andrews et al., 1987) and it is included as a reference for validation. The \bar{q}_ϕ/Ω is
 563 averaged between the latitudes of 65°S–80°S where the wave-activity density is strong
 564 and large negative \bar{q}_ϕ is found in Fig. 5. It is seen that the vertical profiles of \bar{q}_ϕ/Ω
 565 from the EXP75 and MLS have somewhat small negative values and they are generally
 566 similar below the altitude of 75 km, although the difference gradually increase above
 567 the altitude of 75 km. On the other hand, large discrepancies are shown between EXP75
 568 and EXP60 in the altitudes between 60–80 km. In the EXP60, \bar{q}_ϕ/Ω has much larger
 569 negative values, which suggest the relatively stronger barotropic or baroclinic instability
 570 in the EXP60 and the amplification of the Q10DO in the mid-to-upper mesosphere in
 571 association with the stronger instability in the EXP60.



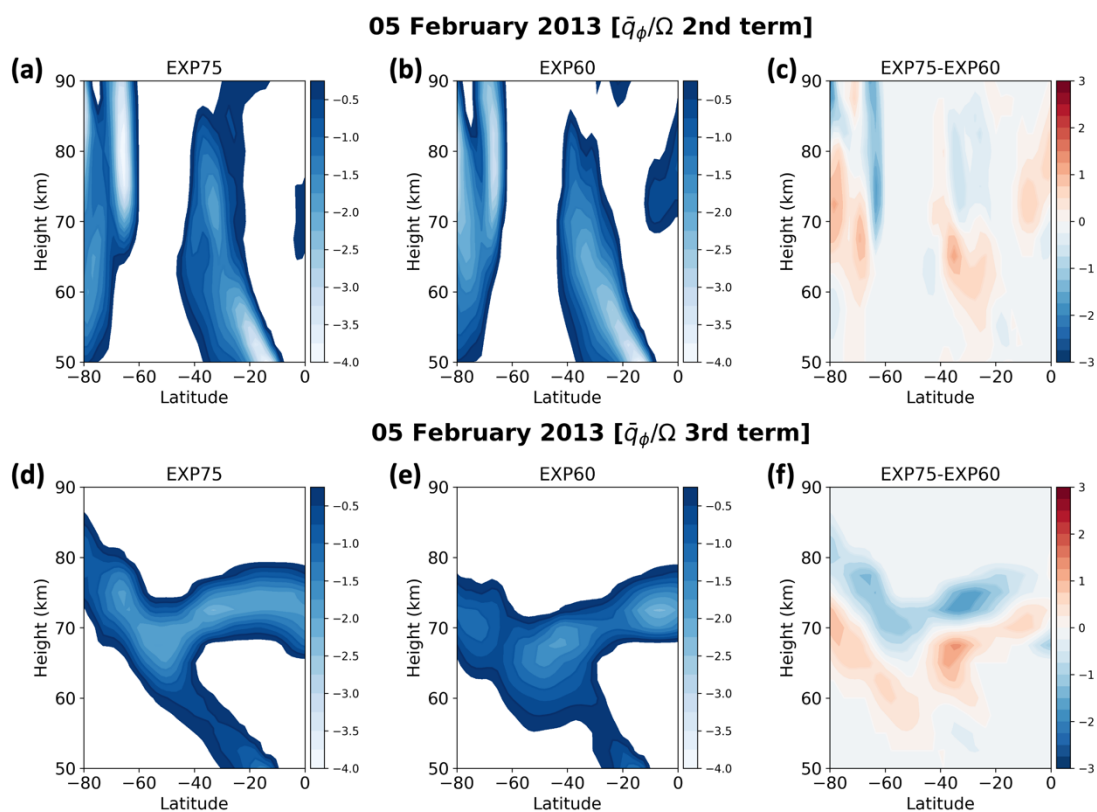
572

573 **Figure 6.** \bar{q}_ϕ (normalized by Ω) averaged over 65°S–85°S for (a) 5 February 2013 and
 574 (b) 16 November 2016 from the EXP75 (blue), EXP60 (red), and MLS (black).

575 The negative \bar{q}_ϕ can be induced by latitudinal and vertical curvatures of zonal-
 576 mean zonal wind that correspond to the second and third terms (with negative signs) in
 577 the right side of (4), respectively. Figure 7 shows the second (top panels) and third

578 (bottom panels) terms, respectively, for 5 February 2013. The differences shown in
579 Figs. 7c and 7f indicate that the larger negative \bar{q}_ϕ is located in the lower altitudes in the
580 EXP60 than in EXP75, inducing the larger instability at 65–75 km in height around
581 70°S–80°S in the EXP60, which is consistent with Fig. 6. Note that the positive
582 differences seen at about 65–75 km in the high-latitude regions in Figs. 7c and 7f mean
583 the larger negative \bar{q}_ϕ in the EXP60. Also, it is clear that both vertical and horizontal
584 shear contribute the stronger barotropic/baroclinic instability in the EXP60 in the mid-
585 to-upper mesosphere, as shown in Figs. 7a-b and 7d-e. This analysis demonstrates the
586 mesospheric dynamics specified by the MERRA-2 data up to the altitude of 75 km
587 reduces the large-scale instability in the mid-to-upper mesosphere in the EXP75. This is
588 consistent with Sassi et al. (2021) proposed the absence of specification of middle
589 atmosphere dynamics induce the instability in summer mesospheric westward jet,
590 leading large traveling PWs.

591 The wind structure in the MLT region is mainly driven by momentum
592 deposition from PWs and GWs. Harvey et al. (2019) reported that GWs can change
593 significantly the vertical shears, leading enhanced instability and larger traveling PWs in
594 the mesospheric region based on the satellite observations and SD-WACCM
595 simulations. GW forcing is one of the main factors to maintain the necessary conditions
596 of barotropic/baroclinic instability in the modeled mesosphere (Sato et al., 2018).
597 Therefore, in order to better understand the mechanisms underlying the discrepancies in
598 zonal wind fields and the resulting instability in the model, it is important to examine
599 the contribution of resolved wave forcing (EPFD) and GWD forcing on the zonal wind
600 structure in the mesosphere.



601

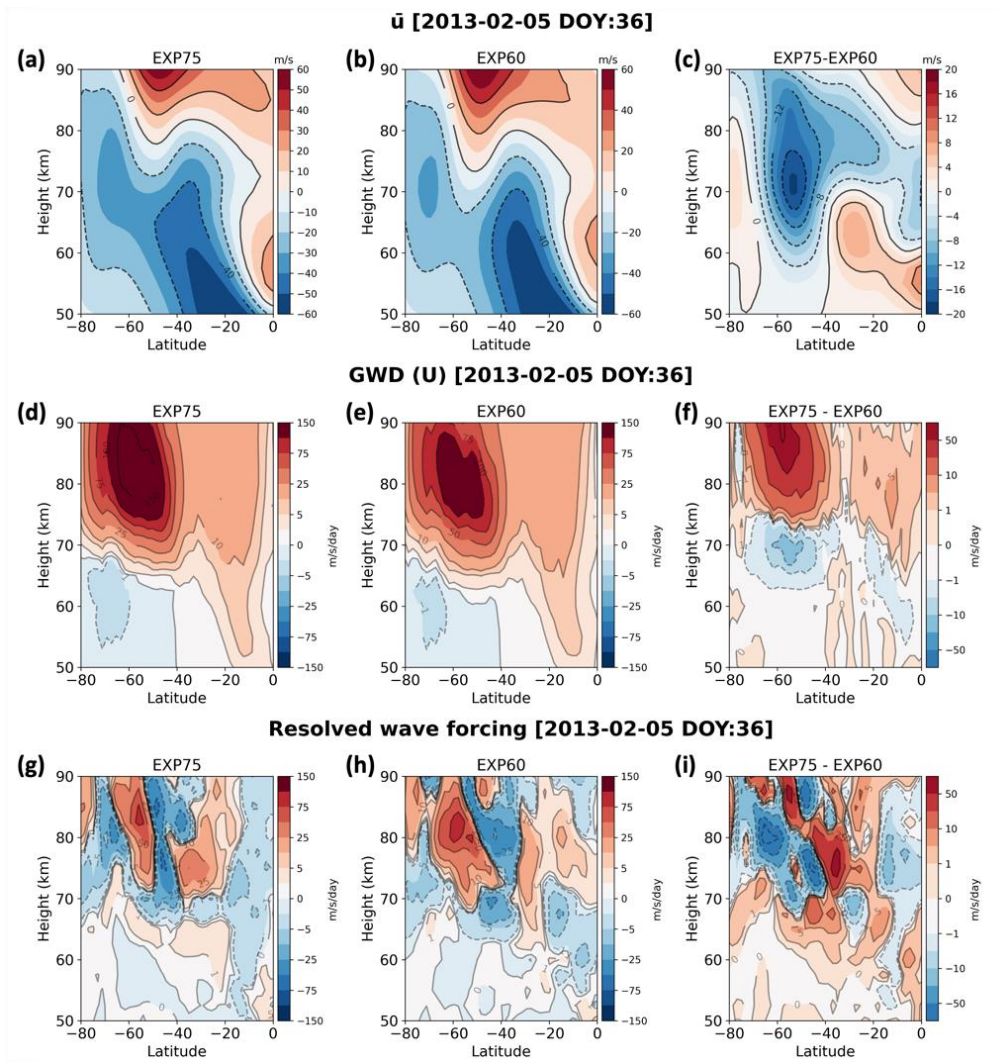
602 **Figure 7.** Contributions of (top) the meridional variation of the zonally-averaged mean
 603 flow and (bottom) its vertical variation to the instability condition (negative \bar{q}_ϕ) shown
 604 in (2), respectively, for 5 February 2013. Panels in each column present the results from
 605 (a and d) the EXP75, (b and e) the EXP60, and (c and f) difference between EXP75 and
 606 EXP60, respectively. Only negative values are plotted except for two panels for
 607 difference.

608 Figure 8 shows the latitude-height distributions of zonal-mean zonal wind, zonal
 609 component of GWD and resolved wave forcing (EPFD) in 5 February 2013 for the
 610 EXP75, the EXP60, and the difference between EXP75 and EXP60 (EXP75–EXP60).
 611 The zonal-mean zonal wind, zonal component of GWD, and resolved wave forcing
 612 (EPFD) are calculated through the 21-day averaging (central date ± 10 days). For GWD,
 613 the orographic and nonorographic values are added. In Figs. 8a–b, zero-wind lines are

614 located around 80 km height in the SH mid-latitude region, indicating the reversal of the
615 zonal-mean zonal wind due to the eastward momentum forcing from the GWs and
616 resolved waves. It is clear that the zero-wind line in the EXP60 is located at lower
617 altitudes by about 5 km compared to the EXP75, which means that eastward GWD and
618 eastward EPFD from the EXP60 can be larger below the altitude of ~80 km than that
619 from EXP75. Indeed, the difference field between EXP75 and EXP60 for GWD (Fig.
620 8f) shows that the eastward GWD from the EXP60 is larger around (60°S, 70 km) than
621 that from EXP75 as indicated by the negative difference field in those regions. In
622 addition, the resolved wave forcing (EP flux divergence) is more eastward above the
623 altitude of 70 km in the mid-to-high latitude regions in the EXP60 than in the EXP75.
624 This result indicates that the eastward resolved wave forcing also contributes more in
625 the mid-to-upper mesosphere in the EXP60, resulting in the zonal-mean zonal wind
626 reversal (westward to eastward wind) in the lower altitude in the EXP60, as shown
627 around 60°S in Fig. 8b.

628 As mentioned before, the amplification or modulation of westward-propagating
629 PWs with zonal wavenumber 1 and a quasi-10-day period due to NCGWD and resolved
630 GW is negligible (Fig. S3 in Supplement), indicating that the amplification of Q10DW
631 or Q10DO is mainly related to the baroclinic/barotropic instability. The stronger
632 instability in the EXP60 around the altitude of 70 km indicates that WACCM simulates
633 a large meridional and vertical variation of zonal winds compared to the observations in
634 the mid-to-upper mesosphere, which is likely due to the stronger eastward GWD and
635 eastward EPFD forcing near 70 km altitude in the EXP60, as shown in Fig. 8. Cohen et
636 al. (2013) reported that parameterized GWs can generate instability that can generate

637 resolved waves of which forcing (i.e., EPFD) can compensate GWD. Our results show
638 that the increased eastward GWD at 70 km altitude generates instability and it leads
639 more Q10DO. The EPFD in the EXP60 gives the more eastward forcing above 70 km
640 enhancing the wind reversal in the mid-to-high latitudes. However, comparison of Figs.
641 8f and 8i indicates that the structures of GWD and EPFD are roughly 90° – 180° shifted
642 in the vertical direction, approximately consistent with the compensation between GWD
643 and EPFD. Raising the nudging altitude of MERRA-2 reanalysis data to 75 km from 60
644 km reduces the instability in the mid-to-upper mesosphere, leading to decreased the
645 Q10DO activity in the EXP75. Therefore, we suggest that strong eastward GWD in the
646 mid-to-upper mesosphere in summer need to be alleviated, which can generate more
647 instability in the SH high-latitude mesosphere region that can lead to discrepancy from
648 observations.



649

650 **Figure 8.** Latitude-height distributions of (a–c) zonal-mean zonal wind, (d–f) zonal
 651 component of GWD and (g–i) resolved wave forcing (EP flux divergence) in 5 February
 652 2013 for (left) the EXP75, (middle) the EXP60, and (right) difference between EXP75
 653 and EXP60 (EXP75–EXP60).

654

655 **4. SummaryConclusions**

656 In this paper, the seasonal variation and the amplification mechanism of
657 Q10DW during 2012–2016 in the SH high-latitude regions are investigated using two
658 MRs located in Antarctica, and SD-WACCM simulations. Using the phase difference of
659 meridional winds measured by two MRs, we extract westward-propagating Q10DW
660 with zonal wavenumber 1. The seasonal variation of the observed Q10DW shows that
661 the amplitude is strong during equinoxes, which is consistent with previous studies. In
662 addition, our study shows the Q10DWs from the MLS appear to be consistently
663 overestimated compared to those from MRs. These discrepancies can be due to both
664 errors in estimating winds from the MLS and uncertainties in results obtained from two
665 MR stations alone. Further investigation is required for more reliable estimation of the
666 amplitude and phase of Q10DWs from observations.

667 In order to elucidate the amplification mechanism of Q10DW observed by MRs
668 during equinoxes, two SD-WACCM experiments are carried out using the MERRA-2
669 reanalysis data from surface to ~60 km (EXP60) and ~75 km (EXP75), respectively.
670 The temporal variation of the averaged amplitude of Q10DW in the EXP75 during
671 2012–2016 is in better agreement with the MR observations. Meanwhile, the amplitude
672 of Q10DW in the EXP60 is excessively large compared with the observations. Based on
673 the analysis of meridional gradient of the QGPV and wave-activity density, the Q10DW
674 observed in the SH high-latitude region by the MRs originated in situ around the high-
675 latitude stratosphere-mesosphere region, where the large-scale instability or
676 overreflection near the critical lines occur. The unrealistically large magnitude of
677 Q10DO (quasi-10-day-like oscillations without satisfying the hemispheric symmetry

678 unlike Q10DW) is simulated in the EXP60 during February and November. In order to
679 understand mechanisms of the large amplitude of Q10DO in the EXP60 during the SH
680 summer, we compare the meridional gradient of QGPV from EXP75 and EXP60. The
681 results show that specified dynamics with MERRA-2 reanalysis data mitigate the
682 meridional and vertical variation of zonal winds in the polar mid-to-upper mesosphere
683 in the EXP75, resulting in leading reduction in the large-scale instability. On the other
684 hand, the large amplitude of Q10DO in the EXP60 is attributed to the large-scale
685 instability related to the GWD and partially to the EPFD in the polar mid-to-upper
686 mesosphere.

687 The polar mesospheric GWD can lead to strong large-scale instability in the SH
688 high-latitude mesosphere and unrealistically large amplitude of Q10DO in summer. The
689 present study on the amplification mechanism of Q10DW during equinoxes, and the
690 unrealistic Q10DO amplitude in summer provide potential importance of large-scale
691 instability, which can be to a substantial degree caused by parameterized GWD, during
692 summer in the polar mesosphere for numerical models. In this paper, we focus on the
693 Q10DW relating to the large-scale instability and polar mesospheric GWD, but other
694 normal modes of PW will be considered for future studies.

695 Results of SD-WACCM may depend on the extra damping above the middle
696 mesosphere in the GEOS-6 model (Fujiwara et al., 2017) used to produce the MERRA-
697 2 data. The damping may have harmful effects on the results for the upper mesosphere
698 in the EXP75, where the dynamics is still specified above the middle mesosphere using
699 the MERRA-2, but comparison with observations shows that the **zonal asymmetric**
700 structure of mesospheric temperature in the EXP75 is reasonable for the time periods of

701 our interest (Fig. S5). However, the activity and variability of mesospheric PWs in the
702 MERRA-2 and SD-WACCM need to be further examined for the longer time periods
703 and evaluated against other observations to support the reliability of results obtained in
704 this study, which should be a topic of continuing research.

705

706 **Code and Data availability**

707 The source code of Community Earth System Model 2 (CESM2) developed at
708 the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) is available at
709 <https://www.cesm.ucar.edu/models/cesm2>. The atmospheric forcing data for specified
710 dynamics are available from NCAR Research Data Archive (RDA) at
711 <https://rda.ucar.edu>.

712 The Davis station meteor radar data are available from the Australian Antarctic
713 Data Centre at https://data.aad.gov.au/metadata/records/Davis_33MHz_Meteor_Radar.
714 The King Sejong Station meteor radar data are available from Korea Polar Data Center
715 (KPDC) at <https://kpdc.kopri.re.kr>. The GPH data from the MLS onboard the NASA's
716 EOS Aura satellite are available from Goddard Earth Science Data and Information
717 Services Center (GES DISC) at <https://daac.gsfc.nasa.gov>.

718 **Author contributions**

719 WL and ISS designed the study, together with YHK, and wrote the manuscript.
720 WL performed the analysis of the observational (MR and satellite) data in collaboration
721 with ISS. ISS designed the SD-WACCM experiments. WL and ISS carried out the SD-

722 WACCM experiments, ISS and BGS aided in interpreting the analysis of action
723 conservation equation for Rossby waves. All authors discussed the results and
724 contributed to the final manuscript.

725 **Competing interests**

726 The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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